



**2014 Juvenile Justice
Youth Summit
August 7-8, 2014
Washington, DC**

**Co-hosted by:
Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ)
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)**



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Welcome!

On behalf of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) Executive Board, Council of State Advisory Groups (SAGs), our members, staff and allies, we welcome you to the *2014 Juvenile Justice Youth Summit: Building the Next Generation of Juvenile Justice Leaders*, co-hosted with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Our goal for you is to leave this Summit with the knowledge, resources, and skills to mobilize your communities.

The Summit brings together up-and-coming leaders from around the country. CJJ and OJJDP are excited for this opportunity to cultivate and empower emerging leaders on a national level. During the Summit, participants will gain a better understanding of the juvenile justice system and develop skills to organize and advocate for youth voice in juvenile justice reform.

The Summit will open with remarks from OJJDP Administrator Robert Listenbee, CJJ Executive Director Marie Williams, CJJ National Youth Chair Symone Sanders, and Youth Law Center Executive Director Jennifer Rodriguez. Participants will hear from exciting presenters on topics such as youth organizing, legislative advocacy, and youth engagement in State Advisory Groups (SAGs). There will also be an opportunity to network with diverse professionals from the juvenile justice and other youth-related systems. The Summit will close with remarks from U.S. Department of Education Deputy Assistant Secretary Dr. Jonathan Brice.

This year's Summit would not be possible without our dedicated co-host and sponsors. CJJ is grateful to these organizations for their generous contributions. We benefit from conference support provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the District of Columbia Juvenile Justice Advisory Group, and Commonwealth Digital Office Solutions.

Thank you for joining us! We look forward to a tremendous Summit.

Sincerely,



Alfred Martin, Ph.D.
CJJ National Chair



Thursday, August 7

7:30 am - 5:00 pm **Registration Open**

7:30 am - 8:00 am **Breakfast (provided)**

8:00 am - 9:30 am **Summit Opening: Welcome & Keynote Address**

CJJ Youth Committee Welcome: Symone Sanders, CJJ National Youth Committee Chair

CJJ Welcome: Marie Williams, Executive Director, Coalition for Juvenile Justice

OJJDP Welcome: Robert L. Listenbee, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Keynote Address: The Path to Becoming An Advocate with Jennifer Rodriguez, Executive Director, Youth Law Center

Jennifer Rodriguez will share her journey from spending time in the foster care system and juvenile justice institutions to becoming Executive Director of the Youth Law Center (YLC), a national public interest law firm that works to protect the rights of children in the foster care and juvenile justice system. She will discuss her early advocacy work through the California Youth Connection, her current work with YLC, and her strong passion for systemic legal advocacy on behalf of other children and youth who, like her, are growing up with a government agency as their only family.

9:30 am - 9:40 am Break

9:40 am - 11:00 am **Justice for all: Juvenile Justice 101**

This session will explore the pathways of the juvenile justice system, explain the difference between juvenile and criminal court, and introduce the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act).

Presenter: Tshaka Barrows, Deputy Director, W. Haywood Burns Institute

11:00 am - 11:10 am Break

11:10 am - 12:30 pm **Empowering Young Adults: Strengthening Youth Involvement in Juvenile Justice at the State Level**

What is a State Advisory Group (SAG)? How do you get involved in juvenile justice reform at the state level? Most SAGs face significant challenges involving youth and young adults in their work. This session will highlight the journey taken by the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission to develop a role for youth SAG members with a broader youth engagement and empowerment project.



Presenters:

- Robert Vickery, State Juvenile Justice Specialist, Illinois
- Miguel Rodriguez, Board Member, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission Youth Advisory Board
- Andrew Longhi, Member, Vermont Children & Family Council for Prevention Programs
- Tawny Spinelli, Member, Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth

12:30 pm - 12:45 pm Break

12:45 pm - 3:15 pm



Lunch (provided) and Film Screening, “15 to Life: Kenneth’s Story” directed by Nadine Pequenez

Does sentencing a teenager to life without parole serve our society well? The United States is the only country in the world that routinely condemns children to die in prison. This is the story of one of those children, now a young man, seeking a second chance in Florida. At age 15, Kenneth Young received four consecutive life sentences for a series of armed robberies. Imprisoned for more than a decade, he believed he would die behind bars. Now a U.S. Supreme Court decision could set him free. *15 to Life: Kenneth’s Story* follows Young’s struggle for redemption, revealing a justice system with thousands of young people serving sentences intended for society’s most dangerous criminals. *This event is a collaboration with POV, PBS’ award-winning nonfiction film series.*

Post-Screening Discussion

Facilitated by:

- Xavier McElrath-Bey, Youth Justice Advocate, Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth
- Sara Kruzan, Member, Incarcerated Children’s Advocacy Network (ICAN)
- Eric Alexander, Member, Incarcerated Children’s Advocacy Network (ICAN)

3:15 pm - 3:25 pm Break

3:25 pm - 4:55 pm

Take Action: Using Your Voice for Change

Pushing for social change is a multistage process that requires education, collaboration and organization. Laws and bureaucracies are often difficult to navigate or confront by yourself. While you can easily call your legislator or local public official as a concerned individual, effective campaigns are well coordinated and rely on the skills and efforts of a wide range of people. This session will cover how to get started, raising awareness, and developing organizing skills to make change.

Presenters:

- Jessica Sandoval, Vice President & Deputy Director, Campaign for Youth Justice
- Jabriera Handy, Assistant Youth Organizer, Just Kids Partnership, Community Law in Action, and 2012 Recipient of CJJ Spirit of Youth Award

4:55 pm - 5:00 pm

Closing Remarks

Closing remarks by: Symone Sanders, CJJ National Youth Committee Chair



- 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm **Optional Listening Session Opportunity**
Youth Summit participants are invited to stay through an optional Listening Session that will help guide future youth training opportunities in juvenile justice.
- 5:00 pm - Evening Dinner on your own / Free Time
- 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm **CJJ National Youth Committee Strategic Planning Session**
(closed meeting for CJJ National Youth Committee members only)

Friday, August 8

- 7:30 am - 4:45 pm **Registration Open**
- 7:30 am - 8:00 am **Breakfast (provided)**
- 8:00 am - 9:15 am **Day Two Opening Session & Welcome**

CJJ Youth Committee Welcome: Symone Sanders, CJJ National Youth Committee Chair
- Ice Breaker**
Lead by: Jonathan Litt, Policy & Field Relations Associate, Coalition for Juvenile Justice
- 40 for the 40th Video Screening and Discussion**
As part of the 40th anniversary celebration of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA), CJJ and Act4JJ have collected multi-media stories about how the JJDPA has impacted lives of families, youth, and juvenile justice professionals.

Moderated by: Naomi Smoot, Policy & Government Relations Associate, Coalition for Juvenile Justice
- 9:15 am - 9:25 am Break
- 9:25 am - 10:25 am **Advocating for Change: Youth Advocates Panel Discussion with OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee**
Hear first-hand stories from several young adults formerly involved with the juvenile justice system and their thoughts on what true juvenile justice reform looks like.

Moderated by: Robert L. Listenbee, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- Panelists:
- James Anderson, Program Administrator, Anti-Recidivism Coalition
 - Jim St. Germain, Founder, Preparing Leaders of Tomorrow (PLOT)
 - Starcia Ague, Youth & Family Advocate Program Administrator, Washington State Department of Social & Health Services



10:00 am - 3:00 pm **40 for the 40th Videotaping - Come share your stories!**

10:25 am - 10:35 am Break

10:35 am - 11:50 am **Tools for Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline**

Successful youth organizing campaigns require the proper tools, resources, and strategies. This session will introduce the “school-to-prison” pipeline and include a discussion on how to develop an organizing strategy and build a leadership base around juvenile justice reform. Participants will hear from youth organizers who have mobilized their community and engaged state and local policymakers in Detroit, Michigan.

Presenters:

- Michael Reynolds, Co-President, Youth Power Movement
- William Frey, Training Director, Youth Power Movement

11:50 am - 1:30 pm Lunch on your own

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm **Speed Networking with Juvenile Justice Professionals**

Participants will be introduced to basic networking skills and then practice these skills in a fast-paced exercise. Meet with diverse professionals from juvenile justice fields and other youth-related systems (e.g., researchers, direct service providers, policy advocates, policymakers, and others).

3:30 pm - 3:40 pm Break

3:40 pm - 4:45 pm **Keynote Address & Summit Closing**

Keynote Address: Creating Change Back Home with Dr. Jonathan Brice, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education

U.S. Department of Education Deputy Assistant Secretary Dr. Jonathan Brice will discuss how youth can create change back home by highlighting the role of multidisciplinary collaborations and youth engagement in policy and program development. He will discuss his current work on the President’s “My Brother’s Keeper” Initiative, as well as his previous work to dismantle the “school-to-prison” pipeline in Baltimore City Public Schools.

Closing Remarks: Symone Sanders, CJJ National Youth Committee Chair

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice gratefully acknowledges the generous supporters of the 2014 Youth Summit

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About the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ):

CJJ envisions a nation where fewer children are at risk of delinquency; and if they are at risk or involved with the justice system, they and their families receive every possible opportunity to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives.

CJJ is a nationwide coalition of State Advisory Groups (SAGs) and allies dedicated to preventing children and youth from becoming involved in the courts and upholding the highest standards of care when youth are charged with wrongdoing and enter the justice system.