

## The Resource Center Newsletter

Greetings,

Happy New Year and welcome to the Resource Center on Domestic Violence: Child Protection and Custody's (RCDV: CPC) inaugural issue of *The Resource Center Newsletter*!

We hope that, over the coming months, you and your colleagues read these electronic newsletters with as much enthusiasm as our team brings to their creation. Within each electronic newsletter, you will find blogs from our staff and invited guests on critical issues, innovative collaborations, promising practice, and changing policies affecting domestic violence work as it intersects with child protection and child custody systems. We will also highlight job opportunities and relevant new resources, research, and learning opportunities from the RCDV: CPC, NCJFCJ, and our partners across the country.

In November of 2018, the RCDV: CPC staff gathered for a full day to consider our national leadership as a resource center and to identify the issues and/or projects we hope to explore and support in the coming year. Those issues and projects will be highlighted here each month.

Our staff, advisory committee, and colleagues are unified in our commitment to providing excellent training, technical assistance, and leadership to enhance the capacity of child welfare, child support, and family court professionals in their work with survivors and their children. Like all FVPSA-funded resource centers, we are committed to empowering survivors and their communities of support in informed, effective advocacy.

We are excited to share—in subsequent issues of this newsletter—our plans (and those of our partners) around child welfare and domestic violence, including:

- our recognition of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Greenbook* ([Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice](#));
- the work of our longtime partners at Futures Without Violence who are taking the *Greenbook* further into practice with the Quality Improvement Center on Domestic Violence in Child Welfare; and

- our creation and support of the Meeting at the Intersections: A Learning Cohort, a group of emerging leaders who will co-create models and best practice that will increase connectedness and resiliency, and honor the values of families and communities as they address the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect. These approaches will be culturally grounded and apply a racial justice lens to family violence prevention and responses.

In addition, you can look forward to learning about the critical tools the RCDV: CPC is developing for the many survivors who find the court procedures determining custody to be confusing and overwhelming, and whose safety and well-being depends on an informed court order. These include materials to help self-represented survivors navigate mediation and child support requirements, to understand how they can present evidence, or prepare for court.

In addition to the training and technical assistance the RCDV:CPC provides, you can look to the RCDV:CPC to provide guidance for accessing and understanding the growing body of evidence-based practice in domestic violence interventions, as well as the ability to help your practice communities evaluate their work (and contribute to this evidence-base!). Look here for announcements about our publications and webinars, and feel free to contact us directly with your questions.

Finally, if you have projects, partners, research, or powerful stories to share with our audience, please reach out. If you would like to write a blog, or like us to consider highlighting innovative local work, or new understanding of enduring challenges, our email and phone lines are open. If we are overlooking you or the survivors or systems you work with, please tell us how we can be better partners. If we write something that strikes you as helpful, please let us know. We may be able come to your community to learn more about your work, share what we know, and/or move forward together. We are holding this space for informal, immediate conversation with our friends and colleagues, and we could not do any of it without you!

Happy New Year,

Eryn Jane Branch  
Director, Cross-System Collaboration  
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

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