

DEAR FRIENDS,

Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights continued my father's unfinished labors for a more just and peaceful world through a multiplicity of worldwide endeavors in 2015.

Our advocacy and litigation unit battled discrimination against Dominicans of Haitian descent, scored landmark victories for victims of femicide in Guatemala, freed prisoners of conscience in Swaziland and raised awareness about human rights in the United States. Our human rights education curriculum, reaching 3.2 million students worldwide, was launched in Canada, Guadeloupe, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Norway and Portugal—with teacher trainings reaching many educators. At two annual sustainable investing summits we partnered with more than 120 business leaders controlling assets of \$5 to \$7 trillion to embrace human rights in their investment decisions. Our Young Leaders network reached over 1,500 members in New York and Washington, D.C.

We persisted with these and many other global efforts to embrace those who carry forward the legacy of Robert Kennedy of which you can be justly proud.

Warmly,

NEARLY 50 YEARS AGO,

Robert Kennedy's family and friends dedicated themselves to carrying on his unfinished work of standing with those who fight against oppression. Today, we are students and activists, lawyers and business leaders, teachers and advocates, all working towards a common goal: achieving Bobby's dream of a more just and peaceful world.

OUR WORK

Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights takes a holistic approach to creating change:

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

We train and educate current and future human rights defenders to build capacity from the ground up and prevent abuses before they occur.

ADVOCACY AND LITIGATION

Through our advocacy and litigation efforts, we create lasting change; harnessing the power of social movements and bringing the arm of the law to the defense of the vulnerable.

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

We engage the investment community in discussions focused on human rights and other environmental, societal and governance factors; ensuring their investments in businesses around the globe not only do well, but are also a force for good.

LEGACY

We inspire new generations to take action and create change by amplifying and celebrating activists, authors, journalists, and students whose work reflects Robert F. Kennedy's legacy, including human rights, social justice and the power of individual action in the United States and around the world.

YOUNG LEADERS

We mobilize the next generation to champion human rights in their communities.

OUR IMPACT

ADVOCACY AND LITIGATION **OUR ADVOCATES HAVE PARTNERED WITH OVER**

countries around the world

THROUGH 12 ANNUAL CAPACITY BUILDING TRAININGS, **OUR EXPERTS REACH**

government and advocacy organizations

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

WE PARTNERED WITH MORE THAN

business leaders controlling \$5-7 trillion in assets to consider human rights in their investment decisions

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

OUR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAM HAS REACHED

EDUCATORS WERE REACHED through trainings in the U.S. alone

YOUNG LEADERS

YOUNG LEADERS COUNTS

new chapter in Washington, D.C.

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BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

In 2015, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights freed prisoners of conscience in Swaziland and partnered with activists from Chicago to Moscow to combat police brutality. Our **Strategic Litigation Unit won landmark** cases, protecting women in Guatemala from being murdered with impunity, and communities in the Dominican Republic and The Bahamas from illegal deportation and expulsion from their homelands. Our business and human rights program worked with the Department of Labor to release new guidance for investors considering the social impact of their investments. We launched our human rights education curriculum in Canada, France, Guadeloupe, Switzerland, Spain, and the United Kingdom, expanding its reach to 16 countries and more than 3.2 million students worldwide.

OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

ADVOCACY AND LITIGATION

Fought arbitrary deprivation of nationality from Dominicans of Haitian descent in the Dominican Republic:

- Through our work and persistent pressure, we were able to get the Dominican Republic government to commit to not engage in massive deportations and put stateless people back on a path to citizenship.
- We helped secure the release of \$2 million in emergency UN funding after having engaged in a fact-finding mission to the Dominican Republic along the border with Haiti.

Training Institute

- Organized 12 activities and 5 side events
- 177 human rights defenders and government agents trained.
- 87 organizations and government agencies involved.
- Representing 66 countries.



Raised Attention on the Human Rights Situation in the United States:

• We organized hearings on Child Victims of Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation, and on Police Killings.



Won landmark case for victims of femicide in Guatemala:

- In December, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights issued a landmark ruling in a case we brought regarding the disappearance and murder of 19-year old Claudina Isabel Velásquez Pais in 2005.
- The Court ordered Guatemala to adopt a series of measures that will address structural discrimination and violence against women in the country.

Fought discriminatory immigration policies in The Bahamas:

- We obtained protective measures for 200 people held in a migration detention center.
- We led a fact-finding mission to assess the impact of the immigration policies, particularly on Haitians and persons of Haitian Descent.
- We participated in the first ever Thematic Hearing about human rights in The Bahamas before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Freed Prisoners of Conscience in Africa's last absolute monarchy:

 Journalist Bheki Makhubu and human rights lawyer Thulani Maseko – imprisoned for criticizing the judiciary in Swaziland – were released in June after the government bowed to the international pressure of our #SwaziJustice campaign.

"I'm certain that the training and the whole experience will help me take my organization's work to a higher level of international advocacy"

TRAINING INSTITUTE PARTICIPANT FROM MEXICO

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OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

Our human rights education curriculum launched in:

· Canada, Guadeloupe, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

We held trainings internationally in:

· Cambodia, Italy, Rwanda, and Sweden.

Within the United States we held trainings in:

 Austin, Indianapolis, Long Island, Los Angeles, Memphis, Oneonta, Philadelphia, San Francisco, University of Connecticut (Storrs), and Tulsa.

Speak Truth To Power Video Contest Winners:

• Julio Villegas and Christopher Rodriguez

Speak Up, Sing Out Music Contest Winner:

Jade Rhodes

Theatre Program:

 We piloted a week-long theatre camp in New York, that merges human rights education with social justice theatre to address the realities of oppression and create tools for liberation.





BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

RFKennedy Compass Hyannis Port, M.A. Conference:

- 6th Annual Hyannis Port Conference
- Over 180 attendees
- Keynote Speakers included: Honorable Barney Frank (M.A.),
 David Bonderman, Founding Partner, TPG Capital, Renee James,
 President, Intel Corporation, N. Gregory Mankiw, Chairman and
 Professor of Economics, Harvard University

RFKennedy Compass Washington, D.C. Conference:

- 4th Annual East Coast Conference
- · Over 120 attendees
- Keynote Speakers included: Senator Cory Booker (NJ), Senator Orrin Hatch (UT), Council of Economic Advisers Chairman Jason Furman, National Economic Council Director Jeffrey Zients, Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez, and David Rubenstein, Co-CEO and Founder, The Carlyle Group

"I learned a ton more about the great work you are doing at Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights. It was both eye-opening and humbling. Awesome conference!"

-COMPASS CONFERENCE ATTENDEE

"Because of the work of Young Leaders, there is hope in the Hudson Valley"

-ROLFI OLVIRO, PASTOR AND FORMER FARMWORKER

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Over the past year, Congress has engaged in a serious debate about how to reform the federal criminal justice system. As a down payment on this reform, a bipartisan group of 11 senators, including Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Grassley (R-IA) and Ranking Member Leahy (D-VT), introduced "The Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act." As a result of work by the bill cosponsors, Senators Booker (D-NJ) and Durbin (D-IL), this landmark legislation includes three provisions that would assist young people incarcerated in the federal system. All of these reforms have been supported by the Juvenile Justice Collaborative, which also worked with Senator Booker to improve the specific provision on juvenile records sealing. The three juvenile justice reforms proposed by the bill include:

Sealing and expungement of non-violent federal juvenile records:

This provision would allow individuals to seek sealing and expungement of non-violent federal juvenile records upon petition to the court. The Collaborative and its partners successfully worked with Senator Booker's staff to support and improve this provision of the bill.

Judicial review of juvenile sentences:

This provision would allow inmates in the federal system who were sentenced as juveniles to seek a sentence modification via judicial review after serving at least twenty years of their sentence.

Prohibition on the use of solitary confinement:

This provision would prohibit solitary confinement, as required by Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) standards, for young people held in federal juvenile facilities. This provision, pulled from Senator Booker's standalone bill, "MERCY Act," arose in part from a meeting in April 2015 that the Collaborative set up between Senator Booker's staff and justice-impacted youth affiliated with the Juvenile Law Center. During this meeting, one of the young people spoke powerfully and emotionally about the negative physical and psychological impact that solitary confinement had had on her, and then later educated Senator Booker directly about her experience.

The Collaborative will push for passage of this Senate legislation, as well as inclusion of the youth provisions in House legislation that are under development. Despite the relatively small number of youth in the federal justice system, it is critical to include juvenile justice reform provisions in this important federal justice system reform bill as a way to recognize the pressing need for youth justice reform.

YOUNG LEADERS



Launching the RFKYL Speaker Series

 Young Leaders educated hundreds of young New Yorkers about today's most pressing human rights issues through a bi-monthly speaker series highlighting the work of local young activists.

Supporting New York Farmworkers

- Delivered 200 pounds of winter clothes.
- Delivered boxes of toys for the holidays and helped serve a holiday meal.
- · Organized volunteers to teach ESL classes.

Feeding the New York homeless

• Prepared and delivered over 2,000 lunches to NYC homeless.

Growina!

• Our community grew by 185% and is now 1,500 strong.



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OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

"It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped."

-ROBERT F. KENNEDY



LEGACY

Robert F. Kennedy Book and Journalism Awards:

Book Award Winner:

The Crusades of Cesar Chavez by Miriam Pawel

Journalism Award Winners:

- HIGH SCHOOL BROADCAST: "Our Cameras, Our Stories," John Alpert and Team, Downtown Community Television Center,
- · HIGH SCHOOL PRINT: "Eyes on Ferguson," Gwyneth Henke, The Globe, Clayton High School, Clayton, MO
- COLLEGE: "Wrongful Convictions," Alec Klein and Team, Medill Justice Project, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

- CARTOON: "Darrin Bell 2014 Editorial Cartoons." Darrin Bell. The Washington Post Writers Group
- NEW MEDIA: "Firestone and the Warlord," T. Christian Miller and Jonathan Jones, ProPublica and PBS Frontline
- RADIO: "Boxed In: When the Punishment No Longer Fits the Crime," Carrie Johnson, Marisa Peñalosa, and Beth Donovan,
- DOMESTIC PHOTOGRAPHY: "California's Dust Bowl," Michael Robinson Chavez, The Los Angeles Times
- INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY: "Ebola: A Desperate Struggle," Michel duCille, The Washington Post
- DOMESTIC PRINT: "Cruel and Unusual," Julie K. Brown, Miami Herald
- INTERNATIONAL PRINT WINNER: "Product of Mexico." Richard Marosi and Don Bartletti, The Los Angeles Times
- DOMESTIC TELEVISION: "Solitary Nation," Daniel Edge, PBS Frontline and WGBH
- INTERNATIONAL TELEVISION: "Qatar's World Cup," Jeremy Schaap, Beein Gim, Andy Tennant, Michael Baltierra, and Tim Horgan, ESPN E:60

Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award Recipient:

Natalia Taubina, Russia

Ripple of Hope Award Recipients:

- Roger Altman
- Marianna Vardinovannis
- Tim Cook
- The Honorable John Lewis

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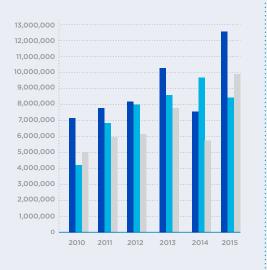
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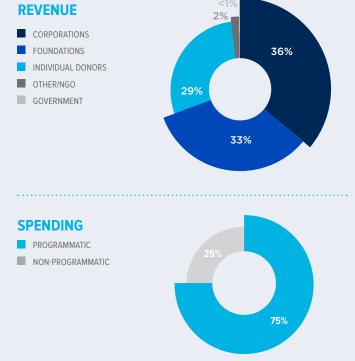
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"Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

-ROBERT F. KENNEDY



"Those with the courage to enter the moral conflict will find themselves with companions in every corner of the globe."

-ROBERT F. KENNEDY







