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Louisiana Parent Group Receives the National Organization of Distinction Award for Their Efforts in Reforming the Juvenile Justice System

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Campaign for Youth Justice (CFYJ) and the National Juvenile Justice Network (NJJN) presented the National Organization of Distinction Award to Families and Friends of Louisiana’s Incarcerated Children (FFLIC). This honor is presented each Mother’s Day to one or more mothers who have made an outstanding contribution to the juvenile justice field through working for reform in the juvenile justice system or changing the practice of trying, sentencing, or incarcerating youth in the adult criminal justice system. This year the award was presented to the entire FFLIC office.

“FFLIC is a one of a kind organization that has become a leading voice for change in Louisiana,” said Liz Ryan, Executive Director of CFYJ. “They’ve accomplished so much and should be commended for their efforts in juvenile justice reform.”

FFLIC is a statewide membership-based organization that fights for a better life for all of Louisiana’s youth, especially those involved in or at risk of being involved in the juvenile justice system. The parents that make up this group have kids that have been in both the juvenile and adult justice system.

Every year, hundreds of children are placed in Louisiana’s youth prisons, only to be returned to their communities with few skills, and limited education. FFLIC engages in education, community building, and leadership development advocacy through strategically chosen goals in order to empower individuals, families and communities to transform currently oppressive systems and institutions into ones that uphold justice for families, to build strong, powerful families and communities and to fight for justice of youth.

“We are so proud of and grateful for the dedicated parents at FFLIC in helping to reform Louisiana’s juvenile justice system.” said Sarah Bryer, Director of the National Juvenile Justice Network. “Their vision to fight for what’s right for all of our children is an inspiration to each and every one of us advocating for change.”

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The Campaign for Youth Justice (CFYJ) is dedicated to ending the practice of trying, sentencing and incarcerating youth under the age of 18 in the adult criminal justice system. For more information, visit www.campaignforyouthjustice.org.

The National Juvenile Justice Network (NJJN) enhances the capacity of state-based, juvenile justice organizations to advocate for fair, equitable and developmentally appropriate adjudication and treatment for all children, youth and families involved in the juvenile justice system. For more information, visit www.njjn.org.