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## **Terry L. Cross to Receive Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps' Embracing the Legacy Award**

*June 9*

BOSTON — For serving as a national voice for American Indian children and families, Terry L. Cross, MSW, LCSW, ACSW, will be honored with the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps' Embracing the Legacy Award.

Terry L. Cross (Seneca Nation) is the founder and executive director of the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA). Cross is nationally recognized for his life-long work and steadfast commitment, vision, and passion to improving the lives of American Indian and Alaskan Native children and families. Cross has done this by providing support and advocacy for Indigenous children, whether in urban settings, reservations, or rural areas.

In the spirit of the late Senator's belief that individuals can make a difference in the world, the agency's Embracing the Legacy Award recognizes those who have courageously worked to eliminate injustice and inequity in society that affect children and families. The Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps will raise money through the event to support its programs for vulnerable children. The agency, which is celebrating 42 years of service, is a leader in children's welfare, juvenile justice, advocacy and treatment for children and families in Massachusetts.

"For working tirelessly on behalf of American Indian and Alaskan Native children and families to develop and improve child welfare programs and for providing advocacy and helping to implement effective public policy, Terry represents the ideals and principles of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy," says Ed Kelley, president and CEO of the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps.

More than 300 people are expected to attend the event, which will include a cocktail reception, seated dinner and program, including the presentation of the Embracing the Legacy Awards to the following honorees: **Marian Wright Edelman**, founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund; **Peter Edelman**, professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center; **Nancy Carlsson-Paige**, professor of early childhood education at Lesley University and author; **Lael Chester**, executive director of Citizens for Juvenile Justice; and **Terry L. Cross**, founder of the National Indian Child Welfare Association.

"I am humbled and honored to be associated with the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Acton Corps," says Cross.

A portion of Investigation Discovery's documentary, "Children of Promise: The Legacy of Robert F. Kennedy," which showcases the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps as a leader in child welfare and juvenile justice, will be shown at the event. The documentary, which is set to air May 20 on the Investigation Discovery network, features three former clients of the agency, agency staff, NBC News anchor Tom Brokaw, and Kerry Kennedy and Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, daughters of the late Senator.

The event will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 9 at the JFK Presidential Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston. Individual tickets are \$300 and corporate sponsorship opportunities are available. For tickets, or more information on sponsorships, contact Lisa Sikora at (617) 227-4183, lsikora@rfkchildren.org, or visit [www.rfkchildren.org](http://www.rfkchildren.org).

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