

# Toward Developmentally Appropriate Practice: A Juvenile Court Training Curriculum

## Module 1 Adolescent Development

This module provides participants with a working knowledge of key aspects of adolescent development and their application to decision making at critical junctures in the juvenile court process.

## Module 2 Screening, Assessing, and Evaluating Youth

This module provides professionals with information about forensic evaluations, as well as screening and assessment instruments used in juvenile justice systems.

## Module 3 Special Education and Disability Rights

This module provides an overview of education-related disabilities, the laws pertaining to special education and disability rights, and the relevance of special education and disability rights for juvenile courts.

## Module 4 Legal Questions about Youth's Capacities

This module reviews the legal questions in delinquency cases that require information about youth's capacities, including the validity of waivers of *Miranda* rights, the voluntariness of confessions, the competence of youth to participate in the legal process, and the transfer of youth to criminal court.

## Module 5 Communicating with Youth: Interviews and Colloquies

This module describes techniques for effective communication with youth involved in the juvenile court system, including respondents, witnesses and complaining witnesses.

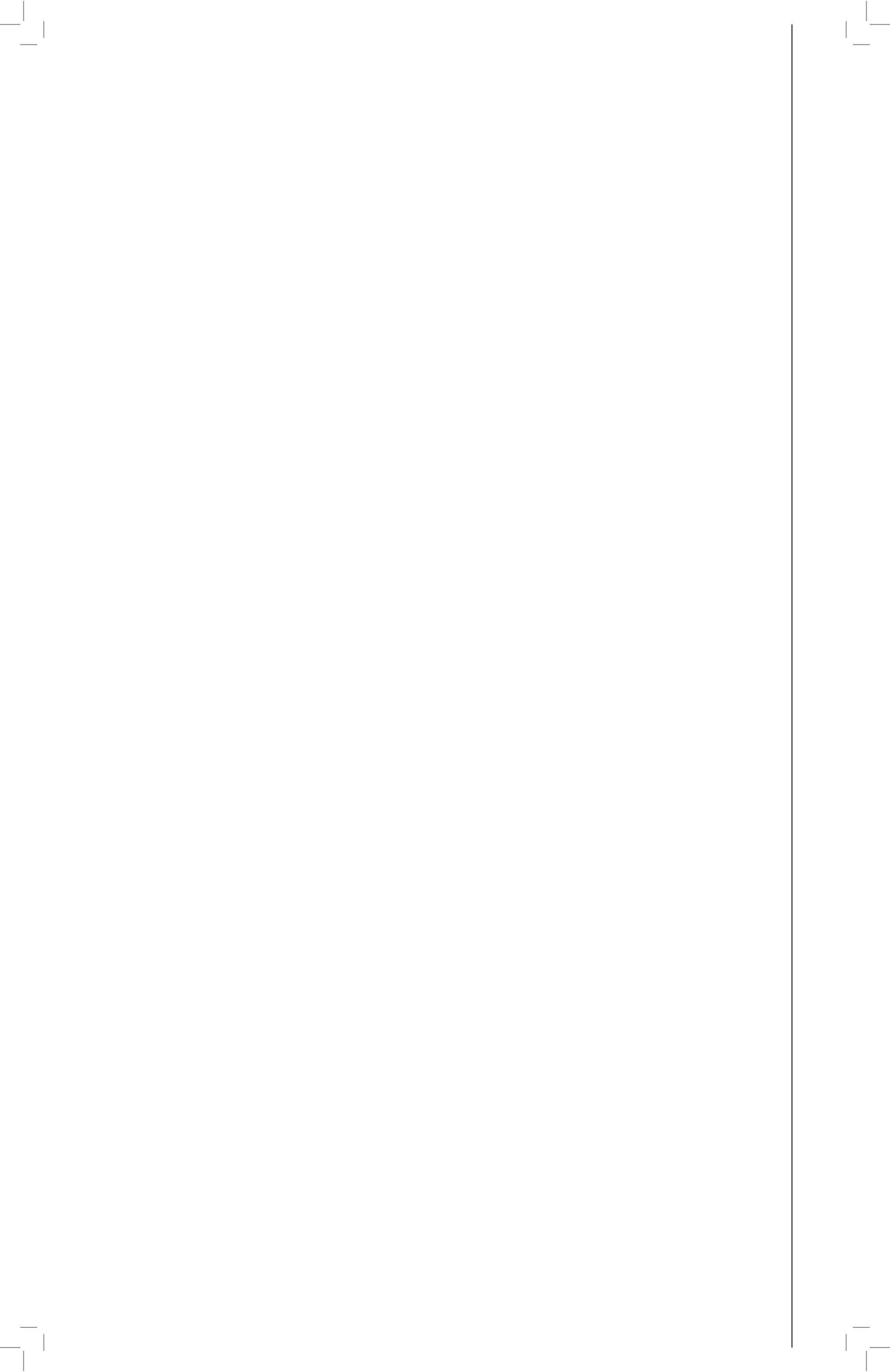
**ModelsforChange**

Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice  
[www.modelsforchange.net](http://www.modelsforchange.net)

by the National Juvenile Defender Center in partnership with Juvenile Law Center

For more information or to request training based on the Curriculum please contact:

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NATIONAL JUVENILE DEFENDER CENTER

The mission of the National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) is to ensure excellence in justice for all children. NJDC believes that all youth have the right to zealous, well-resourced defense. The juvenile defense bar must build its capacity to produce and support capable, well-trained attorneys. NJDC works to create an environment in which defenders have access to sufficient resources, including financial assistance, as well as specialized training, adequate, equitable compensation, and mental health services. NJDC provides training, technical assistance, resource development, and policy reforms support across the country. NJDC disseminates relevant and timely information in research reports, advisory

## Juvenile Law Center

Juvenile Law Center is a non-profit, national, public interest law firm that advances the interests of children in jeopardy. Juvenile Law Center ensures that the child welfare, juvenile justice, and child protection systems protect and serve the most vulnerable children with the protection and services they need to become happy, healthy, and successful adults. Since 1975, Juvenile Law Center is one of the oldest public interest law firms for children.

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the National Juvenile Defender Center and Juvenile Law Center. The MacArthur Juvenile Court Training Curriculum was developed by Katayoon Majd, Mary Ann Scali and Ji Seon Song from the National Juvenile Defender Center, and Lourdes Rosado from Juvenile Law Center.

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