

**CHILDREN'S STUDIES 91: PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVES AND
CHILDREN
SPRING 2010
GUEST SPEAKER: SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT THOMAS I. KENNEDY
APRIL 12, 2010**



THOMAS I. KENNEDY, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVOCACY

Covenant House

Tom Kennedy has over 35 years in not-for-profit management with expertise in the area of homeless/runaway youth, mental health, substance abuse prevention, and education. He started his career as a teacher at Nazareth HS in Brooklyn where he later served as Board Chair and head of their Development Committee. He was the Director of the Drug Abuse Prevention Program for the Diocese of Brooklyn before becoming the NYS Office of Mental Health's Assistant to the Commissioner for the Homeless Mentally Ill. During his tenure at CH, he has served as the SVP for Programs and Advocacy, for Site Relations and as Interim Executive Director of CH New Jersey, Texas, Missouri and Georgia. Tom served as the Chair for the NGO Committee on UNICEF, the US Campaign to Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the UNICEF Working Group on Child Labor. He earned his B.A. at Fordham and his M.A. at St. Mary's University in Minnesota. He is married and the father of three adult children.