



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

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*Respect, Caring, Safety,
Well-Being, Responsibility, Justice*

2011
Annual Report



In 2011, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges continued to pursue its mission to improve the juvenile justice system and raise awareness of the issues that touch the lives of many of our nation's children and families. Since its founding in 1937, the NCJFCJ has been committed to improving outcomes for children and families in the justice system. This commitment has made the NCJFCJ a leader in educational opportunities, research, and policy development in the field of juvenile and family justice.

From its headquarters on the University of Nevada, Reno campus, the NCJFCJ is led by a 29-member Board of Trustees and issue-focused committees made up of dedicated and enthusiastic NCJFCJ members. Through the organization's program department, the NCJFCJ provides cutting-edge training, expert technical assistance, publications, practice assessment tools, research, and policy development in the areas of domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, delinquency, family law, substance abuse, and other timely issues.

Our dedicated staff are committed to meeting the needs of our members and others working in the field in their efforts to improve justice for our nation's most vulnerable citizens.

NCJFCJ facts at-a-glance

ESTABLISHED: 1937, headquartered at the University of Nevada, Reno since 1969.

MEMBERSHIP: Nearly 1,900 members (judges, magistrates, referees, court administrators, probation officers, and other juvenile and family justice professionals) from every state and several foreign countries.

LEADERSHIP: 29-member Board of Trustees, led by Judge Patricia Martin, NCJFCJ President

ANNUAL BUDGET: \$13.8 million.

STAFF: 105, located in Reno, Nevada, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
(Washington, D.C. office closed in early 2011).



In 2011, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges remains committed to ensuring that our nation's children and families receive the best possible outcomes from a justice system that is fair, effective, and timely. This report highlights NCJFCJ's many efforts in 2011, including the following:

What's New

- NCJFCJ contributed to a number of resources during 2011 including *Engaging Fathers in Child Protection Court Hearings*; *Case Planning Judicial Bench Card*; *Domestic Violence Accountability Checklist*; *Seven Things Juvenile Courts Should Know About Learning Disabilities*; *Courts Catalyzing Change Preliminary Protective Hearing Benchcard Study*; *Child and Family Service Review Outcomes*; *Strategies to Improve Domestic Violence Responses in CFSR Program Improvement Plans*; *Disproportionality Rates for Children of Color in Foster Care*; and many more.
- Work continued on NCJFCJ's Project ONE (formerly the Multi-Court Collaboration Initiative) which seeks to provide judges with practice guidance for supporting the needs of families and children no matter which jurisdictional "door" of the courthouse they enter.

Collaboration

- NCJFCJ continues to collaborate with a number of national organizations on projects, publications, and other resources, including the ABA Center on Children and the Law, Futures Without Violence, Battered Women's Justice Project, National Child Traumatic Stress Network, Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Casey Family Programs, and many others.

Continuing Education

- The NCJFCJ provides training and technical assistance to juvenile and family court judges and jurisdiction representatives on a variety of topics. The scope of training ranges from development of one-week conferences to topic-specific presentations integrated into state judicial education programs and major national programs. In 2011, 116 programs or presentations were conducted for more than 8,283 participants. Technical assistance covers the breadth of issues of concern in juvenile and family cases and includes provision of materials to an individual or an in-depth, on-site consultation to assist a jurisdiction in planning for systems change.

Diversity

- This year, the NCJFCJ board members and staff worked on an organizational diversity plan. The Diversity Committee met several times over the year to discuss and evaluate the organization's diversity and inclusiveness goals. Staff also trained many judges and court personnel across the country on implicit bias and social cognition at conferences, via webinars, and through its on-going Courts Catalyzing Change: Achieving Equity and Fairness in Foster Care initiative. In addition, several documents were published such as the Disproportionality Rates for Children of Color in Foster Care Technical Assistance Bulletin, and tribal and state court judges were brought together in August for the Tribal Judicial Leadership group to bring vision and guidance to our tribal-focused work. In December, the NCJFCJ added three new tribal courts into the Victim's Act Model Court Project.

Research

- In addition to decades-long work on the National Juvenile Court Data Archive, the research division of the NCJFCJ was awarded a grant in 2011 to provide training and technical assistance in support of evidence-based practice to state recipients of Title II and Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funding. Current projects also include two new web programs for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency which will give unprecedented access to state and county juvenile court caseload statistics, the first such state-agency information sharing effort of its kind.

Looking to the Future

- NCJFCJ looks forward in 2012 to celebrating its 75th anniversary through a series of events focusing on the history of the organization. A wide variety of efforts are underway, including the development of a pilot training to help judges respond to adolescent partner violence; special issues of the *Juvenile and Family Court Journal* focused on judicial ethics and immigration; new training, publications, and web resources on juvenile drug courts; and much more.

Contents

- 4** President's Report:
Judge Patricia Martin
- 5** CEO's Letter
- 6** Departments:
Family Violence
Juvenile and Family Law
National Center for Juvenile
Justice
Permanency Planning for
Children
- 10** Membership and
Publications
- 11** Financial Statement
- 12** Sources of Support
- 14** NCJFCJ Leadership
- 15** Our Vision and Mission

"The NCJFCJ challenges me to strive for excellence in what I do and to implement best practices as a dependency and delinquency court judge."

**Judge Darlene Byrne,
Austin, TX**

President's Message

2011 was a year of renewal for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, preparing for our 75th Anniversary in 2012. It is remarkable all that was accomplished over the year to benefit the families involved in our Member courts. Continuing economic challenges and scarce resources have had the most impact on those vulnerable children and families who come before us - those who may also be facing issues of abuse and neglect, delinquency, domestic violence, or minority issues, among others. I would like to sincerely thank all members of the National Council, its committees, and staff for all for their efforts to move forward our mission to improve court practice and family experiences within our Member courts. You have made my tenure as President incredibly fulfilling. It is a year I will never forget, and I will always be proud of all that we have accomplished.



In 2011 we brought on board a new Chief Executive Officer, Mari Kay Bickett, to lead our staff and help our organization grow into a national presence that will positively impact courts, children, families, and victims of violence – today and into the future.

The NCJFCJ has striven throughout its history to pass resolutions and implement initiatives, in order to fulfill its mission. 2011 was no different. We passed resolutions in support of Tribal Courts, both in their roles serving our families, as well as in support of their access to CIP funds. We also saw a renewed focus on Disproportionate Representation of children of color in our foster care system.

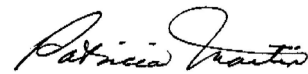
The NCJFCJ adopted resolutions supporting reauthorization and strengthening of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, regarding judicial education on military issues, and a policy statement on child welfare finance reform. We developed

and adopted as policy the statements and practices outlined in *Civil Protection Orders: A Guide for Improving Practice and Key Principles for Permanency Planning for Children*.

The NCJFCJ's Diversity Committee developed a Diversity Plan for the National Council. This plan reflects the Council's commitment to promoting diversity in its composition as well as in its performance of its mission. Principles such as: recruiting members reflecting the diversity of the families served; providing relevant and culturally sensitive educational programs and publications; and promoting nationwide knowledge of diversity issues are the cornerstones of the Diversity Plan.

As you can see, the NCJFCJ, through its committees and membership, has tackled some difficult and complex issues. The NCJFCJ has, itself, worked internally to combine its efforts on behalf of our families and to work more efficiently to achieve our mission. Through the hard work of our members, our committees, and our CEO Mari Kay Bickett, partnerships have been stabilized, new relationships have been established, and past NCJFCJ successes have been replicated.

While the National Council has accomplished much in 2011, there is always so much more to be done. I would encourage all members to renew his or her commitment to the work of the NCJFCJ, and to encourage colleagues in our field to join in the National Council's important and necessary work.



Judge Patricia M. Martin
President
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges



NCJFCJ's 2011-2012 Board of Trustees

CEO's Letter

2011 was quite a year for the Council! Since my arrival in April, we've seen so many positive changes set in motion, positioning the Council for a bright and successful future.

The largest undertaking of the year has been the kickoff of my "Multi-Faceted Reinvigoration Agenda" – a reorganization of the Council and thinking strategically about how we are structured, how we operate, how we prioritize our work, and how we can best use our skills, talents, and resources. As 2011 closed, floor plans for both the 245 E. Liberty and Campus offices in Reno had been agreed to, with most program department staff being housed together at 245 E. Liberty, and plans were underway for hiring both a Chief Operating Officer and Development Director. Additionally, the marketing work-group spent the last several months of 2011 developing a new website strategy,



making our webpage more user-friendly and visually appealing. All are very exciting developments and the first of many steps towards a larger vision for the Council.

This year we continued our initial Multi Courts Collaboration work by laying the foundation for Project ONE, the NCJFCJ Initiative named to signify a holistic approach to families through One Family/One Judge, No Wrong Door, and Equal Access to Justice for All. Project ONE seeks to provide judges with guidance

for supporting the needs of families and children, no matter which jurisdictional "door" of the courthouse – family law, child welfare, family violence, juvenile justice, etc. – they enter.

We also spent a great deal of time in 2011 concentrating on the Council's legislative strategy. We have been more successful than ever in engaging our Board of Trustees, Legislative Committee, and all Council members, actively involving them in contacting members of Congress on behalf of the Council's important work. These outreach efforts underscore the impact judges and others in the field can have on federal policy to improve justice. Without these efforts, our programs wouldn't be a reality.

More great news is the significant funding awards the Council received in the later months of 2011. Many were awarded through competitive application processes and will assist in furthering our efforts in the areas of child abuse and neglect, family law, juvenile drug courts, domestic violence, trauma informed systems, juvenile delinquency research, disproportionate representation in dependency court, tribal judicial leadership, and other related areas. We also received two awards from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund—one to engage a consultant in helping us with strategic planning, and the other to enable us to hire a development director. It goes without saying, all sources of funding are essential to move the Council forward.

I am looking to the future with great enthusiasm for all the good things lined up for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in 2012!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mari Kay Bickett".

Mari Kay Bickett, J.D.
Chief Executive Officer



Family Violence Department

The Family Violence Department (FVD) is dedicated to improving the way courts and communities respond to family violence, while recognizing the legal, cultural, and psychological dynamics involved. Its ultimate goal is to improve the lives of domestic violence victims and their children.

National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence (NJIDV) – The NJIDV, funded by OVW, is a joint project of the FVD and the Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPF) that provides a continuum of judicial education in the area of domestic violence with NJIDV's core program, the *Enhancing Judicial Skills* course, and a more advanced *Continuing Judicial Skills* course.

The Resource Center on Domestic Violence: Child Protection and Custody – The Resource Center provides technical assistance, training, policy development, and publications in the special issue area of child protection and custody in adult domestic violence cases. In 2011, FVD staff contributed to *Engaging Fathers in Child Protection Court Hearings and Case Planning Judicial Bench Card*, published by the American Bar Association's Center on Children and the Law, the Quality Improvement Center on Non-Resident Fathers, and the American Humane Association. The revised cards now encourage judges to explore allegations of abuse carefully and thoroughly and to connect a child with a father safely when domestic violence may be a factor.

Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program – The FVD continues to work with OVW's Supervised Visitation Program grantee communities to provide guidance on their collaborative efforts and receive training on law- and court-related issues. In 2011, the FVD developed an interactive website, released in 2012, that features interactive training modules and serves as a resource library for Supervised Visitation Program grantees and non-grantees.



Protection Orders: Implementation of the CPO Guide and Passport to Safety – This project, funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) focuses on domestic violence protection orders at both the issuance and enforcement stages. The FVD's recent work on protection orders and full faith and credit centers on the publication and distribution of the *Civil Protection Orders: A Guide for Improving Practice (CPO Guide)*. In March, OVW recognized the importance of the work on the CPO Guide by awarding the FVD a new two-year grant entitled *Protection Orders: Implementation of the CPO Guide and Passport to Safety (Full Faith and Credit: A Passport to Safety, A Judge's Bench Card)*.

Adolescents and Intimate Partner Violence: A National Judicial Curriculum – The FVD is developing a pilot training on *Adolescents and Intimate Partner Violence: A National Judicial Curriculum* that will increase the capacity of judges to respond to adolescent partner violence.

A Judicial Guide to Child Safety in Custody Cases – The FVD continues to implement A Judicial Guide to Child Safety in Custody Cases through a nationwide, full-scale roll-out of the publication and to provide comprehensive training and technical assistance to implementation sites. In May, the FVD partnered with OVW to host a meeting on family courts improvement in Maryland.

Comprehensive Technical Assistance to Judges – In 2011, the NCJFCJ began serving as the comprehensive technical assistance provider for judges with funding from OVW. This allows the FVD to look more completely at the training and technical assistance needs state and tribal court judges have, build on the effective education provided through the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence (NJIDV), a partnership with Futures Without Violence and OVW, and expand the services available to include developing a resource library, providing on-site and cross-site technical assistance and peer-to-peer exchange development, among others.

Defending Childhood Technical Assistance – As a subcontractor of Futures Without Violence, the FVD provides technical assistance on the U.S. Attorney General's Defending Childhood Initiative. NCJFCJ will provide assistance to the eight Defending Childhood sites in an organization-wide effort to address the needs of children exposed to violence in their homes and communities.

Enhancing Judicial Skills in Cases Involving Abuse and Sexual Assault Against the Elderly – The NJIDV, a partnership of Futures Without Violence, the FVD, and OVW, provides an additional judicial workshop entitled *Enhancing Judicial Skills in Elder Abuse Cases*. In August, the NJIDV, in conjunction with the Ohio State Attorney General's Office, presented this workshop for 55 Ohio judges and judicial officers.

Technical Support to Technical Assistance Providers for OVW – The FVD provides comprehensive technical assistance to grantees and subgrantees of OVW's TA programs that will enhance and refine their provision of direct assistance. In November, the FVD planned and hosted OVW's All TA Provider Conference which brought together 200 technical assistance providers.

Checklist to Promote Perpetrator Accountability in Dependency Cases Involving Domestic Violence – The FVD developed this publication, known as the *Accountability Checklist*, to guide judges in holding perpetrators of domestic violence accountable and to ensure that efforts to reach fathers will foster the safety and well-being of children and victim parents. The *Accountability Checklist* helps judges define domestic violence; gather information; assess dangerousness, strengths, and fatherhood capacity; review service plans and treatment options; consider placement and visitation; and ensure an effective judicial process.



"So glad to have expertise at the table that could push us in discussions, forcing us to remove our lenses and think as a community as a partnership."

Conference Participant,
Envisioning Solutions for
Collaborative Practice,
February 2011

Juvenile and Family Law Department

The mission of the Juvenile and Family Law Department (JFLD) is to impact national policy and enhance the functioning of juvenile and family courts through research, professional education, and technical assistance to support healthy outcomes for all children, youth, families, and communities. Whether at national conferences for 1,000 participants or small, intensive workshops for 20 participants, the JFLD continues to provide comprehensive training and technical assistance in areas such as juvenile justice, judicial leadership, substance abuse, problem-solving courts, social cognition, child support, trauma, adolescent and child development and a host of other topics in or applicable to juvenile and family law.

Training

Training highlights for 2011 included *Core College: Role of the Juvenile Court Judge; Managing Challenging Family Law Cases* (held in partnership with the National Judicial College); *Evidence in Juvenile and Family Court*; the *Reclaiming Futures Juvenile Drug Courts Inter-Sites Training*; and the *West Virginia Juvenile Drug Court Training Series*. Altogether in 2011, JFLD staff coordinated or substantively participated in 46 training events reaching more than 2,000 juvenile and family court professionals from all corners of the United States.

Juvenile Justice Model Court Project

The Juvenile Justice Model Court Project supports improved practice in delinquency cases in jurisdictions across the nation through dissemination and implementation of the *Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Delinquency Cases* (JDG) and efforts have continued to secure base funding to support the implementation of the JDG. To date, implementation of the JDG via Juvenile Justice Model Court sites has been supported primarily through contract funding from each site. There were twelve active model courts in 2011 including Austin, Texas; Buffalo, New York; Cincinnati, Ohio; Howell, Michigan; Memphis, Tennessee; New Orleans, Louisiana; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Reno, Nevada; San Jose, California; Scranton, Pennsylvania; Tucson, Arizona and a Statewide JDG Implementation Initiative in Minnesota. Active model court contracts in 2011 included sites in Cincinnati, Memphis, New Orleans, Reno, and San Jose. Due to lack of base funding, a Juvenile Justice Model Courts Lead Judges/All-Sites Meeting was not held in 2011.

Technical Assistance

JFLD continues to work with the Annie E. Casey Foundation to bring NCJFCJ judges the latest information from the Juvenile

Detention Reform Initiative through training inserts and articles in the TODAY Magazine. JFLD staff also facilitated a survey of juvenile and family courts about military issues training and technical assistance needs, and are active in working with the Coalition for Juvenile Justice and National Center for Juvenile Justice on a de-institutionalization of status offender project.

Responsive technical assistance, both office-based and on-site to judicial officers and other juvenile and family court professionals, continued to be a particular strength of the JFLD in 2011, with nearly 100 discrete technical assistance requests fulfilled. Further, JFLD coordinated several international visits to the NCJFCJ for the purpose of information sharing, and published a Technical Assistance Brief entitled, *Seven Things Juvenile Courts Should Know About Learning Disabilities* (authored by Christopher A. Mallett, Ph.D., Esq., LISW).



"The very concept of the Juvenile [Justice] Model Court enabled Hamilton County Juvenile Court to take a constructive review of our process, operations, and services. The Key Principles helped us to see where we were and where we wanted to go. We haven't looked back since."

**Judge Thomas Lipps and Mr. John Shore
Hamilton County, Ohio**

National Center for Juvenile Justice

The research division of the NCJFCJ, the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was established to provide research and technical assistance to those whose work has such a tremendous impact on children and families—those working in juvenile and family courts. NCJJ remains exclusively focused on youth justice issues. NCJJ has developed a reputation for the highest level of research integrity.

Broad National Focus and Sharp Local Insight — Facilitating Data-Driven Decision-making at All Levels

Much of NCJJ's funding over the years has come from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). OJJDP has funded NCJJ to operate the National Juvenile Court Data Archive since 1975. The project is one of the longest running justice data collections in the country, dating back to the 1920s. NCJJ prepares statistical bulletins for OJJDP publication, including the Juvenile Arrests bulletin. These are some of the most anticipated publications among juvenile justice practitioners each year.

NCJJ developed and maintains OJJDP's online *Statistical Briefing Book*, one of the most visited areas of OJJDP's website. The *Statistical Briefing Book* was launched following the publication of the widely popular *Juvenile Offenders* and *Victims: A National Report*, as a means of updating and further disseminating the wealth of information contained in the report series.

OJJDP has also entrusted NCJJ, in partnership with Westat, with its National Juvenile Probation Census data collection. This year NCJJ, together with the American Institutes for Research and the Coalition for Juvenile Justice, were awarded a grant to provide training and technical assistance in support of evidence-based practice to state recipients of Title II and Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funding. These last two projects were competitively bid and awarded to NCJJ and its co-applicants over the incumbent grantees.

The MacArthur Foundation has been another primary NCJJ funder for the past 9 years. The Foundation enlisted NCJJ as one of the National Resource Bank organizations at the launch of its Models for Change (MfC) initiative, which was designed to accelerate reform in the juvenile justice system. The work has involved targeted reform efforts in four "core" states and 12 "action network" states. NCJJ works closely with sites in the core states to improve their data capacity, information sharing, and performance measures to track implementation of programs and practices supported by MfC.

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) has also been a key funder for NCJJ over the years. NCJJ provided technical assistance services to PCCD for many years and functioned as a Resource Center developing performance measures for the state's implementation of Balanced and Restorative Justice. For the past several years, NCJJ has been introducing Pennsylvania's myriad private providers to continuous quality improvement concepts and guiding them through a process of ongoing assessment of service delivery and client outcomes and using data to inform decisions as the face of PCCD's Quality Improvement Initiative.

NCJJ is also working with PCCD to develop two web resources: the Program and Practice Effectiveness Toolkit and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Delinquency Data Analysis Tool. The effectiveness toolkit will support the state's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy by clarifying the language of evidence-based practice and providing program and practice examples and access to additional training and technical assistance resources. The data analysis tool gives the public unprecedented access to state and county juvenile court caseload statistics and is the first such state-agency information sharing effort of its kind.

NCJJ is also involved with projects in several jurisdictions regarding strategic planning, performance measures, recidivism analysis, information system development, information sharing and data dissemination, continuous quality improvement, and program evaluation. NCJJ has also fostered strong working relationships with the other NCJFCJ program areas. NCJJ is providing evaluation services for the Resource Center for Legal and Judicial Issues work being done by the Permanency Planning for Children Department.

NCJJ also provides research support to a Coalition for Juvenile Justice funded project with the Juvenile and Family Law department. NCJJ assisted the Family Violence Department with management planning. Other collaboration with NCJFCJ departments includes the Military Families Needs Assessment Survey and Project ONE support.

The services of NCJJ are available when courts are planning research or evaluation projects, revamping information systems, assessing programs and practices against evidence-based/best practices, considering continuous quality improvement strategies, or for help with legal research or finding statistics to guide decision-making. NCJJ is user-friendly, and available as an independent research center.

"NCJJ, an all-round information clearinghouse and consultant, has supported providing detailed, timely, accurate, and user-friendly information and advice that is vital to those in the juvenile research community. This support is a testament to NCJJ's importance towards unbiased information on juvenile crime and the juvenile justice system in the United States."

***Laura Roeder-Grubb, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning
Iowa Department of Human Rights***

Permanency Planning for Children Department

The Permanency Planning for Children Department (PPCD) engages in local, statewide, and national systems change in courts that hear child abuse and neglect cases. Through national projects and initiatives, training, technical assistance, and research, the PPCD works with judges, jurisdictions, and communities nationwide to implement best practices and improve outcomes for the nation's abused and neglected children and their families.

Project ONE

Formerly known as the Multi-Court Collaboration Initiative, Project ONE reflects core vision and values: ONE stands for One family-one judge, No wrong door, Equal access to coordinated justice. During 2011, the Project ONE Steering Committee developed key principles to guide the work, and an implementation guide is nearing completion to serve as a blueprint for courts to use to participate in the project.

Courts Catalyzing Change: Achieving Equity and Fairness in Foster Care -Courts Catalyzing Change

In October 2011, the Courts Catalyzing Change Steering Committee focused on strict adherence to the Indian Child Welfare Act by courts, which resulted in a Model Court Lead Judges' Meeting on the spirit and purpose of the Act. In November 2011, a workgroup of judicial leaders was convened in partnership with the Annie E. Casey Foundation, to define court-based strategies to reform state policies and practices, lay out recommendations for reform, technical assistance and tools to assist judges. The first phase of the CCC Benchcard evaluation was completed and a study report demonstrating Benchcard effects was published.

Tribal Initiatives

PPCD was excited to welcome three new tribal Model Courts to the Model Courts Project in late 2011: the Yurok Tribe in Klamath, CA; Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas; and Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, who join the Gila River Indian Community in the list of tribal Model Courts.

In September 2011, tribal and state court judges and partners convened NCJFCJ's second Tribal Judicial Leadership Gathering. Participants at the meeting highlighted important milestones, including the provision of technical assistance on tribal-state collaboration to eleven states this year, which supports the Court Improvement Project (CIP) mandate for meaningful and ongoing tribal collaboration; NCJFCJ's engagement with and inclusion of tribal judicial voices in conversations with the Children's Bureau; and NCJFCJ's tribal focused trainings at its conferences. NCJFCJ judicial leaders and staff continued to meet with key federal, state, tribal and organizational partners to advance NCJFCJ's mission of meaningful and ongoing tribal-state collaboration.

Evolving Model Courts Project

The Model Courts project, funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) of the United States Department of Justice, serves courts nationwide. Implementation of the "Model Courts: The Next Generation" paradigm includes increasingly rigorous performance measurement of each Model Court's progress in its systems change efforts, ongoing implementation of the Courts Catalyzing Change (CCC) initiative, bringing new Model Courts into the project, building tribal court outreach, enhancement of the *RESOURCE GUIDELINES*, and statewide collaboration with Court Improvement Programs (CIPs).

National Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues

The NCJFCJ, ABA, and NCSC are jointly designated as the Children's Bureau's Training and Technical Assistance Network National Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues. The NCJFCJ Judicial Leadership Curriculum is the framework for the implementation focus of the Resource Center, and the PPCD will bring its cutting-edge Training Evaluation Tools to the CIPs through the Resource Center.

Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (CANI)

This week-long judicial training has been held annually in Reno since 1996, providing judges with cutting-edge legal and practice training in child abuse and neglect case handling. National demand for CANI training has resulted in its expansion, in coordination with state CIPs to regional trainings. At a regional CANI in Kentucky in 2011 over 50 judicial officers were in attendance.

Reasonable Efforts in Domestic Violence

During 2011 PPCD and the FVD worked to finalize the *Reasonable Efforts in Domestic Violence Cases* curriculum, to be used to train a cadre of stakeholders to deliver that curriculum to Model Court teams. Scheduled in both April and August of 2012 these events will provide an opportunity for judges and teams to develop action plans related to any systemic changes needed to further protect victims and children exposed to domestic violence.



“Through the NCJFCJ, I am able to develop relationships with my colleagues from across the country who are always available and willing to teach me new ways to be effective in my own community.”

**Judge David Stucki
Brewster, OH**

Membership

NCJFCJ's nearly 1,900 members—juvenile and family court judges, referees, masters, commissioners, court administrators, probation officers, counselors, social workers, and other related professionals—hail from every state and several foreign countries. The collective voice of our membership impacts law, policy, and practice nationally and in jurisdictions across the country. The power of NCJFCJ's community lies in its ability to foster lasting connections, share challenges and successes to find solutions, and initiate change. The NCJFCJ also provides in-depth technical assistance on the myriad issues facing our nation's juvenile and family courts, and we hold a respected reputation for being at the forefront of systems change and improvement.

Our members play a vital role, from participating in trainings and working on committees to serving as faculty and in leadership roles. Although their perspectives may differ, their goals are the same: to administer effective and enlightened justice, to rehabilitate troubled youths and families, to protect abused and neglected children, and to be an advocate for the best interests of children, families, and victims of domestic violence.

Non-judicial professionals hold associate NCJFCJ membership, and many are also joint members of the National Juvenile Court Services Association, an organization dedicated to improving the skills and proficiency of professionals in the juvenile justice system.

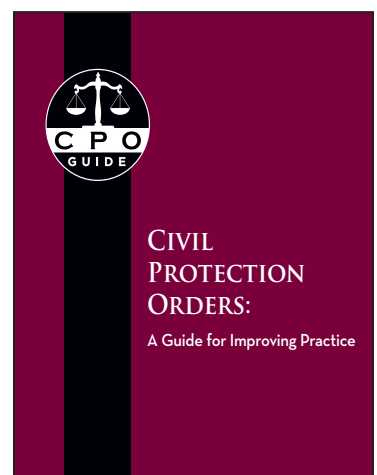
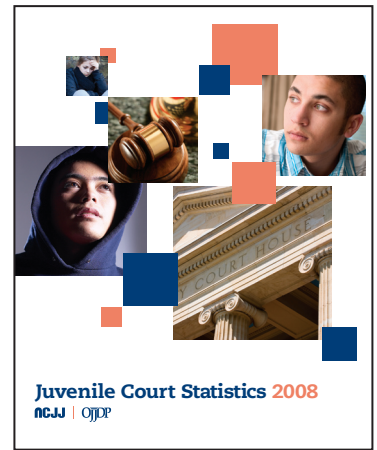
Publications

NCJFCJ's long-standing publications—the monthly *Juvenile and Family Law Digest*, quarterly *Juvenile and Family Court Journal*, and quarterly *Juvenile and Family Justice TODAY* provide the field with the latest information on issues affecting juvenile and family courts. The *Digest*, published monthly as an online resource, provides judges and other professionals with a summary of recent case law in the juvenile justice field. The quarterly *Juvenile and Family Court Journal* and *TODAY* magazine present articles on topics related to the field of juvenile justice and family law.

In 2011, NCJFCJ also published a wide variety of resources focusing on such topics as civil protection orders, disproportionality in child dependency court, the relationship between trauma and delinquency, using “sober support” programs in juvenile drug courts, juvenile court statistics, and many more. These publications can be ordered or accessed at NCJFCJ's Web site (www.ncjfcj.org), which provides the latest information on the organization's projects, publications, and conferences, as well as many other valuable resources for juvenile justice professionals.

“I have the opportunity to learn from so many of the incredible juvenile court judicial officers from all over the United States who have dedicated their careers to finding more and better ways to positively impact children and families who appear before us on a daily basis. My membership also gives me consistent and timely access to cutting edge research and best practices in our field.”

**Judge Michael Nash
Los Angeles, CA**



Financial Statement

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES AND AFFILIATES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	
Federal and state sources	\$ 9,729,798
Foundation sources	1,426,712
Other sources and contributions	1,016,840
Dues and subscriptions	313,922
Investment income (loss)	(17,668)
Registration fees	618,603
Other revenue	174,173
	<hr/>
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	13,262,380
EXPENSES AND LOSSES	
Personnel	8,857,265
Travel	897,649
Contracts and honorarium	1,604,849
Subrecipients	184,761
Equipment leases and maintenance	94,339
Supplies and operating expenses	2,008,626
Other Council activities	197,003
Interest expense	8,812
Depreciation	36,042
	<hr/>
Total Expenses and Losses	13,889,346
	<hr/>
Change in Net Assets	(626,966)
NET ASSETS, October 1, 2010	<hr/> 2,909,845
NET ASSETS, September 30, 2011	<hr/> <hr/> \$ 2,282,879

Note: Please see September 2011 Audit Report for complete presentation and notes to the financial statements.

NCJFCJ audit reports are available online at www.ncjfcj.org.

Sources of Support

Support from foundations, corporations, federal, state, and local agencies, and individuals are vital to the work of the NCJFCJ. The NCJFCJ gratefully acknowledges those organizations and individuals who have generously contributed during 2011, enabling the NCJFCJ to continue in its leadership role in the area of juvenile and family justice.

Agencies, Foundations, Organizations

Allegheny Intermediate
Truancy Prevention Project
American Bar Association
Center for Children and the Law
Annie E. Casey Foundation
Bank of the West
BP Fabric of America Fund
The Bretzlaff Foundation
Casey Family Programs
Coalition for Juvenile Justice
Colliers International
Costco
Domestic Violence Legal Clinic,
Chicago, Illinois
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Vision/Mission/Diversity Statement

The **VISION** of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is for a society in which every family and child has access to fair, equal, effective, and timely justice.

The **MISSION** of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is to provide all judges, courts, and related agencies involved with juvenile, family, and domestic violence cases with the knowledge and skills to improve the lives of the families and children who seek justice.

As revised and adopted by the Board of Trustees at their Mid-Winter Meeting, January 28, 2009 in Reno, Nevada.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES WILL SEEK TO FULFILL ITS MISSION THROUGH THE FOLLOWING GOALS:

- Improving the standards, practices, and effectiveness of the nation's courts handling juvenile delinquency, family law, dependency, and domestic violence cases;
- Providing training for judges and other professionals who serve in these courts;
- Providing support for judges and other professionals through continuing education, research, publications, and technical assistance;
- Providing technical support to court systems regarding their structure, management, and procedures;
- Contributing to the development and implementation of national policy, standards, and procedures regarding children and families;
- Acknowledging and upholding the rights of all parties and victims, the safety of all family members, and the safety of the community;
- Informing the nation as to the work of the courts that hear juvenile delinquency, family law, dependency, and domestic violence cases.

Adopted by the NCJFCJ Board of Trustees at their meeting in conjunction with the 72nd Annual Conference, July 11, 2009, Chicago, Illinois.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Diversity in the judiciary is vital to upholding public trust and confidence in the legal system. The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) is committed to diversity in every aspect of performing its mission. Diversity in this context refers to communities and individuals who are identified by race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, religion, age, or disability status.

To achieve its mission and promote diversity, the NCJFCJ asserts its commitment to diversity through the following principles:

- NCJFCJ will recruit membership and leadership which reflects the diversity of the children and families we serve;
- NCJFCJ will provide educational and training programs, publications, and policy positions that are relevant and culturally sensitive;
- National policy and standards developed by NCJFCJ affecting courts will promote and encourage judges to be knowledgeable of diversity issues;
- NCJFCJ will engage in recruitment practices and retention strategies to achieve a diverse staff.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees, March 2007, San Diego, California.

“Being a member of NCJFCJ has made me a better judge. Through the NCJFCJ, I have been exposed to various programs, research, and initiatives that have helped me focus on the issues, practices, and policy changes that are needed to improve outcomes for children in the court system. I have used lessons learned through NCJFCJ not only in my own judicial determinations, but have also shared them with my colleagues to ensure that the positive work done by NCJFCJ extends to as many families as possible.”

*Judge Sallyanne Floria
Newark, New Jersey*



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
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