

# NCJFCJ

*est. 1937*

## NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

[WWW.NCJFCJ.ORG](http://WWW.NCJFCJ.ORG)



Annual Report  
**2012**



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In 2012, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) continued to pursue its mission to improve the juvenile and family 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 fields 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 departments, 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, juvenile justice, family law, military families, tribal courts, mental health, substance abuse, and other timely issues.

Our dedicated staff is committed to meeting the needs of our members and those working in the field to improve justice for our nation's most vulnerable children and families.

The **VISION** of the NCJFCJ is for a society in which every family and child has access to fair, equal, effective, and timely justice.

## Vision

The **MISSION** of the NCJFCJ 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.

## Mission

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

### The NCJFCJ 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 Board of Trustees at their Annual Meeting, July 11, 2009 in Chicago, Illinois.*

Diversity in the judiciary is vital to upholding public trust and confidence in the legal system. The 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.

## Diversity Statement

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

- The NCJFCJ will recruit membership and leadership which reflects the diversity of the children and families we serve;
- The NCJFCJ will provide educational and training programs, publications, and policy positions that are relevant and culturally sensitive;
- National policy and standards developed by the NCJFCJ affecting courts will promote and encourage judges to be knowledgeable of diversity issues;
- The 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.*



**National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges**  
2012-2013 Officers

**Leadership**

**Judge Michael Nash**, President  
Monterey Park, California

**Judge David Stucki**, President-Elect  
Brewster, Ohio

**Judge Peggy Walker**, Treasurer  
Douglasville, Georgia

**Judge Darlene Byrne**, Secretary  
Austin, Texas

**Judge Patricia Martin**, Immediate Past President  
Chicago, Illinois

**2012-2013 NCJFCJ Board of Trustees**

**Judge Anthony Capizzi** • Dayton, Ohio  
**Judge Kim Berkeley Clark** • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
**Judge Amy Davenport** • Montpelier, Vermont  
**Judge Sallyanne Floria** • Newark, New Jersey  
**Judge Ramona Gonzalez** • La Crosse, Wisconsin  
**Judge Maxwell Griffin Jr.** • Chicago, Illinois  
**Judge Chester Harhut** • Scranton, Pennsylvania  
**Judge Jeannie Hong** • Baltimore, Maryland  
**Judge Karen Aileen Howze** • Washington, D.C.  
**Judge Robert Jenkins Sr.** • Greenville, South Carolina  
**Judge Anita Josey-Herring** • Washington, D.C.  
**Judge Daniel Kellogg** • St. Joseph, Missouri

**Judge Katherine Lucero** • San Jose, California  
**Judge John Romero Jr.** • Albuquerque, New Mexico  
**Judge Janice Rosa** • Buffalo, New York  
**Judge Peter Sakai** • San Antonio, Texas  
**Judge Barbara Salinitro** • Jamaica, New York  
**Judge Deborah Schumacher** • Reno, Nevada  
**Judge James Seals** • Fort Myers, Florida  
**Judge Katherine Tennyson** • Portland, Oregon  
**Judge William Thorne** • Salt Lake City, Utah  
**Judge Louis Trosch Jr.** • Charlotte, North Carolina  
**Judge A. Ellen White** • Rustburg, Virginia

**National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Fund, Inc.**

**Judge Michael Nash**, President • Monterey Park, California  
**Judge David Stucki**, President-Elect • Brewster, Ohio  
**Judge Kim Berkeley Clark**, Vice President • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
**Ms. Mari Kay Bickett, JD**, Secretary/Treasurer • Reno, Nevada

**National Juvenile Court Foundation, Inc.**

**Judge Douglas Johnson** • Omaha, Nebraska  
**Judge R. Michael Key** • LaGrange, Georgia  
**Judge Patricia Martin** • Chicago, Illinois  
**Judge Darlene Byrne** • Austin, Texas  
**Judge Peggy Walker**, Treasurer • Douglasville, Georgia  
**Ms. Mari Kay Bickett, JD**, Secretary • Reno, Nevada

**2012 Facts**

**Established** • 1937, headquartered on the University of Nevada, Reno campus since 1969

**Membership** • Nearly 1,950 members including 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 NCJFCJ President Judge Michael Nash

**Annual budget** • \$11.8 million

**Economic impact** • \$16.6 million for the State of Nevada

**Staff** • 99, located in Reno, Nev. and Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Education** • In 2012, 371 programs, presentations, or trainings were conducted for more than 11,808 participants including judges and other court professionals

**Partners** • The Coalition for Juvenile Justice, National Center for State Courts, National Juvenile Court Services Association, Court Appointed Special Advocate Association, Conference of State Court Administrators, University of Nevada, Reno, Futures Without Violence, Models for Change, National Judicial College, Casey Family Programs, U.S. Office of Justice Programs, and many others.

## Membership

The NCJFCJ's nearly 1,950 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 the NCJFCJ's community lies in its ability to foster lasting connections and 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 system 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 in their courts and communities. Although their perspectives may differ, their goals are the same: to administer effective and enlightened justice, to rehabilitate troubled youth and their families, to protect abused and neglected children, and to be an advocate for the best interests of children, families, and victims of domestic violence.

## Our Work

Through technical assistance, professional educational opportunities, and research, the NCJFCJ's work enhances the function of juvenile and family courts and impacts national policy to support healthy outcomes for all our nation's children, youth, families, and communities.

## Child Abuse and Neglect

The NCJFCJ partnered with courts across the country to improve the outcomes for abused and neglected children and their families, and has convened a Tribal Leadership Group to promote a meaningful partnership among Tribes and state courts which handles these special cases. Our Child Victims Act Model Courts Project continued to grow in this fiscal year. This project works to identify obstacles in the timeliness of court events and services for families with children in care then designs and implements model courts and agency-based changes to address these barriers.

In order to provide the most promising practice approach to developing court processes, the NCJFCJ released two benchbooks, *Resource Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Child Abuse & Neglect Cases* and *Adoption and Permanency Guidelines*. Furthermore, the NCJFCJ published a Technical Assistance Bulletin designed to provide recommendations to dependency courts and judges with regard to bringing children to court for hearings related to their own dependency cases. The NCJFCJ also completed a Judicial Leadership Curriculum in order to assist judges lead with systems reform and developed a guide and tools to ensure effective evaluation of training outcomes. The NCJFCJ published seven articles in peer-reviewed publications and five Technical Assistance Bulletins from evaluation and assessment work in the area of dependency court improvement and disproportionality in child welfare.

In 2012, the NCJFCJ Child Abuse and Neglect projects provided training, technical assistance, or other services for 1,919 judges and court professionals through a total of 122 training sessions, conferences, and collaborative meetings.





## Juvenile and Family Law

This year, the NCJFCJ's work in juvenile and family law continued its efforts dedicated to improving court practice in justice cases and implemented *Improving Juvenile and Family Court Handling of Juvenile Delinquency Cases: Guidelines for Improving Court Practice Project*, which resulted in a set of comprehensive national guidelines for improved court and system handling of juvenile cases. In addition, the NCJFCJ developed the *Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines*, for use by judges, prosecutors, defense counsel, child advocates, probation officers, law enforcement, and service providers nationwide, which is framed by the NCJFCJ's Technical Assistance Bulletin, *Key Principles for Improving Court Practice in Juvenile Delinquency Cases*.

The NCJFCJ continued its work on the Project ONE Initiative that supports multi-court collaboration and was a result of the NCJFCJ Cross-Over Committee's *Unified Model Court Concept Paper*, which discusses the need for collaboration among courts in order to achieve the most promising outcomes for dually-involved children, youth, and families. The NCJFCJ also completed two publications including *Judicial Perspectives on the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders in the U.S. with Recommendations for Policy and Practice* and *Seven Things Juvenile Courts Should Know about Learning Disabilities*.

In 2012, juvenile and family law projects and national conferences provided training, technical assistance, and other services for 5,602 judges, other court professionals, attorneys, and child welfare service providers through 77 trainings, conferences, collaborative meetings, technical assistance, and court observation site visits. Projects this year addressed a range of areas in family law justice that included mental health, implicit bias and social cognition, military family issues, substance abuse, tribal resources and collaboration, deinstitutionalization of status offenders, detention alternatives, juvenile sanctions, and juvenile sex offenders.

## Domestic Violence

The NCJFCJ's domestic violence work 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 families.

The NCJFCJ advanced social change in courts and communities across the country by providing cutting-edge training, technical assistance, and policy development on issues related to the effects of domestic violence. Its projects have enhanced the safety, well-being, and stability of domestic violence victims and their families by improving the response of criminal, civil, and social justice systems. The NCJFCJ has provided assistance to judges and other court professionals with individual presentations on protection orders, elder abuse, child custody, and other issues related to domestic violence.

This year, the NCJFCJ's domestic violence projects provided training, technical assistance, and other services to more than 3,202 judges, court professionals, and direct-service providers through 72 trainings, conferences, and provider/collaborative meetings, in addition to the development of two publications.

In 2012, the NCJFCJ developed a curriculum for judges on adolescent partner abuse, examined the intersection of domestic violence and child custody and support issues, and maintained a resource library for judges that include books, videos, curricula, bench tools, policy manuals, and other publications. The NCJFCJ also provided technical assistance to supervised visitation and safe exchange program grantees and supported these grantees in their efforts to increase the number of centers available, to enhance the quality of services, and to increase their ability to assist victims of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. The NCJFCJ also continued to educate judges through the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence and maintained the Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange interactive website.



## National Center for Juvenile Justice

The research division of the NCJFCJ, the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), located in Pittsburgh, Pa., has conducted research and provided objective, factual information that professionals and decision makers in the juvenile and family justice system use to increase effectiveness for almost four decades. Their success stems from a unique blend of technical skill and practical experience that has enabled NCJJ to make complex research and statistical information understood by juvenile justice professionals and decision makers. NCJJ, the oldest juvenile justice research group in the United States, continues its work to look at the nature of juvenile justice in the United States including trends on juvenile offending and victimization, as well as the response of the justice system in these areas.

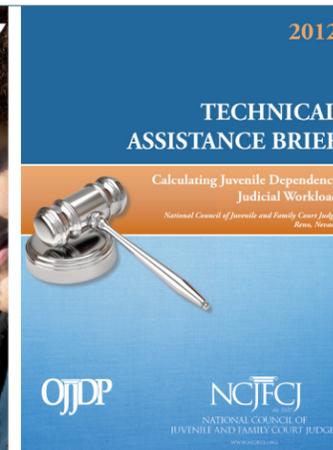
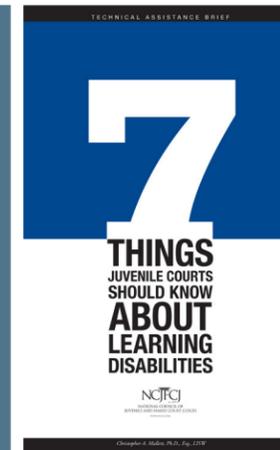
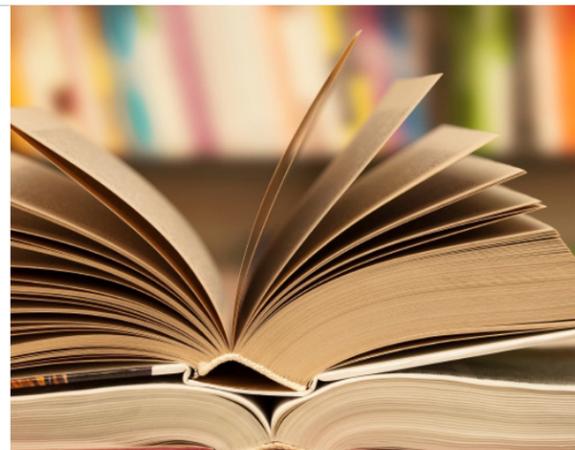
NCJJ produced numerous publications throughout the year including *Allegheny County Juvenile Detention Screening Study*; *Continuous Quality Improvement Guide for Juvenile Justice Organizations*; *Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Court, 2009*; *Delinquency Cases Waived to Criminal Court, 2009*; *Developing Coordinated Local Responses to Address the Needs of Ohio's Aging Population*; *Juvenile Delinquency Probation Caseload, 2009*; *Juvenile Court Statistics, 2009*; *Models for Change Update 2012: Headlines*; *Must Law Enforcement Officers and Corrections Officers who Work with Juveniles Receive Special Training?*; *Must Judges and Other Court Personnel Receive Special Training with Respect to Preventing and Controlling Juvenile Crime?*; *Report on the Evaluability Assessment of the George Junior Republic Residential Facility*; and *Updates to the Easy-Access Family of Online Data Analysis Tools*.

In 2012, NCJJ's projects provided training and technical assistance for 1,085 judges, court professionals, and data providers through more than 100 trainings, on-site technical assistance visits, and client/provider meetings. NCJJ is the nation's source for data on juvenile court case processing and disseminates information through their website and the Statistical Briefing Book website which logged more than 218,000 visitors during the fiscal year.

## Publications

The NCJFCJ's long-standing publications, the quarterly *Juvenile and Family Court Journal*, a peer-reviewed journal containing interdisciplinary research-based articles and essays published since 1949, and *Juvenile and Family Justice TODAY*, provide the field with timely information on issues affecting juvenile and family courts.

In 2012, the NCJFCJ also published a wide variety of resources focusing on such topics as children in dependency court hearings, family violence, disabilities, Project ONE, racial disproportionality, and many more. These publications can be ordered or accessed at the NCJFCJ's website, which provides the latest information on the organization's projects, publications, and conferences, as well as many other valuable resources for juvenile and family justice professionals.



**Financial** **Financial Statement**

The NCJFCJ and Affiliates Consolidated Statement of Activities For the Year Ended September 30, 2012

REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	
Federal and state sources	\$ 7,893,732
Foundation sources	1,504,925
Other sources and contributions	1,047,638
Dues and subscriptions	346,951
Investment income (loss)	325,427
Registration fees	519,440
Other revenue	166,696
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TOTAL REVENUE, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	11,804,809
	<hr/>
EXPENSES AND LOSSES	
Personnel	7,939,786
Travel	731,216
Contracts and honorarium	1,305,825
Subrecipients	98,504
Equipment leases and maintenances	92,409
Supplies and operating expenses	1,594,886
Other Council activities	145,708
Interest expense	13,233
Depreciation	35,395
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TOTAL EXPENSES AND LOSSES	11,956,962
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CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(152,153)
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NET ASSETS, OCTOBER 1, 2011	2,282,879
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NET ASSETS, SEPTEMBER 30, 2012	\$ 2,130,726
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**Note:** Please see September 2012 Audit Report for complete presentation and notes to the financial statements. The NCJFCJ audit reports are available online at [www.NCJFCJ.org](http://www.NCJFCJ.org).

**Looking Forward**

The NCJFCJ looks forward to the coming year to expand and reorganize its operation to better provide educational resources, publications, technical assistance, and support for court systems. The NCJFCJ will continue to contribute to the development of national policy, standards, and procedures to improve court practice, management, and the standards of our nation's juvenile and family courts while acknowledging and upholding the rights of victims, the safety of all family members, and the safety of the community.

The NCJFCJ is looking to expand their educational efforts in new areas including the crossover between child maltreatment and domestic violence, and tribal issues including the Indian Child Welfare Act, domestic minor sex trafficking, schools and justice, and much more.



**Thank You**

Support from foundations, corporations, federal, state, and local agencies, and individuals are vital to the work of the NCJFCJ. Listed here are the agencies and organizations who generously supported the programs of the NCJFCJ during 2012, enabling our organization to continue in its leadership role in the area of juvenile and family justice.

For a complete listing of individuals who also generously contributed to the efforts of the NCJFCJ, please visit [www.NCJFCJ.org/get-involved/donation-recognition](http://www.NCJFCJ.org/get-involved/donation-recognition).

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|---|--|
| Allegheny Intermediate Unit,<br>Alternative Education Program | District of Columbia Family Court<br>George Junior Republic  |
| American Bar Association Center for<br>Children and the Law   | Jessie Ball duPont Fund<br>John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation                               |
| American Institutes for Research<br>Annie E. Casey Foundation | Judicial Council of California<br>Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania                                      |
| Atlantic Philanthropies<br>Bank of the West                   | Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati<br>Louisiana Supreme Court,<br>Judicial Administrator's Office |
| Casey Family Programs<br>Coalition for Juvenile Justice       | Middlesex Vicinage, New Jersey   |

**Sources of Support**

**Sources of Support**

Mississippi Administrative Office of the Courts  
Mohave County, Arizona  
National Campaign to Prevent Teen and  
Unplanned Pregnancy  
National Center for State Courts  
New York Division of Criminal Justice Services  
New York State Unified Court Systems  
Child Welfare Court Improvement Project  
Open Society Institute  
Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, Louisiana  
Pennsylvania Commission on  
Crime and Delinquency  
Public Welfare Foundation  
Shelby County, Tennessee  
South Dakota Unified Judicial System  
State of Hawaii Office of the  
Court Administrator, First Circuit Court  
State of Maryland, Administrative  
Office of the Courts  
State of Nevada  
State of Washington Administrative  
Office of the Courts  
Superior Court of California

Supreme Court of Nevada, Administrative  
Office of the Courts  
Supreme Court of Ohio  
The Century Council  
The Judiciary, State of Hawaii  
The National Judicial College  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Office for Victims of Crime  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office of Juvenile Justice and  
Delinquency Prevention  
Office on Violence Against Women  
Virginia Juvenile Justice Association  
Vivian Phillips Charitable Trust  
Westat  
Wisconsin Court System  
Wyoming Supreme Court



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