



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

IN YOUR
STATE



2024

Minnesota

- In 2023, the NCJFCJ fulfilled seven requests for technical assistance.
- In 2023, the NCJFCJ trained 685 judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals working to protect **Minnesota's** children, families, and victims in our communities.
- The NCJFCJ is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to provide targeted support to the **Dakota County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Team**, which is implementing the *Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines* and other key recommended practices. The NCJFCJ provides targeted support through court assessments; on site court observation; strategic planning activities; peer-to-peer learning; and individualized training.
- As part of the Implementation Sites Project, the NCJFCJ provides targeted training and technical assistance to the **Second Judicial District Court of Ramsey County** (under the leadership of **Judge DeAnne Hilgers**) and the **White Earth Tribal Court** (under the leadership of **Judge David DeGroat**) to improve practice in the handling of child abuse and neglect cases, reduce the number of children in foster care, and improve outcomes for children in care.
- The NCJFCJ's Field-Generated Strategies to End the Criminalization of Minor Victims of Sex Trafficking project, funded by the Office for Victims of Crime, provides direct training and technical assistance to The Link's Safe Harbor Program in the **Twin Cities West Metro Area**.
- The NCJFCJ presented the Regional Enhanced Resource Guidelines Training in **Minneapolis**. The training provided Minnesota judges with peer-to-peer learning opportunities and time to develop action plans to implement new strategies upon their return home. This training focused on judicial officers who preside over child abuse and neglect cases. The Enhanced Resource Guidelines is a publication that focuses on effective court practices to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families involved in child abuse and neglect cases.
- Judicial system professionals from **Minnesota** attended the Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases (EJS) workshop. Participants engaged in practical courtroom exercises and learned about victim and perpetrator behavior and fairness and culture issues in domestic violence cases.
- Justice system professionals from **Minnesota** attended the 2023 All Technical Assistance Provider Training and Technical Assistance for a Changing World meeting. Participants heard presentations on the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, training and technical assistance for sexual assault service providers, and the use of social media to engage the community.
- The NCJFCJ has 16 Judicial Members in **Minnesota**. **OurFamilyWizard** in Minneapolis is an Organizational Member of the NCJFCJ.
- **Justice Anne K. McKeig** of **Federal Dam** and **Judge Jamie L. Cork** of **Hastings** are Board Directors of the NCJFCJ. Justice McKeig was a 2023 Days on the Hill Delegate.

National Impact

In 2023, the NCJFCJ work impacted approximately **4 million** families across the nation. The team fulfilled about **550** requests for technical assistance and trained approximately **7,500** judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family-court related professional across the nation.

AREAS OF FOCUS

- ▶ **Diversity, Equity, and Justice**
Diversifying the bench to better represent the children and families served
- ▶ **Domestic Child Sex Trafficking**
Improving outcomes for vulnerable and victimized children through judicial education and action
- ▶ **National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence**
Enhancing judicial skills to promote victim safety and batterer accountability
- ▶ **Juvenile Justice GPS**
Providing juvenile justice policy, practice, and statistics by state
- ▶ **Trauma-Informed Courts & the Adolescent Brain**
Promoting trauma-responsive courts and practices informed by science
- ▶ **Child Abuse & Neglect Institute**
Improving outcomes for abused and neglected children through dependency court best practices
- ▶ **Military-Connected Families**
Enhancing judicial skills to best serve military-connected families
- ▶ **Tribal Courts & ICWA**
Promoting collaboration between tribal and state courts
- ▶ **Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts**
Enhancing effectiveness in addressing youth and substance abuse
- ▶ **Animal Cruelty**
Understanding the link between animal abuse and other forms of violence
- ▶ **Implementation Sites & Project ONE**
Approaching families holistically and improving outcomes for children in care
- ▶ **Self Care and Wellness**
Promoting judicial self-care and wellness for centering oneself for leadership
- ▶ **Court Leadership**
Equip judges, court professionals, & community members with knowledge & skills to improve the justice system

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