



CELEBRATING
70
years
1937-2007



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

est. 1937

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

President's Message

2

Happy Birthday to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges! In 2007 we celebrated our 70th year as a national organization dedicated to improving juvenile and family courts across the country. I have had the distinct honor and privilege of serving as president of this extraordinary organization this year, and I encourage you to join, become active in and avail yourself of all we have to offer.

The Council was founded in 1937 by a small group of judges who were concerned that juveniles were not receiving services or appropriate treatment in court. Our concerns about the delinquency system as it was expanded into the realm of truancy, and from there to child victims of abuse and neglect, to victims of family violence in all its insidious forms, to substance abuse issues in our youth and families, and a host of other issues children and families present in our courtrooms each day. We have grown into the largest judicial organization in the country devoted to juvenile and family court system improvements. We have members now in every state and several foreign countries. Our mission is to ensure that all judges who have responsibility for these cases have the skills and resources to assist those in crisis for whom we have judicial responsibility.

The work of our departments—Family Violence, Permanency Planning for Children, Juvenile and Family Law, and the National Center for Juvenile Justice, our research arm—is legion. It is a testament and credit to our staff, now numbering over 100



in three different locations, Reno, Washington, D.C., and Pittsburgh, that they can inspire and work with judges all over the country to produce state-of-the-art resources that enable judges to excel in their work.

The National Council is recognized in this country and beyond as a leader in justice system improvements. We encourage you to access our resources, attend our trainings, and ask for our assistance in your own jurisdictions. We are here to support you in meeting the ever-changing and challenging needs of children and families every day, and look forward to doing so.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan B. Carbon".

Judge Susan B. Carbon

Executive Director's Report

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges celebrated a significant milestone in 2007 by reaching its 70th year serving the field. Established in 1937, the NCJFCJ began as a judicial membership organization unlike any other. Its members were focused on improving juvenile court practice and providing educational opportunities to judges in the area of juvenile justice. Since then, the NCJFCJ has expanded far beyond its initial bounds, now embracing additional fields and widening the array of services available for courts and professionals as they work to improve practice in their jurisdictions.

Judges, while remaining our primary target audience, are now a part of an overall spectrum of professionals who access NCJFCJ's resources. Collaborative work with numerous local, state and national partners has provided an opportunity for us to develop training and other resources for juvenile justice professionals, child advocates, defense bar, prosecuting attorneys, domestic violence advocacy groups, drug court professionals, and child welfare professionals as a result of NCJFCJ's partnerships.

Our work today reaches far beyond initial efforts to provide education to judges and other system professionals in the area of juvenile justice. NCJFCJ continues to provide educational opportunities, and in 2007 provided training to a total of 18,140 participants at 129 programs. The work today, however, has expanded to include national and on-site technical assistance provision, publications, research and statistical analysis. Work in numerous specific jurisdictions also includes efforts toward systemic change through leadership development and systemwide collaboration. Sites are provided facilitated meetings, strategic planning, training, technical assistance, and research, among other tools, to



set end goals which will drive, track and inform performance in meeting stated objectives.

The NCJFCJ today still provides the education for which it has become nationally recognized in juvenile delinquency, but this work also includes a variety of other topic areas: domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, substance abuse and other focus areas. And education, along with other resources—including technical assistance, research, publications—is regarded as one component which can result in best practices in jurisdictions nationwide.

This 70th Anniversary year has been one of celebration and reflection for NCJFCJ's leadership, membership and staff. As we move forward into the year ahead, our strength and commitment to continued excellence in NCJFCJ's efforts will continue to focus on improving decision-making, practice and policy which will improve outcomes for this nation's children and families.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary V. Mentaberry".

Mary V. Mentaberry

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2007—a notable milestone that marks not only the remarkable longevity but the enduring commitment of the organization and its membership to the continued improvement of our nation’s juvenile and family courts. Judges and other court professionals working in our nation’s juvenile and family courts deal each day with difficult issues involving child abuse and neglect, delinquency, substance abuse, family violence, custody and visitation. Since its establishment in 1937, the NCJFCJ has been dedicated to providing the essential tools—including the best possible training, technical assistance, and research—to help our nation’s judges and others working in the field meet the challenges they confront daily in their work in our juvenile and family courts.

This report celebrates NCJFCJ’s challenges, progress and achievements in 2007. Following are some highlights:

New Initiatives

- In 2007, NCJFCJ’s Permanency Planning for Children Department launched the “Courts Catalyzing Change” initiative, which will bring together judges, system experts, researchers and others to create a national agenda to address the problem of disproportionality of minority children and their families in the foster care system.

Ongoing Efforts

- The Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines Initiative began in 2005 with the publication by NCJFCJ of *Juvenile and Delinquency Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Juvenile Delinquency Cases*. The Initiative’s eight Model Courts around the country are focusing on implementing the JDG’s 16 Key Principles and recommendations toward the twin goals of improving court process and case outcomes for delinquent youth and families.

Continuing Education

- In 2007, NCJFCJ trained or assisted in training more than 18,000 judges and juvenile and family justice professionals at the Reno headquarters and around the country on topics including child abuse and neglect, delinquency, substance abuse, family violence, juvenile sex offenders, and many others. Educational highlights in 2007 included a record-breaking attendance at NCJFCJ’s 70th Annual Conference in San Francisco, two concurrent sessions of the “Child Abuse and Neglect Institute,” and the interactive four-day program, “Managing Challenging Family Law Cases.”

Research

- For the past five years, NCJFCJ’s research division, the National Center for Juvenile Justice, has played a key role in the Models for Change juvenile justice reform initiative supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, an ambitious effort to develop successful and replicable models of juvenile justice system reform through strategic investments in four states—Pennsylvania, Illinois, Louisiana, and Washington state. These pilot sites will serve to accelerate momentum toward a more effective, fair, and developmentally sound approach to juvenile justice nationwide.

Collaboration

- In addition to collaborating with national, state and local organizations such as the National Center for State Courts, American Bar Association, National Association of Counsel for Children, National District Attorneys Association, University of Nevada, Reno, National Judicial College, and many others, one of the highlights in 2007 was the *Wingspread: DV and Alternative Dispute Resolution Conference* facilitated by the Council’s Family Violence Department and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. The Wingspread Conference brought together a multidisciplinary group of professionals to discuss ideas and opportunities to meet more effectively the needs of families experiencing domestic violence and facing custody and visitation decisions in the family courts.

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NCJFCJ FACTS at-a-glance

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

RESEARCH DIVISION: National Center for Juvenile Justice, located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

MEMBERSHIP: More than 2,000 members (judges, magistrates, referees, court administrators, probation officers, and other juvenile and family justice professionals) from every state and several foreign countries.

LEADERSHIP: 30-member Board of Trustees, led by President Judge Susan B. Carbon.

ANNUAL BUDGET: \$15.5 million.

STAFF: 110, located in Reno, Nevada, Washington, D.C., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Tucson, Arizona.

NCJFCJ Celebrates 70th Anniversary During 2007

NCJFCJ's 70th Anniversary was celebrated throughout the year with several events, including a birthday party on May 22, 2007 (70 years after the Council's founding on May 22, 1937), two town hall meetings focused on issues close to the Council's heart, a record-breaking Annual Conference in San Francisco, and an elegant black-tie optional gala on November 9, 2007.

A Memorable 70th Birthday Party

More than 125 judges, dignitaries, court professionals, colleagues, staff and friends from the Northern Nevada community celebrated NCJFCJ's 70th anniversary on May 22, 2007 at the Council's Reno headquarters. Among the dignitaries in attendance were Nevada's First Lady, Dawn Gibbons, who spoke to the group about the need for continuing efforts to help children and families involved in the court system.



Nevada First Lady Dawn Gibbons addresses the celebrants at NCJFCJ's 70th birthday party.

Two Town Hall Meetings Held in Reno to Mark Anniversary

NCJFCJ held its first Town Hall Meeting, "Your Court, Your Community—The Role of the Family Court Judge" on June 6, 2007 at the Washoe County (Nevada) Family Court. More than 50 people, including court staff, members of the public, and media attended the public forum, presented by NCJFCJ and the Second Judicial District Family Court, to hear about the issues facing family courts both locally and nationally. Keynote speaker Judge Louis Trosch, Jr., of Charlotte, North Carolina, (right) spoke about the innovations underway in family courts across the nation, the importance of collaboration across agencies and communities, and the dream he has for justice for all children and families. **"Justice is not meant to be bottled up in courtrooms," Judge Trosch told the gathering, "It is an ideal that all should seek."**



Judge Louis Trosch Jr., talks at the June 6 Town Hall Meeting about family court challenges and innovations.



Judge Peter Macdonald answers a question from the audience as panel members Amy Saathoff, Dixie Grossman, Caryn R. Sternlicht, and Victoria Campbell listen.

On October 12, 2007, NCJFCJ's second "Town Hall Meeting on Child Custody Determinations in Cases Involving Domestic Violence: Balancing Access and Safety" provided a public forum where issues of domestic violence could be discussed, allowing the public to share their experiences and to learn from the panel of experts. Approximately 70 community members attended, including judges, attorneys, CASA representatives, psychologists, and social workers. Judge Peter Macdonald of Hopkinsville, Kentucky, led the discussion, aided by reporter Victoria Campbell, KRNV-TV News; Amy Saathoff, Director of Development and Community Relations with the Committee to Aid Abused Women; attorney Caryn R. Sternlicht of Washoe Legal Services, and family law attorney Dixie Grossman.



The student-athletes of Rite of Passage's Silver State Academy, who prepared and served the refreshments at the May 22nd event, pose with Nevada First Lady Dawn Gibbons.



Festive Gala Closes the Year's Celebration

Nearly 300 friends and well-wishers turned out on November 9, 2007 to help celebrate NCJFCJ's 70th anniversary at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, Nevada. The elegant, black-tie optional event, which featured live and silent auctions and well-known actor, director, producer, child welfare advocate and best-selling children's author Henry Winkler as keynote speaker, capped off a year of celebration for this milestone anniversary.



Judge Susan B. Carbon and Henry Winkler pose for a photo at NCJFCJ's 70th Anniversary Gala.



Judges Curtis Heaston, NCJFCJ President-Elect Patricia A. Macias, and NCJFCJ Secretary Patricia M. Martin (left to right) talk with Henry Winkler during the VIP reception.



Dr. Greg "Lightning" Williams leads the live auction.

Juvenile and Family Law Department

In 2007, NCJFCJ's Juvenile and Family Law Department (JFLD) continued to support NCJFCJ's broad-based continuing education and training mandate to the juvenile and family court field through state-of-the-art training, technical assistance, and production of educational resources for the benefit of children, families, and communities. Whether at national conferences for 1,000 participants or small, intensive workshops for 20, the JFLD continues to provide cutting-edge training in areas such as delinquency, substance abuse, child custody and visitation, graduated sanctions, disproportionate minority contact, juvenile sex offenders, youth courts, mental health, child support enforcement, and a host of other topics in juvenile and family law.

In addition to regional, state, and local training programs, the JFLD oversees the educational components of several of NCJFCJ's national conferences, including:

- The 34th National Conference on Juvenile Justice (co-sponsored with the National District Attorneys Association), which convened in San Diego, California, March 4-7, 2007, drawing 786 participants;
- NCJFCJ's 70th Annual Conference, held in San Francisco, California, July 22-25, 2007 for 470 judges and related juvenile justice professionals.

Throughout 2007, Delinquency Model Court staff worked on the practical implementation of the 16 Key Principles contained in the *Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines*. Implementation is characterized by information dissemination to courts and initiation of Delinquency Model Court sites on a contractual basis. During 2007, the eight Delinquency Model Court sites implemented the *Guidelines* with direct

project staff assessment, planning, technical assistance and evaluation support. In June 2007, these eight model courts convened for their first Lead Judges' and All-Sites Meeting in Hyannis, Massachusetts, in order to come together to assess progress toward goal attainment, identify challenges, and brainstorm potential solutions. For the first six months of the year, the National Peer Advisory Committee, funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), provided guidance to the project at both policy and practice levels. Now, the unfunded JDG Implementation Committee provides guidance to the project. OJJDP funding to support the JDG Initiative ended in June 2007. Staff continue to seek other sources of funding to support outreach for the project while also seeking to add additional Delinquency Model Court Sites.

The training and resource needs of non-judicial court personnel have long been a special focus of the Department. These professionals benefit from the multidisciplinary training designed for juvenile court services, detention, and probation management personnel presented in programs such as "The 26th Annual Juvenile Probation and Justice Management Conference," held September 9-12, 2007 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The JFLD also works with the University of Nevada, Reno in implementing UNR's unique Master's program in Justice Management with a focus available in Juvenile Justice Management.

In addition to national conferences, the JFLD offered intensive, week-long seminars for judges in Reno through the financial assistance of OJJDP. In 2007, judges attending "Core College: The Role of the Judge" were able to receive credit toward a Master's or

Doctorate degree in Judicial Studies offered through the University of Nevada, Reno. Additionally, a two-day course was offered for the program entitled, "What Works and What Doesn't in Reducing Recidivism: The Principles of Effective Intervention."

For the third consecutive year, JFLD collaborated with the National Judicial College to offer the four-day course, "Managing Challenging Family Law Cases," to judges. The Department's Alcohol and Other Drugs Division (AOD) continued to provide training and technical assistance to operational juvenile drug courts through the Juvenile Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Project, funded by OJJDP.

In 2007, the JFLD continued its efforts to promote more widespread implementation of graduated sanctions by conducting two national trainings on graduated sanctions, held in Brooklyn, New York, May 8-11, 2007 and in New Orleans, Louisiana, September 17-20, 2007.

The department was involved with the national youth court movement during the year by conducting two workshops and a national conference funded by OJJDP. The workshops were held in Las Vegas, Nevada, February 25-28, 2007 and in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, June 10-13, 2007 for more than 220 participants. The 2007 National Youth Court Conference was the first such conference in five years and was held December 9-12, 2007 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The JFLD continues to provide technical assistance information through its Technical Assistance Resource Center. A library and database of practice-focused documents provided assistance to more than 500 information requests in 2007.

"NCJFCJ's training for our Juvenile Drug Court team was right on point, and the resulting collaboration among the judges, prosecutors, public defenders, and others gave incredible insight. One mother stood up in our court and said, 'Thank you for giving me back my son!' That is what our work is all about!"

Judge Warner Kennon
Columbus, Georgia



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

Special Content Areas

National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence (NJIDV)

The NJIDV, funded by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), is a joint project of the FVD and the Family Violence Prevention Fund. The NJIDV provides a continuum of judicial education in the area of domestic violence with a basic Enhancing Judicial Skills course and a more advanced Continuing Judicial Skills course. The NJIDV represents the most recent iteration of the FVD's OVW-funded judicial education project that has been providing judges skill-based domestic violence workshops since 1999.

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. One of the highlights in 2007 was the *Wingspread: DV and Alternative Dispute Resolution Conference* facilitated by the FVD in collaboration with the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. The Wingspread Conference, supported by the Johnson Foundation as well as HHS, brought together social science and legal scholars, advocates for victims of domestic abuse, and family law professionals to collaborate on ideas and opportunities to meet more effectively the needs of families experienc-

ing domestic violence and facing custody and visitation decisions in the family courts. This was the first meeting of such a group from diverse backgrounds and philosophies to begin moving toward an attempt to resolve differences in ways that will improve systems outcomes for these families.

Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program

The FVD has two projects funded under the federal Supervised Visitation Program. The first project provides targeted technical assistance to planning grantees who are seeking to initiate supervised visitation services in domestic violence cases. Through the Technical Assistance for Court Specific Activities project, the Department has created a curriculum to help grantee communities facilitate court involvement and foster community collaboration around supervised visitation and safe exchange. The FVD recently presented the curriculum and will host four additional sessions in 2008. This project focuses primarily on providing technical assistance to the court partners in all of the Supervised Visitation Program grantee communities.

A Framework for Enhanced Judicial Response in Domestic Violence, Child Custody & Visitation Cases

The Framework project partners the FVD with the American Bar Association's Commission on Domestic Violence and OVW to develop a resource for judges to address best practice in supervised visitation and custody matters involving domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or dating violence. The resource, *A Judicial Guide to Child Safety in Custody Cases*, will be published in mid-2008. The goal of the project is to facilitate improved outcomes by increasing judicial understanding of how to balance the safety needs of chil-

dren and their abused parents with the rights of parents to have access to their children.

Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice (Greenbook)

Funded since 2000 by OVW, the *Greenbook* project focuses on developing collaboration and communication within and among juvenile courts, the child protective system, and domestic violence services. The *Greenbook* project offers communities a guiding framework to develop interventions and measure progress as they seek to improve responses to battered women and their children who are in contact with these systems.

Full Faith and Credit: Making It Happen

The FVD's Full Faith and Credit project is funded by OVW and focuses primarily on domestic violence protection orders at both the issuing and enforcement stages. The *Full Faith and Credit—A Passport to Safety: A Judge's Bench Card* is a practical bench guide on the principles of full faith and credit and protection orders, including issues such as child custody and firearms prohibitions. This resource is currently being revised in order to reflect changes in the Violence Against Women Act of 2005, which created significant amendments to the Full Faith and Credit provision of the U.S. Code.

Enhancing Judicial Skills in Cases Involving Abuse and Sexual Assault Against the Elderly

The OVW-funded Elder Abuse project is a collaborative effort of the FVD, the National Sheriffs' Association, and the National District Attorneys Association. The project's goal is to enhance the safety of elderly individuals and to ensure greater perpetrator accountability for abuse and sexual assault of these victims.



"The National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence is first rate. The programs are rich with information to help you improve your court and it provides the opportunity to exchange information with other judges across the country. NJIDV helped me to develop a new 'instrument' to assist judges in making decisions regarding pre-trial release, to chair our county's process to develop a CPS/domestic violence protocol, and to lead our county's efforts to require surrender of firearms in domestic violence cases."

Judge H. Christopher Wickham
Olympia, Washington

Permanency Planning for Children Department

The Permanency Planning for Children Department (PPCD) is committed to improving court and systems practice in child abuse and neglect cases. Since its inception in 1974, the PPCD has taken a leadership role in facilitating and guiding court and systemic improvement efforts to achieve safe, timely, and permanent outcomes for our nation's abused and neglected children.

2007 PPCD Highlights

During 2007, the PPCD continued to develop court improvement initiatives and trainings to keep the Victims Act Model Courts in the forefront of reform efforts.

The Model Courts developed a national goal to reduce disproportionate minority representation and disparate treatment in the foster care system. Funded by Casey Family Programs and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the PPCD launched the Courts Catalyzing Change initiative. The project's goal is to bring together judges, system experts, researchers and others to create a national agenda to eliminate disproportionality and disparities for minority children and their families in the foster care system.

The PPCD continued its leadership role in the Child Well-Being and Healthy Foster Care America Initiative, a collaborative effort with national organizations to bridge research, policy, and practice to improve the health and well-being of children in foster care. The Model Courts focused on the dental health of children in abuse and neglect cases and will participate in National Dental Health Month in February 2008. At that time, the Model Courts will hand out toothcare kits to children, focus their inquiries on children's dental health, and commit to addressing this important issue on an ongoing basis. The PPCD

will publish a Technical Assistance Brief on Dental Health to assist courts in disseminating information in their states to advance this important initiative.

Victims Act Model Courts

The PPCD Model Courts Division continued to implement project deliverables in support of system reform efforts at the local, state, and national levels. The theme at the 2007 All-Sites Conference was "Model Courts: The Next Generation—Leading Efforts to Improve Outcomes for Children and Families" which focused on maintaining the Model Courts as leaders in local system improvement, as well as continuing expansion into statewide and national systemic reform. In addition to disproportionality, the Model Courts will focus on performance measurement with training and technical assistance to help build the Model Courts' capacity to generate outcome data on safety, permanency, timeliness, due process, and well-being. The Next Generation project will also be finalizing plans to transition several long-time courts to senior mentor status, opening the way for new courts to enter the project.

Child Abuse and Neglect Institute

During 2007, the PPCD once again trained 50 judges in two concurrent sessions of the Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (CANI). Following the successful sessions, the PPCD adapted the CANI curriculum on CD for a distance learning environment and training and technical assistance requests. Planning is underway for the 2008 CANI and the development of additional training materials.

Other Projects

PPCD, as a member of the Child Welfare and Courts Collaborative, along with the American Bar Association and the National

Center for State Courts, provided targeted technical assistance to the State of Nevada Court Improvement Project (CIP) by co-hosting a successful training for judges and attorneys. The Collaborative also hosted the national Court Improvement meeting.

The PPCD contracted with the Arizona CIP and is working with New York and New Hampshire to conduct an assessment of their implementation of the ICPC, as part of the federal CIP requirement that each state evaluate this process.

The PPCD is working with the State of Washington Administrative Office of the Courts to conduct a judicial workload study.

As part of a new Casey Family Programs grant, the PPCD began revising the Judicial Checklist on Education. During 2007, a focus group meeting of judges, educational advocates, and other experts was convened to design the revisions.

The PPCD continues to represent the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges on numerous national level work groups.

Publications

During 2007, the PPCD published and disseminated the following:

- *Technical Assistance Brief: Education Efforts for Children in Foster Care: The Pima County, Arizona Experience*
- *Child Abuse and Neglect Institute: The Role of the Judge—A Curriculum Guide and Instructor's Manual (on CD)*

"Being a Model Court has helped ensure that not only our judges, but the child and family services agencies that work within the judicial system, keep the focus where it should be—on achieving the best possible outcome for the children we serve."

Judge Lisa Bell
26th Judicial District
Charlotte, North Carolina



The National Center for Juvenile Justice is the Research Division of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Since its founding in 1973, NCJJ has been dedicated to strengthening the effectiveness of juvenile and family justice systems and improving the quality of justice for children, families, and the community. NCJJ works to accomplish this mission through research and technical assistance supported by federal, state, and private funding.

Systems Research

The two primary Systems Research projects are the National Juvenile Justice Data Analysis Project and National Juvenile Court Data Archive, both funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). According to OJJDP's 2005 Annual Report, "The National Juvenile Justice Data Analysis Project has significantly changed the landscape of juvenile justice statistical information availability by creating an infrastructure of data and dissemination tools that have become indispensable resources for informed policy decision-making."

The project's online *Statistical Briefing Book* [<http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/>] continues to be the most visited portion of OJJDP's Web site, making it the nation's primary source for statistical information on juvenile offenders and victims and the juvenile justice system. The user-friendly site offers statistical answers to frequently asked questions about a wide range of juvenile justice issues. In addition, its *Easy Access* family of data analysis and dissemination tools gives users quick and easy access to detailed statistics on a variety of

juvenile justice topics. The site also has the latest NCJJ/OJJDP statistical publications including these popular report series:

- *Juvenile Offenders and Victims*
- *Juvenile Arrests*
- *Juvenile Court Statistics*
- *OJJDP Bulletins*

The *Juvenile Court Statistics* reports are the National Juvenile Court Data Archive's flagship publication series. The Archive provides a wealth of information about cases handled by courts with juvenile jurisdiction. The Archive continues the work begun in 1927 by the Children's Bureau making it one of the oldest national justice data collection efforts in the country.

Applied Research

For the past five years, NCJJ has played a key role in the Models for Change juvenile justice reform initiative supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. "Models for Change" (MfC) is an ambitious effort to develop successful and replicable models of juvenile justice system reform through strategic investments in four states—Pennsylvania, Illinois, Louisiana, and Washington state. These pilot sites will serve to accelerate momentum toward a more effective, fair, and developmentally sound approach to juvenile justice nationwide. In its capacity as the initiative's "Technical Resource Center," NCJJ supports local and state-level strategic planning efforts, prepares data inventories for monitoring progress, and works with our MfC colleagues to develop materials and resources that other states can use. The initiative's website (<http://modelsforchange.net/>), which NCJJ devel-

oped and maintains, contains an expanding library of these materials and resources.

NCJJ takes considerable pride in its close working partnership with Pennsylvania's juvenile justice leadership. Since 1994, NCJJ has been funded by a series of grants from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to provide research, analysis and technical assistance to the state advisory group, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee (JJJPC) and its subcommittees.

The JJJPC commissioned a series of three "White Papers," foundational documents that define the state's fundamental juvenile justice goals, which are based on balanced and restorative justice principles. The White Papers were researched and written by NCJJ staff on the basis of consensus emerging from focus groups of juvenile justice professionals and stakeholders meeting over an extended period. For the past three years, NCJJ worked with another focus group of probation administrators and officers representing five PCCD-supported aftercare demonstration sites to achieve consensus that informed a forthcoming document, "Probation Case Management Essentials for Youth in Placement."

"Snyder and Sickmund are national treasures—their work is so elegantly useful I can't imagine doing what we do without them. If only the rest of the people working with, or for the Justice Department could learn to do what they do!"

*Bill Christeson
Co-Director of Research
Fight Crime: Invest in Kids*

Membership

From attending trainings and working on committees to being trained as faculty and serving in a leadership role, NCJFCJ's nearly 2,000 members from around the country play a vital role in the organization. In addition to juvenile and family court judges, referees, masters, and commissioners, the membership of the NCJFCJ includes court administrators, probation officers, counselors, social workers, and many other related professionals.

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 their best interests.

NCJFCJ members have the opportunity to serve on committees such as Alcohol and Other Drugs, Judicial Ethics, Mental Health/Medical-Legal Issues, Disproportionate Representation of Minority Children in Out-of-Home Placements, among others to lend their professional perspective and expertise to addressing the challenges faced by juvenile and family court systems in these areas.

Non-judicial professionals hold associate NCJFCJ membership, and many are also members of the National Juvenile Court Services Association. The NJCSA, a membership organization for court personnel has, since 1972, worked toward improving the skills and proficiency of professionals in the juvenile justice system.



Judges Karen Ashby (left) and Patricia Macias discuss an issue during the July 16 Board meeting.

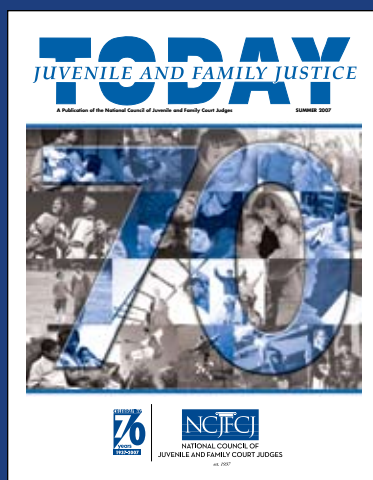


Board of Trustees members judges Paul Panepinto, Paul Garfinkel, Nolan Dawkins, and Barbara Villano (left to right), talk during the Saturday Board meeting.

Publications

In addition to our long-standing serial publications—the monthly *Juvenile and Family Law Digest*, quarterly *Juvenile and Family Court Journal*, and quarterly *Juvenile and Family Justice Today*—the NCJFCJ publishes a variety of publications that focus on the changing field of juvenile and family justice.

These publications can be ordered or accessed at NCJFCJ's website (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.



“Participation in NCJFCJ activities allows for wonderful opportunities for personal development (such as serving as faculty and taking part in the development of written materials) and enables you to ‘bring back home’ valuable ideas to improve local systems.”

*Judge Ernestine S. Gray, NCJFCJ Past President
New Orleans, Louisiana*

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
and Affiliates
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended September 30, 2007

REVENUES

Federal and state sources	\$12,345,079
Foundation sources	1,469,939
Other sources and contributions	118,381
Dues and subscriptions	368,415
Investment income	299,343
Registration fees	386,436
Other revenue	<u>459,613</u>

Total revenue 15,447,206

EXPENSES

Personnel	8,513,107
Travel	1,591,162
Contracts and honorariums	975,260
Subrecipients/contractuals	707,728
Equipment leases and maintenance	106,558
Supplies and operating expenses	2,528,477
Other Council activities	674,941
Interest expense	17,589
Depreciation	71,567
Loss on disposition of assets	<u>117,671</u>

Total expenses and losses 15,304,060

Change in net assets 143,146

NET ASSETS, October 1, 2006 3,395,903

NET ASSETS, September 30, 2007 \$ 3,539,049

Note: Please see September 2007 Audit Report for complete presentation and notes to the financial statements.

Sources of Support

Support from foundations, corporations, federal, state, and local agencies, and individuals is vital to the work of the NCJFCJ. The NCJFCJ gratefully acknowledges those organizations and individuals who have generously contributed during our 70th anniversary year, enabling the NCJFCJ to continue in its leadership role in the area of juvenile and family justice. This list is inclusive of the generous individual donors who have made gifts to specific projects, departments, or issues, or in honor or memory of others.

Agencies, Foundations, Organizations

American Bar Association Center for Children and the Law
 American Honda Motor Company
 Annie E. Casey Foundation
 State of Arizona
 Center for Children and Family Futures
 John Shaw Field Foundation
 State of Florida
 Frontier Community Coalition
 Hamilton County, Ohio
 State of Hawaii
 Judicial Council of California
 Kafoury, Armstrong and Company
 King County, Washington
 Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania
 Lucas County, Ohio
 John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
 State of Maryland
 Media Matrix, Inc.
 National Center for State Courts
 State of Nevada
 State of New York
 New York Unified Court System
 State of Ohio
 Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence
 Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency
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THE MISSION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES is to assist the nation's juvenile and family courts in fulfilling this vision by:

Improving the standards, practices, and effectiveness of the nation's juvenile and family courts;

Providing training for judges and others who serve in these courts;

Providing support for judges through continuing education, research, publications, and technical assistance;

Providing technical support to court systems regarding their structure, management, and procedures;

Contributing to the development of national policy, standards, and procedures regarding children and families;

Acknowledging and upholding the rights of victims, the safety of all family members, and the safety of the community;

Informing the nation as to the work of the juvenile and family courts.

This mission must be accomplished consistent with the Judicial Code of Ethics applicable in each state.



“There is no greater work than helping a child find a safe home, a youth find a better way, or a family live free from violence.”

*Judge James A. Ray, NCJFCJ Past President
Toledo, Ohio*



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

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University of Nevada, Reno

P.O. Box 8970, Reno, Nevada 89507

PHONE (775) 784-6012

FAX (775) 784-6628

E-MAIL staff@ncjfcj.org

WEBSITE www.ncjfcj.org