



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

IN YOUR  
STATE



# Washington

# 2022

## Areas of Focus

- ▶ **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**  
 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
- ▶ **Linking Systems of Care for Children & Youth**  
 Promoting healing for victims of crime through trauma-informed prevention and intervention services
- ▶ **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 & Its Link to Violence**  
 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

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The *National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges* (NCJFCJ) continues to provide quality education to judges and other judicial professionals despite the limitations imposed by COVID-19. Through webinars, Zoom calls, and other virtual methods, the NCJFCJ maintained its role as the national leader in judicial education and continued to provide the knowledge and skills that improve the lives of families and children who seek justice.

- In 2021, the NCJFCJ fulfilled 33 requests for technical assistance.
- In 2021, the NCJFCJ trained 423 judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals working to protect **Washington's** children, families, and victims in our communities.
- The NCJFCJ leads the Firearms Technical Assistance Project (FTAP) in **Spokane**. The FTAP works with a team of local stakeholders to promote the effective implementation of firearms restrictions in domestic violence cases at the federal, state, and local levels.
- The NCJFCJ is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to provide targeted support to the **Clark County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Team**, which is implementing the *Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines*. The NCJFCJ provides targeted support through court assessments; onsite court observation; strategic planning activities; peer-to-peer learning; and individualized training.
- The NCJFCJ continues to work with **Olympia** to customize and pilot the Model Custody and Visitation Guide (Guide) and workshop curricula that the NCJFCJ developed under the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women's (OVW) Meeting the Needs of Self-Represented Domestic Violence Survivors in Custody and Visitation Cases Project (SRL Project).
- The NCJFCJ is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to provide targeted support to the **Quinault Indian Nation**, which is in the planning stages of implementing the *Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines*.
- As part of the Implementation Sites Project, the NCJFCJ provides targeted training and technical assistance to the **Spokane County Family Court** (under the leadership of **Judge Michelle Ressa**), to the **Suquamish Tribal Court** (under the leadership of **Judge Cindy Smith**), and to the **Thurston County Superior Court** (under the leadership of **Judge Christine Shaller**).
- The NCJFCJ gave a presentation on diversity during the Equity and Inclusion: Culture, Bias and Access to Justice training hosted by the **Washington State Superior Court Judges Association**.
- In partnership with the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice (RFK), the NCJFCJ conducted a juvenile probation data capacity assessment for **King County**, one of six sites selected for a comprehensive juvenile probation transformation project.
- The NCJFCJ has 28 Judicial and Associate Members in **Washington**, and the **National CASA/GAL Association for Children**, headquartered in **Seattle**, is an Organizational Member of the NCJFCJ.
- **Justice Bobbe J. Bridge (Ret.)** and **Judge Barbara Mack (Ret.)** of Seattle are Board Directors of the NCJFCJ and 2021 Days on the Hill Delegates. **Diane Nunn** and **Tara Perry** of the **National CASA/GAL Association for Children** in **Seattle** are Sustaining Members of the NCJFCJ.

## National Impact

In 2021, the NCJFCJ fulfilled more than **529** requests for technical assistance and trained more than **5,749** judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals across the nation.

