



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

IN YOUR  
STATE



# North Carolina

# 2023

## 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
- ▶ **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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- In 2022, the NCJFCJ fulfilled six requests for technical assistance.
- In 2022, the NCJFCJ trained 77 judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals working to protect **North Carolina's** children, families, and survivors in our communities.
- The **Charlotte NCJFCJ Mentor Child Abuse and Neglect Model Court** is recognized for its efforts to improve outcomes for abused and neglected children, juvenile offenders, and their families.
- As part of the Implementation Sites Project, the NCJFCJ provides targeted training and technical assistance to the **Rowan County District Court**, under the leadership of **Judge Beth Dixon**. The project is designed 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.
- **North Carolina** judicial system professionals participated in the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training Series, which explored the historical and current challenges that racial and ethnic disparities pose for youth in the juvenile justice system and in juvenile drug courts.
- Judicial system professionals from **North Carolina** participated in Courts in the Era of #WeToo: How Judges and Court Managers Can Cooperate to Address Gender-Based Harassment and Abuse, a new training curriculum for courts on addressing workplace harassment.
- **North Carolina** judicial system professionals participated in the NCJFCJ's Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (CANI). The institute delivers exemplary instruction on the knowledge and skills necessary to preside over effective child abuse and neglect court processes and to improve outcomes for children and families involved in the child welfare system.
- **North Carolina** judicial system professionals received training on the neuropsychology of sex trafficking. They learned how to describe children's biological responses to sex trafficking and how using a trauma-informed lens helps youth who have survived trafficking.
- Judges and justice system professionals from **North Carolina** received training on the role of the judge in transforming juvenile probation and the use of minimum probation conditions.
- **Major Sheffield Ford III** of **Fayetteville** is a Board Director and a Sustaining Member of the NCJFCJ. **Judge Beth S. Dixon** of **Salisbury** is a Board Director of the NCJFCJ.
- The NCJFCJ has 15 Judicial and Associate Members in **North Carolina**.

## National Impact

In 2022, the NCJFCJ fulfilled over **600** requests for technical assistance and trained approximately **7,000** judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals across the nation.

