



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

IN YOUR
STATE



Pennsylvania

2023

- In 2022, the NCJFCJ fulfilled eight requests for technical assistance.
- In 2022, the NCJFCJ trained 72 judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals working to protect **Pennsylvania's** children, families, and survivors in our communities.
- The NCJFCJ held the 2022 National Conference on Juvenile Justice in **Pittsburgh** on March 13–16, 2022.
- With funding from the Office for Victims of Crime, the NCJFCJ provides training and technical assistance to the **WRAP Court in Philadelphia** to enhance juvenile and family court responses to human trafficking.
- As part of the Implementation Sites Project, the NCJFCJ provides targeted training and technical assistance to the **Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas Family Division**, under the leadership of **Judge Dwayne Woodruff**. 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.
- The Judicial Engagement Network (JEN) Fellowship Program allows judges to enhance their skills as judicial leaders within the court and in their communities around domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues. A judge from **Pittsburgh**, a Fellow in the second class, graduated from the JEN Fellowship Program.
- The NCJFCJ completed its work with **Pittsburgh**, 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. The NCJFCJ delivered a customized Model Custody and Visitation Guide and an online course for self-represented litigants based on the guide.
- Judicial system professionals from **Pennsylvania** 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. This new curriculum focuses on responding to harassment in the judicial environment while centering the safety, respect, and dignity of people who work in — or who are regularly engaged with — the court.
- A **Pennsylvania** judicial system professional 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.
- **Judge Lori A. Dumas** of **Philadelphia** is an NCJFCJ Board Director. **Judith T. Horgan** of **Pittsburgh** is a Board Director and a Sustaining Member of the NCJFCJ.
- The NCJFCJ has 31 Judicial and Associate Members in **Pennsylvania**.

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.

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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