



Judicial & Interdisciplinary Training ~ Technical Assistance Evidence-Based Practices ~ Research for Oregon’s Professionals

The NCJFCJ supports **Oregon’s** efforts to improve the juvenile and family courts

In 2012, NCJFCJ trained nearly 12,000 judges, magistrates, commissioners, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals.

| | # of Programs | # of Professionals Trained | Topic Areas |
|------|---------------|----------------------------|---|
| 2008 | 4 | 430 | Child advocacy; resilience in children exposed to domestic violence; high conflict cases; child abuse and neglect |
| 2009 | 5 | 298 | Drugs and the adolescent brain; court performance measures; accounting for domestic violence in child custody cases; disproportionality |
| 2010 | 4 | 486 | Child abuse and neglect; implicit bias; social cognition; reasonable efforts for dependency cases involving domestic violence |
| 2011 | 3 | 120 | Safe and equitable foster care reduction; trauma informed practice and ICWA |
| 2012 | 2 | 843 | Visitation; crossover youth; ICWA; civil protection orders |

Substance Abuse & Juvenile Drug Courts:

- Over the years, in **Oregon**, 12 jurisdictions have participated in juvenile drug court training; six AOD-related trainings have been held; and three jurisdictions received on-site juvenile drug court technical assistance.

Child Abuse and Neglect:

- Since 1998, **Portland** has participated in the Child Victims Act Model Court Project as a demonstration site, led by **Judge Paula J. Kurshner**, focuses on improving the governmental response to children and families in the child welfare system to ensure safe, timely, and permanent homes for children. Some accomplishments include: selection for the Cross-Over Youth Model program to work on best practice for youth involved in both child welfare and juvenile justice; full implementation of the Courts Catalyzing Change (CCC) Preliminary Protective Hearing Benchcard and continuing as a pilot research site studying effectiveness; addressing issues regarding the administration of psychotropic medication for dependent children by crafting a system protocol for how and when children should be prescribed medications; launch of an initiative to develop community-based actions plans and long-term strategies to reduce the number of children in foster care; and focus on trauma informed care to improve the tenor and quality of interactions between and among the system and children and families.

Domestic Violence:

- Since 2002, **Oregon** has had planning and implementation grantees in the Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program – **Deschutes County** and **Lincoln County**, planning sites; and **Jackson County** and **Multnomah County**, implementation sites. The goal of this project is to support sites in efforts to increase the number of centers available, enhance the quality of services, and increase abilities to assist victims of family violence, child abuse, sexual assault, and stalking.



Oregon

- **Lane County** was a demonstration site in the Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment Cases (Greenbook) initiative from 2001 to 2007, working to reform the ways in which courts, child welfare agencies, and family violence agencies respond to families experiencing both family violence and child maltreatment. Greenbook site activities included: Implementation of the Guided Assessment Process (GAP), which incorporates safety assessments at critical junctures in a case, including periodic family violence screening throughout the life of the case; development of “Child Welfare Advocacy Guidelines” to build and strengthen partnerships and communication between advocates and workers in the field; development of new partnerships to expand resources and services for battered women, children exposed to family violence, and fathers who batter; implementing funding for poor men mandated to batterer intervention programs, resulting in more men following through with intakes, and may result in more men completing programs.

Technical Assistance Activities in Oregon:

In 2012, the NCJFCJ fulfilled more than 24 requests for technical assistance from juvenile and family court-related professionals on issues related to:

- Implementation of federal law (e.g., ASFA, ICPC, ICWA)
- Court improvement programs
- Custody and visitation in the context of family violence
- Adoption
- Juvenile drug and family drug treatment courts
- Mental health
- Domestic violence in Children and Family Services work
- Alternative dispute resolution

Juvenile and family justice professionals and others from around the country and the world also access NCJFCJ resources via the website at www.ncjfcj.org.

Research Activities in Oregon:

Several NCJFCJ departments, including the NCJFCJ’s National Center on Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) in Pittsburgh, Pa., provide research, and process and outcome evaluation services to courts and related programs to assess best practice and policy implementation, program outcomes, and the consequences of various system reforms for the court, allied agencies, and most importantly, children and families. Examples include:

- The **Portland Model Court** is involved in research related to hearing quality and outcomes for children.
- The **Portland Model Court** is a data collection site for the QUICWA Compliance Collaborative which focuses on Indian Child Welfare Act compliance.
- The **Portland Model Court** is a pilot site for research on the Courts Catalyzing Change Benchmark.
- Expanded Second Shelter Hearing Process Evaluation. Funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (VAMC). Site: **Portland**.
- Provided on-site assistance to assess the continuum of services for delinquent youth in **Lane County**.
- Conducted court performance measurement capacity assessment and judicial workload study for dependency cases. Funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children’s Bureau, through its “Toolkit Project.”

Leadership and Outreach in Oregon:

- NCJFCJ currently has 67 members in **Oregon**, including Judicial, State Council, Associate, and Past President memberships.
- Judge Katherine Tennyson of **Portland** serves on NCJFCJ’s Board of Trustees.