

E-SJI NEWS

NACM 2015 Educational Sessions Now Available Online

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SJI shares the last grant, state court, and scholarship updates via its [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.

Look for us to use #SJIGrant and #NCSCReport when special content is featured.



SJI has supported a wide variety of [National Association for Court Management](#) (NACM) educational content creation and professional development curricula enhancement.

Among the most well-attended are the plenary and subject-specific workshops offered at the NACM Midyear and Annual Meetings. In recent years, these educational opportunities for court administrators, judicial officers, and staff, have brought together experts from around the country to discuss major issues impacting the state courts. Many times, these issues are extensions of [SJI's Priority Investment Areas](#), such as reengineering, improving language access, increasing online services to self-represented litigants, and human trafficking. The [2015 Midyear Meeting](#) featured live-streaming, supported by a grant from SJI, and enhanced ability for the general public to view materials; that [content is archived online](#) with all other past meetings.

For the 30th Annual Conference on July 12-16th in Louisville, Kentucky, NACM will highlight the new [NACM Core](#) (formerly core competencies) in organizing workshop content centered on the theme: *Commitment to Excellence: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow*. In conjunction with the Annual Meeting, the Institute for Court Management will offer a hybrid *Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts* course, which counts towards the Certified Court Manager credential. For more information, visit the [NACM website](#).



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Upcoming SJI Grant and ESP Deadlines

Q3 - May 1, 2015: Grant and Education Support Program (ESP) applications due by mail.

Q4 - August 1, 2015: Grant and ESP applications due by mail.

Forms available online:

www.sji.gov/forms

State WINGS Projects Selected to Improve Adult Guardianships

SJI has supported the Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS) through the National Guardianship Network since the Third National Guardianship Summit in 2011. The creation and sustainability of state WINGS groups was a key recommendation of the 2011 Third National Guardianship Summit. Summit Standards and Recommendations, and background papers, are available in the [Utah Law Review, Vol. 2012, No. 3](#).

The seminal WINGS-related publication for the National Association for Court Management (NACM), [Adult Guardianship Guide: A Guide to Plan, Develop and Sustain a Comprehensive Court Guardianship and Conservatorship Program](#), released in 2013, and last year's [WINGS Tips: State Replication Guide for Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders](#), provide essential, step-by-step recommendations for state court



leadership in establishing successful approaches to collaborative guardianship programs (SJI-14-N-231).

Earlier this month, the [National Guardianship Network \(NGN\)](#), (a lead organization of eleven national partners), responsible for coordinating and overseeing WINGS, announced five courts that will receive mini-grants and technical assistance to create innovative, consensus-driven, WINGS in their jurisdictions. Courts selected to receive this support include:

- The District of Columbia Courts
- The Supreme Court of Indiana
- The Supreme Court of Minnesota
- The Mississippi Supreme Court
- The Washington State Supreme Court

Joining SJI in supporting these state WINGS and NGN-provided technical assistance are [Atlantic Philanthropies](#) and [Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation Center on Law and Aging](#). The newly selected state WINGS will begin by using the aforementioned resources and hands-on assistance from NGN to create a truly interdisciplinary network that ensures guardian accountability and standards, and creates less restrictive decision-making options.

WINGS Tips

State Replication Guide
For Working Interdisciplinary Networks
Of Guardianship Stakeholders
2014

Produced by the National Guardianship Network
And Supported by the State Justice Institute
and the Borchard Foundation Center on Law and Aging
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ADULT GUARDIANSHIP GUIDE

A Guide to Plan, Develop and Sustain a Comprehensive Court Guardianship and Conservatorship Program

2013-2014 GUIDE

NACM National Association for Court Management

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Grants Improve Access to Justice in Guardianship Cases at the Local Level

Two SJI grantees have recently completed, or are in the final stages of enhancing, their online court-user portals to improve access for guardianship cases.

After steadily observing an increase in the number of guardianship matters, the [Orphans' Court of Montgomery County](#), Pennsylvania, realized an online solution would expedite case processing and ease frustrations for court users.

With SJI assistance (SJI-14-T-019), the Court has made most of its essential forms and guidance documents available to the public, including, forms guardians of persons and/or estates must complete, fee schedules, cover sheets for various pleadings, and local rules.

Additionally, the Orphans' Court is now operating an E-Filing System for registered users.



Based on use during a beta testing period, additional enhancements and online filing for other courts in the County may be considered. A more robust presence for the Court on the County's website is also planned.

The [9th Judicial Circuit Court](#), which serves the populous Orange (Orlando) and Osceola (Kissimmee) Counties in Florida, received SJI assistance (SJI-13-T-088) to assure compli-

ance with Florida law addressing guardianship, and the duties required to ensure the safety and care of wards. Given the aging population and diverse communities residing in the jurisdiction, the Court wanted to assist potential guardians using English as a Second Language (ESL) or who were limited English proficient (LEP) by completing a guardian handbook and translation of commonly used forms to six languages: Chinese, Creole, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

The Court also translated the [Probate – Guardian Advocate forms](#) that assist individuals who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, to request assistance from an interpreter for the proceedings in one of the languages specified.

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The State Justice Institute is a federally-funded, non-profit corporation established by federal law in 1984 to improve the quality of justice in the state courts.

