

RURAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

RESPONSE REQUESTED BY OCTOBER 16, 2020

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR NEW RURAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Below is a brief description of two initial opportunities to participate in the Rural Justice Collaborative (RJC). Additional opportunities will be announced throughout the year. Please submit nominations [here](#) by October 16, 2020.

1 FEATURED COMMUNITIES

The RJC will highlight innovative rural initiatives as part of a case study series. Nominations are currently being sought for cross-sector programs or initiatives based in rural communities that involve courts and stakeholders in the justice, child welfare, and behavioral health systems.

1

2 ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

The work undertaken as part of the RJC will be guided by a cross-sector advisory board comprised of rural judges and stakeholders in the justice, child welfare, and behavioral health systems. The cross-sector board will contribute their knowledge of rural justice systems. The board will meet virtually no more than three times per year for two to three years. Work will begin in November 2020.

2

RURAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

In the Fall of 2020, the National Center for State Courts, in partnership with Rulo Strategies, will launch a Rural Justice Collaborative (RJC). This work will engage judges and their justice, child welfare, and/or behavioral health partners. Initially, the RJC will focus on the following components of rural justice:

- Increasing access to behavioral health treatment
- Reducing victimization
- Facilitating employment and educational opportunities for justice involved individuals
- Eliminating barriers of access to justice
- Reducing incarceration and recidivism
- Facilitating reentry
- Reducing the number of children in foster care due to substance use disorders

The RJC will highlight the cross-sector collaboration that is a hallmark of rural justice systems and elevate innovative practices. A cornerstone of the RJC is an online resource center that will serve as a national clearinghouse of resources for rural justice systems. The online resource center will feature cases studies highlighting promising practices and initiatives.

For questions or additional information, please contact Kris Bryant at kbryant@ncsc.org.

[LINK TO NOMINATION FORM](#)

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