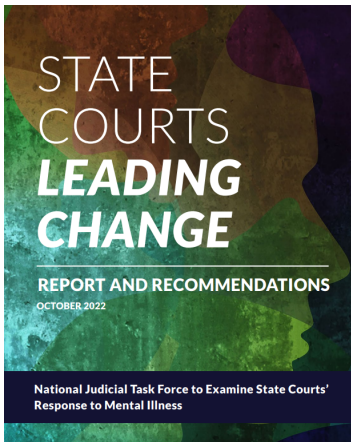




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## Grantee Spotlight: National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness



On March 30, 2020, the Boards of Directors of the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators took action to establish [National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts Response to Mental Illness](#) to assist state courts in their efforts to more effectively respond to the needs of court-involved individuals with serious mental illness. Led by an Executive Committee, joined by 40 additional judges, court, and behavioral health experts, and funded by the State Justice Institute, the Task Force has engaged in... [Read more](#)

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## In the News

### COSCA Offers New Guidance for Courting Public Trust and Confidence Through Communication

To help courts establish themselves as a trusted source for information, the [Conference of State Court Administrators](#) (COSCA) has published new guidance for developing timely, accurate and understandable communication. In "[Courting Public Trust and Confidence: Effective Communication in the Digital Age](#)," COSCA examines three types of "bad information"—disinformation, malinformation, and misinformation—and provides guidance on how to respond without compromising the integrity of the court... [Read more](#)

### Courtroom Communities: Criminal Case Processing and Sentencing Reform

Collaboration and cooperation define most criminal cases, not the dramatized adversarial courtroom battles that appear in the news and entertainment media. The [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ), Senior Policy Advisor Nancy Merritt, Ph.D., explores the import of

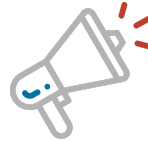
considering courtroom community framework and culture when developing and implementing criminal justice and sentencing reform... [Read more](#)

## Announcements



### New Monthly Virtual Meetings and Listserv for Court Grant Managers!

Whether you're a seasoned expert or brand new to finding, managing, and/or reporting on grants for your court, SJI is pleased to announce a new resource to build on its [Funding Opportunities Toolkit](#) and related technical assistance. Beginning on January 17th, 2023, we will bring together court grant managers and court-affiliated grant writers for a **monthly 1-hour meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at 1:00PM EST**. Participation is restricted to court-based grants staff and court-affiliated grant writers. To request to participate, please send an email to: [fundingtoolkit@sjj.gov](mailto:fundingtoolkit@sjj.gov)



### Upcoming Webinar! The [National Center for State Courts](#)

(NCSC) is  
hosting *Rural Justice*

*and Remote Proceedings* on January 18th, 2023, at 2:00PM EST. How can remote proceedings increase access to justice for court users in rural communities? Much of the discussion about remote proceedings and rural justice has focused on the digital divide. However, remote proceedings when used strategically can help improve access to justice in rural communities, including reducing geographic barriers to attending court and improving access to attorneys. This webinar is an opportunity to spark ideas about how rural courts can leverage remote proceedings. Register [here](#).



### Request for Applications: Enhancing State Court Efforts to Address Child Abuse

and Neglect. According to the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau](#), on average over 400,000 abused and neglected children live in foster care in the U.S. and foster care systems



### Apply Today! -- SAMHSA's GAINS Center Announces Criminal Justice Learning

Collaboratives. [SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation](#), operated by [Policy Research Associates, Inc.](#) (PRA), is continuing to provide direct training and technical assistance to jurisdictions across the nation to better support people with behavioral health needs who

serve over 600,00 children and youth every year...Through a special Request for Applications (RFA) process, SJI will award grants to further improve state court efforts in addressing child abuse and neglect. SJI intends to award grants that will enhance state and local court ability to... [Read more](#)

are involved in the criminal justice system. The GAINS Center is currently soliciting applications from jurisdictions interested in collaborating with subject-matter experts through Criminal Justice Learning Collaboratives (LCs). Applications due: January 25th, 2023. Apply [here](#).

If you are interested in sharing court related news or announcements in the SJI newsletter, please send all content to [contact@sjj.gov](mailto:contact@sjj.gov) by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Are you a SJI grantee interested in being featured in our monthly newsletter and on our website? Follow the instructions on our [Grantee Spotlight Submission Instructions page](#).



The next deadline to submit a grant application to SJI is **Feb 1, 2023**.

Learn more about [SJI grants](#) and [apply](#) today!



## State Justice Institute

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