

Share

Tweet

Share

Forward



July 2025 | Vol. 35, No. 10

Grantee Spotlight: State Courts Response to Opioids and the Impact on Children



What if families facing a crisis could receive support before entering the court system? In 2019, the [National Center for State Courts](#) received funding to identify promising practices in state and local courts that aim to prevent removal through non-adversarial collaborative team approaches and timely access to treatment and services. The Family Preservation Initiative (FPI) in Rutherford County, Tennessee was one of the standout programs identified. FPI transforms how communities support families by intervening before circumstances escalate to court involvement. When... [Read more](#)

In the News

AI Software Gives Boost to Diversion Programs

Last year, the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators [adopted a resolution](#) urging NCSC to showcase effective, scalable models for civil diversion programs that create alternate pathways for litigants to resolve disputes. These programs would be grounded in a [set of guiding principles](#), which encourage collaboration with other civil justice system partners. Inspired by that resolution, NCSC formed a partnership with the American Arbitration Association (AAA) and the Court of Common Pleas in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, which had an existing consumer debt diversion program. A review of filings from the first half of 2024 showed that the court's diversion program reduced the number of cases on the docket by more than... [Read more](#)

Creating a More Accessible Court Experience for All

A new resource is now available to support courts in upholding state and federal law and applying Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which applies to all state and local government entities, including courts. [Serving People with Disabilities and Title II of the ADA: A Toolkit for Courts](#) helps courts address aspects of the law that apply to court services, covering areas from physical access to digital accessibility. “Making courts accessible for people with disabilities improves the system for all users,” said Grace Spulak, an NCSC principal court management consultant and lead author of the toolkit. “Thinking about the needs of court users with disabilities leads to process simplification, clearer communication, and better navigation for everyone. It’s a win-win!” Courts can serve people with disabilities by developing accessible resources, services... [Read more](#)

Announcements



Upcoming Webinar!
The [National Center for State Courts](#) (NCSC)
will be hosting: *Family-*

Centered Fridays: Right Services, Right Time. Join in on **July 18th, 2025, at 12:00PM EST** for the introduction of Right Services, Right Time – an initiative that offers family courts practical tools and targeted support to handle even the most complex cases. This installment of the Family-Centered Fridays series will highlight lessons from pilot courts that are using guided triage, parenting education, and user-friendly dashboards to reduce delays, improve user experience, and support better decision-making without large-scale system change. Register [here](#).



Upcoming Conference!
The [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) (NCJFCJ)
will be hosting their *88th*

Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois, from **July 20th - 23rd, 2025**, at the Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park. The conference will feature educational presentations on topic-specific training tracks including domestic relations, juvenile justice, child welfare, family violence, and emerging issues. This conference is designed for a wide range of disciplines and is open to all those who strive to improve the systems and change the lives of children, families and survivors in our communities. For more information and to register, click [here](#).



Upcoming Conference!
The [National Association for Court Management](#) (NACM) will be hosting
its Annual Conference

from **July 20th - July 24th, 2025**, in Omaha, Nebraska. The theme of the 2025 Annual Conference is



Upcoming Education
Opportunity! *The Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (CANI) In-*

Person Training will be held in **Reno, Nevada from September 8th - 12th, 2025**. The NCJFCJ’s training for dependency court judges, the

Promoting Public Trust and Confidence through Service and Collaboration. The Annual Conference will deal with the strategies that courts must create winning customer/court user experiences and successful collaborations to better service those using our nation's courts. For registration information, conference agenda, membership, pricing and further information, click [here](#).

[CANI](#) provides instruction for new or experienced judges on the necessary skills to preside over an effective child abuse and neglect court process. Over the four-day training, participants will have opportunities to network with faculty and other attendees. Participants will also receive instruction to improve outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system. Register [here](#).

If you are interested in sharing court related news or announcements in the SJI newsletter, please send all content to contact@sjj.gov by the 10th 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 **Aug 1, 2025**.

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



State Justice Institute

12700 Fair Lakes Circle, Suite 340

Fairfax, VA 22033

Board of Directors

[unsubscribe from this list.](#)

Copyright © 2025, All rights reserved.

