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## Grantee Spotlight: Court Navigation and Support – Policy Research Associates



Many people who become involved in the criminal legal system experience behavioral health and social service-related needs that remain unmet throughout their system involvement. These unmet needs can result in people cycling through the system, taking a toll on their well-being and placing a burden on the system. In recognition of this challenge, jurisdictions across the United States have begun to implement court navigator programs to bridge the gap between the behavioral health and criminal legal systems. Researchers at [Policy Research Associates, Inc.](#) conducted a three-year project to better understand court navigator programs... [Read more](#)

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## In the News

### SJI Board Awards FY 2024 Fourth Quarter Grants

The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Board Meeting was held on September 9, 2024, at the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C. Members of the SJI Board, Executive Director, Jonathan Mattiello, and Senior Program Advisor, Michelle White, were joined by Chief Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, Clerk of the Court of Appeals Julio Castillo, Executive Officer of the Courts Herbert Rousen, and other court staff. SJI received seven grant applications requesting a total of \$410,864 for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of FY 2024. The Board awarded one Project Grant to the Arizona Supreme Court to support the... [Read more](#)

[Cross-Sector Collaboration to Address Substance Use Disorder in Dayton, Ohio](#)

Funded by the [State Justice Institute](#), the [Institute for Intergovernmental Research](#) (IIR) led a site visit to Dayton, Ohio where three teams of justice practitioners, treatment providers, and representatives from the court and child-welfare systems from across the country experienced Dayton's cross-sector collaboration approach to addressing substance use disorder (SUD) in their community. This site visit came out of the report [Cross-Sector Collaboration Between Law Enforcement, Courts, Child Welfare, and Schools to Address the Impact of Substance Use](#) published in 2023 by SJI along with the [Bureau of Justice Assistance's](#) (BJA) [Comprehensive Opioid Stimulant and Substance Use Program](#) (COSSUP), that highlighted "eight key ingredients" to successful cross-sector collaboration across law enforcement, child welfare, courts, and schools. These eight keys were based on information gathered through a questionnaire and interviews... [Read more](#)

## The Rural Justice Collaborative Digest for September 2024

Funded by the [State Justice Institute](#), the [National Center for State Courts](#), in partnership with [Rulo Strategies LLC](#), launched the [Rural Justice Collaborative](#) (RJC) to showcase the strengths of rural communities and highlight the cross-sector collaboration that is a hallmark of rural justice systems. These strengths include strong professional networks, deep ties to the communities they serve, resiliency, and ingenuity. The Rural Justice Collaborative is guided by and an advisory council of rural practitioners representing the judiciary, public safety, behavioral health, public health, child welfare, victim services and other stakeholder-focused justice systems. The advisory council guides the initiative and has focused initial efforts on advancing innovation, promoting collaboration... [Read more](#)

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## Announcements



September is [National Recovery Month](#). A national observance held every September to celebrate and support recovery from addiction, mental health and substance use disorders. The [State Justice Institute](#) is proud to support [#NationalRecoveryMonth](#), funding and cross-collaborating in a significant amount of substance use, mental health and behavioral health projects. To learn about these programs and projects funded by SJI, please click [here](#).

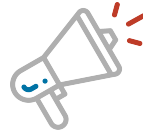


Upcoming Webinar! The [National Center for State Courts](#) (NCSC) will be hosting: *Family-Centered Fridays: Dually Involved Youth* on **September 20th, 2024, at 12:00PM EST**. Attendees will hear from numerous courts on how they are coordinating services for families involved in dependency and delinquency systems, learn about program implementation, partners involved in the work, challenges the courts have faced, and the anticipated outcomes for children and families. Register [here](#).



Upcoming Conference!  
Join the [National  
Judicial College](#) (NJC)  
for: *A Trauma-Informed*

*Courtroom Starts with Procedural  
Fairness* on **September 26th, at  
2:00PM EST**. This presentation lays  
the foundation for a trauma-  
informed courtroom by emphasizing  
the importance of procedural  
fairness. We'll explore the  
connection between these  
concepts, highlighting how fair and  
respectful treatment can contribute  
to a more healing environment for  
individuals who have experienced  
trauma. The presentation will delve  
into the core principles of procedural  
fairness: voice, respectful treatment,  
transparency, and trustworthy  
authorities. For more information  
and to register, click [here](#).



Upcoming Webinar!  
The [National Center for  
State Courts](#) will be  
hosting: *Navigating AI*

*in Court Systems - Ethics, Legal  
Frameworks, and Practical Tools* on  
**October 16th, 2024, at 1:00PM  
EST**. This session, an extension  
of, [Ethics of Generative AI: A Guide  
for Judges and Legal Professionals](#),  
will assist participants in developing  
an AI ethics infrastructure to ensure  
that AI technologies are used  
responsibly and ethically. A  
proactive approach that includes  
guiding principles, standards, and  
protocols helps courts prevent  
misuse, bias, and potential harm,  
thereby safeguarding the integrity of  
the judicial process and preserving  
public trust and confidence in our  
legal 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](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 **Nov 1, 2024**.

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



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Board of Directors

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