



Oregon Judicial Department Juvenile Court Improvement Program

JCIP Today E-Newsletter

JCIP Highlights

"Through the Eyes of a Child XV" and "Model Court Day: Summit on Child Abuse and Neglect", August 5-7, 2012

The Juvenile Judges' annual conference, "Through the Eyes of a Child, XV" will occur August 5-6 this year, a week earlier than usual. It will be followed by the sixth annual "Model Court Day: Summit on Child Abuse and Neglect," August 7, 2012. Judges are encouraged to invite up to 8 members of their local Model Court Team to join them for Model Court Day. Save the Date Flyers have been sent to the presiding judges and trial court administrators.

Mini Grants

Juvenile Court Improvement Program federal funds will once again be made available to local courts and community partners in the form of mini-grant awards. The funds are to be used for projects or activities that further state-wide JCIP or local court improvement goals. Grant awards typically range from \$500 to \$5,000. The application and the funding request guidelines can be found at <http://courts.oregon.gov/OJD/OSCA/cpsd/courtimprovement/jcip/FundingRequests.page?> Questions can be directed to Shary Mason at (503) 731-3339 or by e-mail at shary.k.mason@ojd.state.or.us

State Court /Tribal Court Visits

Thank you, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Judge Suzanne Ojibway Townsend, and Trial Court Administrator Angela Fasana, for hosting JCIP's first State Court Judge visit to an Oregon Tribe. JCIP plans to support a series of these judicial visits between state and tribal court judges during 2012. These visits promote state and tribal court collaborations, increase circuit court judges' understanding of Oregon's tribes, tribal customs, and tribal courts and help to develop relationships for future peer to peer consultation.

The Judicial Engagement and Leadership Institute

At the last couple of JCIP conferences, judges and referees have proposed programs and initiatives that would continue the communication, education, and energetic problem-solving that characterize the conference throughout the year. JCIP has developed a plan that incorporates these suggested programs and initiatives within the framework of a "Judicial Engagement and Leadership Institute." The Institute's mission is to assist and encourage judges and referees to be actively engaged year-round in examining juvenile court dependency system issues and developing solutions and

strategies to address them, with the goal of improving outcomes for Oregon children and families.

A survey sent to judges helped to identify and prioritize issues that should be addressed and resolved during the next 12-24 months and to indicate their willingness to participate in a "Work Group" to address a specific issue. JCIP identified and will support three "Work Groups" that will examine a designated issue, develop and support the implementation of judicial strategies to resolve it, and report its conclusions and recommendations to the participants at the August 2012 JCIP conference. Judge Lisa Greif will chair an Adoption work group, Referee Linda Hughes will chair a Reasonable Efforts work group, and Judges Dan Murphy and Paula Brownhill will co-chair a Dependency Code and Forms work group.

JCIP will also establish and support -- as part of the Institute -- a Juvenile Law Research Project made up of judges and referees who wish to research and discuss in depth the legal questions presented by the juvenile code and its application. The project will function somewhat like a continuing symposium or seminar. The participants will determine which questions will be considered and how they will be addressed. If the participants identify needed changes in law or court practice, they will report their recommendations at the JCIP conference.

From the Counties

Coos County

Dr. Rita Cameron Wedding (Professor of Ethnic Studies at Sacramento State University, faculty for National Council of Juvenile Family and Court Judges) provided a workshop in Coos County for Child Welfare and DHS management staff and Tribal social service partners on reducing biases in decision making and connected that to how the staff works with families of children in care with an emphasis on relatives.

Jackson County

Judge Crain was featured in [an article about Jackson County's Community Family Court](#), a 10-year effort that's reversing the course of drug and alcohol addicted parents whose children have become wards of the state. A new four-year study details the court's effectiveness; showing, for example, that each child spent 104 fewer days in foster care than children in similar cases handled in more traditional courts.

Malheur County

[Materials for the Malheur County's multidisciplinary training](#) held in November can be found on the JCIP website. The training featured presentations on new legislation, appellate law, and immigration issues.

Marion County

Marion County recently conducted a Quality Service Review (QSR) focused on cases involving African American and Native American children in care, and provided an opportunity to define good practices. An action team has been established to address the findings of the QSR. The team is focused on the following activities: develop and implement an APPLA Review Committee to monitor progress toward permanency; provide for cultural awareness and engagement training for all workers; engage community providers in a strategy to develop the capacity to provide trauma-informed assessments and care; develop early identification criteria that will support a more holistic approach to address multiple moves and complex trauma, including a placement stability strategy, family engagement strategy, and school engagement strategy; work with OJD and the Citizen Review Board to change perception of what activities constitute efforts toward achieving adoption; and create an Adoption Recruitment Specialist position for children in APPLA or on that trajectory.

Multnomah County

Over 200 people attended the Multnomah County Trauma Informed Practice Training held at the Oregon Zoo on December 19, 2011. Speakers included: Mandy Davis, Clinical Director Trauma Informed Care Project, PSU, who spoke on "Trauma Informed Care: Using trauma knowledge to improve practice in criminal justice and dependency systems"; Khatib Waheed, former Senior Fellow, Center for the Study of Social Policy, who spoke on "Historical and Generational Trauma of African Americans"; and Dr. Tom Ball, Assistant Vice President, Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity, University of Oregon, who spoke on "Soul Wounding: The Continuing Effects of Historical Trauma and Unresolved Grief." Materials are posted on the JCIP website <http://courts.oregon.gov/OJD/OSCA/cpsd/courtimprovement/jcip/2011MultnomahTrauma.page?>

Washington County

The Washington County Safe and Equitable Foster Care Reduction (SEFCR) Team conducted a number of listening circles with the Native American community and plans similar events with the Hispanic and African American communities.

Region 1 - Tillamook, Clatsop, & Columbia Counties

Tillamook County hosted a video-conference "Active Efforts" training for Region 1 that was conducted by JCIP staff and Ron Hudson, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Materials can be found on the JCIP website. <http://courts.oregon.gov/OJD/docs/OSCA/cpsd/courtimprovement/jcip/Events/TillamookActiveEfforts.pdf>

Training, Conferences, and Resources

NICWA Training

The Safe & Equitable Foster Care Reduction Partnership, procured several hundred slots for DHS staff, attorneys, judges, tribes and community stakeholders to take an on-line Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) course. This opportunity is being offered as part of Oregon's commitment to safely reduce the disproportionality of American

Indian/Alaskan Native children in foster care. The course is designed to help staff involved in the out-of-home placement of American Indian children understand and comply with the ICWA so that each person has the same, accurate information about ICWA rules and cases. The course presents key provisions of ICWA, as well as recommended performance steps associated with effective practice for state, county, and tribal child welfare workers. The course also gives general information about American Indian and Alaskan Native cultures. At the end of the course, there is a short test. Upon passing the test, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion. The course, offered through the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA), is accessed after completing a short internet survey. Once you complete the survey, you will be sent a login and password directly from NICWA. [Click here](#) to complete the survey and register.

2012 Oregon State Bar (OSB) Annual Juvenile Law Seminar

The OSB and Juvenile Law Section will present "Juvenile Law 2012: Beyond the Codebook—Ethics, Appellate Law, and ICWA" February 10, 2012 at the OSB office in Tigard, Oregon. Judge William Thorne, Jr. Utah Court of Appeals, will provide an in-depth look at the ICWA. See details at <http://osbarcle.org/seminardetails.php?seminarid=4841>

PSU Culture and Conversations Event Series

The Portland State University School of Social Work will present a series of events centered around culture and conversations this month. They are inviting community leaders to facilitate conversations around celebrating strengths and understanding disparities in communities of color in Oregon. Leaders from the Muslim Educational Trust will lead a conversation on "Understanding Islam" from 4-5:30 on February 15; The Coalition of Communities of Color will present the *Native American Community in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile* on February 22 from 4-5:30; and Causa, Oregon's Immigrant Rights Coalition, will facilitate a discussion of immigrant communities on February 29 from 4-5:30. The first in the Series, Black Fatherhood, was held on February 6. All events are free to the community. CEUs will be offered. For more information contact Cimone Schwoeffermann, cimone@pdx.edu

"Every Day Counts"

The Citizen Review Board annual training conference, "Every Day Counts," will be held on May 4-5 2012, in Eugene. Information on registration will be coming soon to the CRB website:

<http://courts.oregon.gov/OJD/OSCA/cpsd/citizenreview/EducationandTraining.page?>

"Applying Knowledge about How Early Experiences Shape the Developing Brain to Improving the Lives of Foster Children"

Dr. Phil Fisher's live web stream on "Applying Knowledge About How Early Experiences Shape the Developing Brain to Improve the Lives of foster children has been recorded and posted on line. <http://128.223.84.191/tcs/?id=7A9D8996-5E33-45E3-9116-53F11FB53848>

18th National Conference of Child Abuse and Neglect

The Children's Bureau's 18th National Conference of Child Abuse and Neglect, "Celebrating the Past - Imagining the Future" will be held April 16-20, 2012 in Washington DC. Find out more information about the conference and register at <http://www.pal-tech.com/web/OCAN/>

Children's Bureau ~ 100 Years



CELEBRATING THE PAST~IMAGINING THE FUTURE
18th National Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect

National CASA Conference

The 31st Annual National CASA Conference will take place June 9-12 in Washington, D.C. Information can be found at http://www.casaforchildren.org/site/c.mtJSJ7MPiSE/b.5405963/k.A2FE/Annual_Conference.htm

National Conference on Juvenile and Family Law

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judge's 2012 National Conference on Juvenile and Family Law will be held at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, March 21-24. Session highlights focus on Judicial Leadership and Collaboration. <http://www.ncfcj.org/content/view/1471/315/1/3/>

Community Partner Corner

Knowing Who You Are

The Safe and Equitable Foster Care Reduction Partnership presented the "Knowing Who You Are" training in December. The training, a Casey Family Program national initiative, helps professionals in the child welfare system who are working with youth in care expand their own awareness and support the healthy development of youth's racial and ethnic identity. A work group is being formed to look at how Oregon can implement "Knowing Who You Are" statewide.

Differential Response Design Team

DHS has organized a Differential Design (DR) Team to give input on identifying and recommending criteria for successful implementation of a DR model. At their first two meetings they worked to gain a foundation and understanding of Differential Response, reviewed the Oregon Safety Model, examined screening criteria and pathways from other states and discussed community based practiced mechanisms and DR design systems. <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/children/beyondfc/diff-response/index.shtml>

Moving Beyond Foster Care

This website continues to expand as articles are posted to highlight Oregon's and individual counties' efforts to safely and equitably reduce the number of children in foster care. <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/children/beyondfc/>

Links of Interest

[2007-2010 Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data](#)

The National Center for State Courts has proposed 14 [Educational Well-being Performance Measures](#) for courts.

[Juvenile Law Reader](#) (December 2011/January 2012)

[ABA Bar-Youth Empowerment Project](#)

[Oregon sees drop in the number of foster kids who get psychiatric drug prescriptions](#)

[Psychotropic Medication and Children in Foster Care: Tips for Advocates and Judges](#)

MDT Quarterly: "[Emerging Research About Sex Offenders: What Judges, Attorneys, Child Welfare Workers and Child Advocates should Know](#)"

"[Finding Families Finding Home](#)" Webcast

[National Working Group on Foster Care and Education](#)

[Father Friendly Check-Up for Court's](#)

"Let us put our minds together & see what life we can make for our children" ~ Chief Sitting Bull

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