



REGISTER HERE!
Conference Program Schedule

All times are in Central Daylight Time (CDT)

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Time	Session Title	
1:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Conference Registration and Membership Information	Nicollet Promenade
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Wellness Activity: Yoga for Mobility and Mindfulness Sasha Zerlin	StayFit Complex (6th Level)
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception and Exhibitor Networking Mixer	Nicollet and Greenway

		Promenades
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.	Wellness/Connection/Leadership Special Event: Reasonable Doubts Concert	Northstar Ballroom

Monday, March 16, 2026

Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room
6:30-7:15 a.m.	Wellness Activity: Morning Walk led by Katrina Volker, OurFamilyWizard		StayFit Complex (6th Level)
7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Conference Registration and Membership Information		Nicollet Promenade
7:15 – 7:50 a.m.	Coffee With the Council: Coffee for New Members and First Time Attendees		Lakeshore (1st floor)
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Conference Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits and NCJFCJ Resource Center		Nicollet and Greenway Promenades
7:30 - 8:00 a.m.	Conference Break and Continental Breakfast		Nicollet Promenade
Conference Welcome and Keynote Address			

8:00 - 9:30 a.m.		Improving Outcomes for HR ² - High Risk, Hard to Reach - Youth in Today's World		Judge Gayl Brannum Carr (Ret.); Keith Cruise, PhD; Vincent Schiraldi, MSW; and DeVone Boggan	Nicollet Ballroom
9:30 - 9:45 a.m.		Conference Break - Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits and NCJFCJ Resource Center		Nicollet and Greenway Promenades	
A Sessions					
Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room		
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	A1	Working with High Risk Youth and Challenging Cases: New Judicial Benchcards	Hunter Hurst, MS; Christina Gilbert, JD; and Vincent Schiraldi, MSW	Lakeshore (1st Floor)	
	A2	ICWA in Practice: Navigating Challenges, Answering Difficult Questions and Sharing Best Practices for Working with Tribes and Tribal Courts.	Judge Jamie Cork, Judge Bill Thorne (Ret.); and Jody Alholinna, JD	Regency (2nd Floor)	
	A3	Chronically Online: Understanding and Supporting Youth in Today's Digital Age	Carly Hiti	Mirage (2nd Floor)	
	A4	Authentic Youth Engagement and Youth Reports to the Court in Probation Review Hearings	Judge Richelle Mahaffey, Karen Denner, Mia Bishop; and Delaney Gorden	Greenway A-J (2nd Floor)	
	A5	The Leadership Role of the Child Welfare Judge: Engaging the Parties and Setting the Right Tone	Judge Jeffrey Kritzer	Greenway C-H (2nd Floor)	
	A6	Trauma Informed Policing	Becky Haas	Great Lakes B (4th Floor)	
	A7	Caught in the Middle: Courts and Collaborative Approaches for Dual-Status Youth	Esther Flowers, Esq.	Great Lakes C (4th Floor)	

10:45 -
11:00 a.m.

Conference Break - Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits and NCJFCJ Resource Center

B Sessions

Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	B1 Effective Services for High Risk Youth: Challenges, Research, and Promising Practices	Judge Tiffany Sizemore; Josh Weber; and Robert Tomassini	Lakeshore (1st Floor)
	B2 Science-based Interviewing: From the Confession Obsession to Information Dominance	Mark Fallon and Bay Scoggin	Regency (2nd Floor)
	B3 A Triumphant and Turbulent Tale of a Juvenile Court's Response to Human Trafficking	Judge Lashey Stroud; Magistrate Larry Sanchez; and Tressalyn Buttersharp	Mirage (2nd Floor)
	B4 Justice, Creativity, and Community Partnerships: Supporting Youth Through Advocacy and Arts	Stephanie Heying, MJIM; Brandon Steppe; and Derrick Taylor	Greenway A-J (2nd Floor)
	B5 Holistic Supports for Justice-Impacted Youth: A Community College Providing State-Wide Programming and Mentorship for Youth	Alexandra Fields, PhD; Spencer McCray; John Giraldo; and Brandon Lugo	Greenway C-H (2nd Floor)
	B6 Drug Endangered Children: Often the Forgotten Ones	Nikki Romer	Great Lakes B (4th Floor)
	B7 Ten Years In: What Florida's Early Childhood Courts Teach Us About Best Practices in Dependency	Judge Donna Vincent and Kimberly Renk, PhD	Great Lakes C (4th Floor)
12:00 - 1:15 p.m.	Conference Break - Time for Lunch on Own, Self-Care and Wellness Opportunities		

12:00 - 1:45 p.m.	Wellness Activity: Join Us for a Friendly Game of Basketball “H-O-R-S-E”		StayFit Complex (6th Level)
General Session			
1:30 - 2:45 p.m.	Trauma Matters for Effective Responses with High Risk and High Need Youth	Keith Cruise, PhD, MLS	Nicollet Ballroom
2:45 - 3:00 p.m.	Conference Break - Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits, and NCJFCJ Resource Center		Nicollet and Greenway Promenades
C Sessions			
Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room
	C1	Judge Gayl Branum Carr (Ret.); Jessica Pearce, MS; and DeVone Boggan	Lakeshore (1st Floor)
	C2	Judge S. Trent Favre; Judge Lisa Harris; Judge Laurie Clark; and Diane Nunn JD	Regency (2nd Floor)
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	C3	Judge Joseph Hagedorn; John Cookus, PhD; and Kyla Armstrong-Romero, PhD	Mirage (2nd Floor)
	C4	Judge John Parker and Judge Valeri Love	Greenway A-J (2nd Floor)
	C5	Mary Fitzgerald, MSW & Mary Hale	Greenway C-H (2nd Floor)

	Innovative Model for Effective Pursuit of Justice - Using the Lakota Model for Professional and Personal Satisfaction	Tanya Grassel-Krietlow	Great Lakes B (4th Floor)
	C7 Cyber Crime - a Game Changer in the Courtroom and Beyond?	Petra Guder, MA and Marlon Toro-Alvarez, PhD	Great Lakes C (4th Floor)
4:00 - 4:15 p.m.	Conference Break - Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits and NCJFCJ Resource Center		
D Sessions			
Time	Session Title	Faculty	Location
	D1 Working With High Risk Youth Implementation: Principles, Examples and Action Planning	Judge Gayl Brannum Carr (Ret.); Christina Gilbert, MS; and Hunter Hurst, MS	Lakeshore (1st Floor)
	D2 Ending the Criminalization of Child Sex Trafficking Victims	Annamarie Taggart, JD; Cheri Ely, MSW; and Fedora Preston-Haynes	Regency (2nd Floor)
	D3 Returning Missing Youth Safely: A Judicial Guide to Safe Returns Under the Interstate Compact for Juveniles	Judge Kathleen Quigley; Mary Lee Underwood, JD; and Raymundo Gallardo	Mirage (2nd Floor)
4:15 - 5:15 p.m.	D4 Criminalized Survivors: Tools to Support Survivors of Violence in the Courtroom	Kate Walker Brown, JD and Darya Larizadeh, JD	Greenway A-J (2nd Floor)
	D5 Are Online Spaces and Unmonitored Postings Encouraging Teen Domestic Violence?	Susan Searle and Anne Markley, MA	Greenway C-H (2nd Floor)
	D6 How a Rural Court Can Provide Wrap-Around Services for the Unfocused Needs of Families	Judge Debra Giles; Sharon Buckner-Patrick, MA; and Darnielle Duncan	Great Lakes B (4th Floor)
	D7 Drug Testing for Dummies	Judge Margaret Pickard; Mike Ison; and Edward Kovacs, III	Great Lakes C (4th Floor)

5:30 p.m.	Evening Wellness Activity: Wind Down, Led by OurFamilyWizard	StayFit Complex (6th Level)
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Tuesday, March 17, 2026

Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room
6:30-7:15 a.m.	Wellness Activity: Walk Led by OurFamilyWizard		StayFit Complex (6th Level)
7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Conference Registration and Membership Information		Nicollet Promenade
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Conference Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits and NCJFCJ Resource Center		Nicollet and Greenway Promenades
7:30 - 8:00 a.m.	Conference Break and Continental Breakfast		Nicollet Promenade
General Session			
8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Making the 'What Works' Actually Work: Lessons From 20 Years of Implementation	Gina Vincent, PhD	Nicollet Ballroom

9:15 -
9:30 a.m.

Conference Break - Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits, and NCJFCJ Resource Center

E Sessions

Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room	
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.	E1	What Works for High-Risk Youth: Real Solutions for Accountability and Change	David Muhammad, MSW; Vincent Schiraldi, PhD; Felipe Franco, MSW; and Derrell Frazier	Lakeshore (1st Floor)
	E2	Dual System Youth: Insights into Systems for Collaboration and Reform	Judge Beth Dixon; Marly Zeigler, MA; and Moriah Taylor	Regency (2nd Floor)
	E3	Emerging Issues at the Intersection of Immigration & Child Welfare	Rachel Konrad, Esq. and David Marquez, MA	Mirage (2nd Floor)
	E4	Healing Beyond Systems: Restorative Approaches to Ending Criminalization in Foster Care	April Curtis, MSW; Marquan Teetz; and Michael Davis Thomas	Greenway A-J (2nd Floor)
	E5	Jurisdictional Issues for Military-Connected Youth	Judge Kathleen Quigley; Colonel Mark Sullivan; and Cheri Ely, MSW	Greenway C-H (2nd Floor)
	E6	Familial Trafficking in America	Jeanne Allert, PhD	Great Lakes B (4th Floor)
	E7	Family Feud: Embracing ACEs and Implementing a Trauma-Informed Courthouse	Kari Okeson, MD	Great Lakes C (4th Floor)
10:30 - 10:45 a.m.	Conference Break - Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits, and NCJFCJ Resource Center			

F Sessions

Time	Session Title	Faculty	
10:45 - 11:45 a.m.	F1 Special Education Matters: Understanding How to Process IEPs in Delinquency Cases	Judge Tiffany Sizemore; Tammy Hughes, PhD; and Kara Dempsey, JD	Lakeshore (1st Floor)
	F2 Juvenile Transfer to Criminal Court Policy and Data Trends	Judge Sheila Calloway; Hunter Hurst, MS, and Karen Brindisi, JD	Regency (2nd Floor)
	F3 Tribal and State Collaboration for the Win! Joint Jurisdiction Courts	Judge Corey Wahwassuck; Mary Rodriguez, JD; and Johanna Farmer, JD	Mirage (2nd Floor)
	F4 Between Two Eras: Being Smart on Crime During a Tough Time	Judge Karen Braxton and Thomas Edmund Woods, MBA	Greenway A-J (2nd Floor)
	F5 The Juvenile Specialty Court Designed for Youth Who Struggle with Conflict and Aggression in the Home	Judge Teana Watson and Taylor Parr Davis	Greenway C-H (2nd Floor)
	F6 Ensuring We Get It Right: Eliminating Errors That Rule Out Child Abuse	Paul Griffin, JD and Luanne McKenna, JD	Great Lakes B (4th Floor)
	F7 Behavioral Economics Insights and the Justice-Involved Population	Kate Vesely	Great Lakes C (4th Floor)
11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Conference Break - Time for Lunch on Own, Self-Care and Wellness Opportunities		
12:00 - 12:45 p.m.	Wellness Activity: Refresh with Yoga and Mindfulness Sasha Zerlin		StayFit Complex (6th Level)

General Session

1:30 - 2:45 p.m.		Be The Difference: Belonging is the Support We Need		Gaelin Elmore	Nicollet Ballroom
2:45 - 3:00 p.m.		Conference Break - Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits, and NCJFCJ Resource Center			
G Sessions					
Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room		
	G1 Overcoming Childhood Trauma, Neglect & Sexual Abuse	Seth Gehle	Lakeshore (1st Floor)		
	G2 Innovations in Tribal Communities	Judge Devon Lomayesva; Johanna Farmer, JD; Mary Rodriguez, JD; and Dwight Lomayesva, JD	Regency (2nd Floor)		
	G3 Trauma & Truancy	Teri Hargrave, PhD	Mirage (2nd Floor)		
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	G4 Applying NCMCEC (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children) Resources for Court Committed Youth: Navigating Unique Challenges	Melissa McGee, MS	Greenway A-J (2nd Floor)		
	G5 Unique Barriers Some Youth Face in Teen Dating Violence	Judge James Riehl; Ruth Perrin; and Nesta Johnson	Greenway C-H (2nd Floor)		
	G6 The Fundamentals of Child and Adolescent Development	Allison List, PhD	Great Lakes B (4th Floor)		

	G7	When Child Welfare Met Youth Justice: The Love Story That Actually Worked	Judge Geoffrey Gaither and Damita Jefferson, MSW	Great Lakes C (4th Floor)
4:00 - 4:15 p.m.	Conference Break - Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits and NCJFCJ Resource Center			
H Sessions				
Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room	
	H1	The Dire Stats of Judicial Security	Ron Zayas, JD	Lakeshore (1st Floor)
	H2	Youth Violence and the Justice System's Response	Charles Puzanhera, MA; Marly Zeigler; and Sarah Hockenberry	Regency (2nd Floor)
	H3	Beyond Therapy: Youth-Centered Strategies for Foster Care Mental Health	Sepherina Lathium; Rowan Arquette; and Yalanis Vélez	Mirage (2nd Floor)
4:15 - 5:15 p.m.	H4	Co-Designing Preventative Interventions for Black and Brown mothers in New Jersey	Christopher Rudd	Greenway A-J (2nd Floor)
	H5	Decisions, Decisions, Decisions - How Our Brains Can Be Our Own Worst Enemy in Making Accurate, Evidence-Based Decisions	Judge Andy Hosmer	Greenway C-H (2nd Floor)
	H6	Emerging Issues in ERPOs: Judicial Responses to Minors and Firearm Access with Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO)	Judge Lisa McCormick; Lisa Geller, MPH; and Spencer Cantrell, JD	Great Lakes B (4th Floor)
	H7	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders in the Justice System	Barb Clark	Great Lakes C (4th Floor)
5:30 p.m.	Evening Wellness Activity: Wind Down, Led by OurFamilyWizard			
				StayFit Complex (6th Level)

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Time	Session Title	Faculty	Room
6:30-7:15 a.m.	Wellness Activity: Walk Led by OurFamilyWizard		StayFit Complex (6th Level)
7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Conference Registration and Membership Information		Niccollet Promenade
7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Conference Networking, Sponsors, Exhibits, and NCJFCJ Resource Center		Niccollet and Greenway Promenades
7:30 - 8:00 a.m.	Conference Break and Continental Breakfast		Niccollet Promenade
NCJFCJ Members Only General Session			
8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	When 'Community' Means Cruelty: Nihilistic Violence (NH) and the Critical Role of the Family and Juvenile Court Systems in Preventing This	Marc-Andre Argentino, PhD; Kathryn Rifenburg, MA; James Kitchen, JD; Laura Ellsworth, JD; and Seamus Hughes	Niccollet Ballroom

	Global Harm		
9:15 - 9:30 a.m.	Conference Break for NCJFCJ Resource Center, Sponsor and Exhibit Networking		Nicollet Promenade
General Session			
9:30 - 10:45 a.m.	Youth and the Juvenile Justice System: Some Important Data Trends You Should Know	Charles Puzzanchera, MA	Nicollet Ballroom
10:45 - 10:55 a.m.	Conference Break for NCJFCJ Resource Center, Sponsor and Exhibit Networking		Nicollet Promenade
Closing Session			
10:55 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	TOPIC: Judicial Wellness and Secondary Trauma	William Moyers	Nicollet Ballroom



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

www.ncjfcj.org

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1	MemberIndividualJudge-Dues	195.00 USD
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Thank You!

If you have any questions, please contact NCJFCJ Finance Office at Finance@ncjfcj.org or via phone at (775)507-4798.