



**National Association  
of Counsel for Children**



# J E R I T T

*The Judicial Education Reference, Information and Technical Transfer Project*

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## ABOUT THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT CREATED THE CURRICULUM

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### **ABA Center on Children and the Law**

Established in 1978, **the ABA Center on Children and the Law's** mission is to improve children's lives through advances in law, justice, knowledge, practice, and public policy. During its nearly three decades in existence, the Center has achieved many firsts, including producing the nation's first *Child Advocacy Bar Activation Guide*; creating the first national litigation manual for judges on the handling of child abuse and neglect cases, developing the nation's first major foster care system legal reform book, *Foster Children in the Courts* and crafting the first commercially published legal treatise on *The Legal Rights of Children*. More recently, the Center has continued its ever-expanding technical assistance and consulting work with state child welfare agencies and courts by completing training in more than twenty states over the course of 100 days.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.abanet.org/child/home.html>**

### **American Public Human Services Association**

Founded in 1930, **the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)** is a nonprofit, bipartisan organization of individuals and agencies concerned with human services. Members include all state and many territorial human service agencies, more than 150 local agencies, and several thousand individuals who work in or otherwise have an interest in human service programs. APHSA educates members of Congress, the media, and the broader public on what is happening in the states around welfare, child welfare, health care reform, and other issues involving families and the elderly.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.aphsa.org/home/news.asp>**

### **Arizona Supreme Court's Dependent Children's Services Division**

**The Division of Dependent Children's Services**, established within the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts, administers programs designed to ensure dependent children's best interests are served by providing a system of information, advocacy, and review. The Division is comprised of four separate programs: 1) the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program, which uses volunteers to advocate for the best interests of a child involved in dependency proceedings as a result of alleged abuse or neglect; 2) the Parent Assistance Program, which serves as an independent information resource to parents involved in dependency proceedings; 3) the Confidential Intermediary Program, which trains and certifies confidential intermediaries to make the search process between adoptees or adoptive parents and birth parents easier; and 4) the Foster Care Review Board, which uses local volunteer review boards to advise juvenile court judges by reviewing cases where children are placed out of home, and assessing their progress toward achieving permanent placement.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.supreme.state.az.us/dcsd>**

## **Center for Families, Children and the Courts**

**The Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC)** is a division of the Judicial Council's Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). The Center is dedicated to improving the quality of justice and services to meet the diverse needs of children, youth, families, and self-represented litigants in the California courts. CFCC is involved with many projects related to family, juvenile, child support, custody, visitation, and domestic violence law and procedure. Ongoing projects include developing rules, forms, and standards; providing training, education, and grants; and coordinating research and statistical analysis. CFCC also initiates projects involving issues of juvenile dependency, victim reconciliation, and court access. Additionally, the Center disseminates information through newsletters, Web sites, brochures, and information centers.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/>**

## **Fostering Results**

Launched in June 2003, **Fostering Results** is a national, nonpartisan public education and outreach project designed to raise awareness of issues facing children in foster care. The awareness campaign works both at the national level and in selected states to highlight the need to address the federal financing mechanisms that favor foster care over other services and options for children and families and to improve court oversight of child welfare cases. Fostering Results will engage national and local leaders, including judges, child welfare directors and caseworkers, and advocates for youth and for foster, birth and adoptive families, in its work in calling attention to financing and court issues. It is supported by a grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts to Children and Family Research Center at the School of Social Work, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.fosteringresults.org/>**

## **JERITT Project**

Founded in 1989, the **Judicial Education Reference, Information and Technical Transfer (JERITT) Project** functions as the preeminent clearinghouse for state and national judicial branch education. With ongoing support from the State Justice Institute (SJI), the National Association of State Judicial Educators (NASJE), and the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University, JERITT collects and disseminates information, research, and products relevant to educators, policymakers, judges, judicial personnel, and other practitioners with a vested interest in advancing the field of judicial branch education. JERITT's activities are concentrated in the following fields: database management – including access to the most complete databases on judicial branch education in the world; publications whose contents range from contact information to the analysis of factors in the development and practice of education and training; electronic communications services designed to develop and implement judicial branch education programs and projects; and technical assistance.

**Visit JERITT's website at: <http://jeritt.msu.edu>.**

## **Justice Management Institute**

**The Justice Management Institute (JMI)** provides services to courts and other justice system agencies throughout the United States and abroad. JMI's mission is to improve the overall administration of justice by helping courts and other justice system institutions and agencies achieve excellence—individually and in their inter-relationships with each other and the public—in leadership, operations, management, and services. JMI conducts activities in four main areas: 1) technical assistance - assisting courts and other justice system agencies in identifying operational problems and developing practical ways to address them; 2) education and training - conducting conferences, workshops, and seminars for judges, court administrators, and others who participate in the governance and operations of courts; 3) research – conducting action-oriented research on the operation of courts and justice systems; and 4) information – producing and disseminating reports and other information on a wide variety of court-oriented topics.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.jmijustice.org/>**

## **National Association of Council for Children**

**The National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC)** is a non-profit child advocacy and professional membership association dedicated to representation and protection of children in the legal system. Founded in 1977, the NACC is located in the Kempe Children's Center on the campus of The Children's Hospital in Denver, Colorado. The NACC provides training and technical assistance to child advocates and works to improve the child welfare, juvenile justice and private custody systems. The NACC is a multidisciplinary organization with approximately 2,000 members representing all 50 states and several foreign countries. NACC membership is comprised primarily of attorneys and judges, although the fields of medicine, social work, mental health, education, and law enforcement are also represented. NACC programs include publications such as the quarterly newsletter *The Guardian*; *The Children's Legal Rights Journal* and annual children's law manuals. The NACC sponsors an annual national children's law conference each fall as well as a trial skills training each spring. We participate as *amicus curiae* in cases of national significance to children and maintain a policy agenda, a national child advocate awards program, and a speakers bureau. NACC state and local affiliates also exist to promote the mission of the NACC on a local level.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.naccchildlaw.org/>**

## **National Center for State Courts**

The mission of **the National Center for State Courts (NCSC)** is to improve the administration of justice through leadership and service to state courts, and courts around the world. Through original research, consulting services, publications, and national educational programs, NCSC offers solutions that enhance court operations with the latest technology; collects and interprets the latest data on court operations nationwide; and provides information on proven "best practices" for improving court operations. NCSC disseminates information to state court leaders on key national policy issues, and helps advocate their policies with Congress as well as supporting several prestigious national organizations. For more than 30 years, court leaders have called on the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) for up-to-date information and hands-on assistance that helps them better serve the public. Through original research, consulting services,

publications, and national educational programs, NCSC offers solutions that enhance court operations with the latest technology; collects and interprets the latest data on court operations nationwide; and provides information on proven "best practices" for improving court operations in many areas, such as civil case management.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.ncsconline.org>**

### **National Council for Juvenile and Family Court Judges**

Since its founding in 1937 by a group of judges dedicated to improving the effectiveness of the nation's juvenile courts, **the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)** has pursued a mission to improve courts and systems practice and raise awareness of the core issues that touch the lives of many of our nation's children and families. Headquartered on the University of Nevada campus in Reno since 1969, NCJFCJ provides cutting-edge training, wide-ranging technical assistance, and research to help the nation's courts, judges and staff in their important work. Every day, NCJFCJ's membership of more than 1,700 judges, referees, commissioners, masters and other juvenile and family law professionals confront a variety of juvenile and family related issues, including: child abuse and neglect, adoption and foster care, juvenile delinquency, termination of parental rights, and minority issues. During the past year, NCJFCJ conducted or assisted in conducting more than 200 educational programs for more than 25,000 judges, court administrators, social and mental health workers, police, probation officers, and others working in the juvenile and family courts.

**Visit the website at: <http://www.ncjfcj.org/>**