



Community Justice 2022: International Summit

Center for Court Innovation

National Community Courts Training and Technical Assistance Initiative

AGENDA at a GLANCE

(Eastern Time Zone: GMT-5)

Day 1: November 3, 2022

9:30 – 9:45 am

Welcoming Remarks

Courtney Bryan, Executive Director, Center for Court Innovation (New York, NY)
*Betsi Griffith, Associate Deputy Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S.
Department of Justice (Washington, D.C.)*

9:45 – 10:15 am

Keynote Address: Undoing Stigma, Increasing Justice

*Dr. Lucien Gonzalez, MD, MS, FAAP, Associate Professor, University of North
Carolina School of Medicine (Chapel Hill, NC)*

*Stigma can negatively impact the emotional, mental, and physical wellbeing of
stigmatized groups. It is critical to understand, address, and reduce stigma in
order to successfully engage with participants, especially those struggling with
substance use disorders. This session will explore how this wide-ranging topic
impacts the work of justice and treatment professionals, and challenge
participants to examine their systems, teams, and individual roles to ultimately
achieve culture change over time.*

10:15 – 10:30 am

Break

10:30 – 11:30 am

Community Justice Today: Innovations and Evolution

Eligible for 1 CE and 1 CLE hour (professional practice)

Moderator: Courtney Bryan, Executive Director, Center for Court Innovation

Judge Alex Calabrese, Red Hook Community Justice Center (Brooklyn, NY)

District Attorney Alvin Bragg, New York County District Attorney's Office (New York, NY)

Thaddeus Johnson, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice & Criminology, Georgia State University's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (Memphis, TN)

Lynn Richardson, Chief Public Defender, Dallas County (Dallas, TX)

Phil Bowen, Director, Centre for Justice Innovation (London, UK)

Community justice can and must meet new challenges and embody the values that animate justice reform today. These values include shrinking the footprint of the justice system through community-based programming, empowering residents to co-create justice, and advancing racial equity and people-centered practices. This session will engage justice system leaders in a dynamic conversation on what community justice means in 2022 and where we can go from here.

11:30 – 11:45 am

Break

11:45 am – 12:45 pm

Simultaneous Breakout Sessions

Breakout 1: Planning a Community Court

Eligible for 1 CE and 1 CLE hour (professional practice)

Moderator: Lindsey Price Jackson, Senior Program Manager, Community Justice, Training and Technical Assistance, Center for Court Innovation

Presiding Judge Jenifer Howson, District and Municipal Courts, Skagit County Community Court (Skagit, WA)

Debra McFadden-Bryant, Business Process Improvement Specialist, Albany Works! Community Court (Albany, GA)

David Kling, Lead Community Court Prosecutor, Spokane Community Court (Spokane, WA)

Dianne Gibson, Chief of Community Courts, City Attorney's Office, South Dallas Community Court (Dallas, TX)

Community courts are based on the idea of community justice, which calls for building trust with local stakeholders by involving them in planning and operations; developing new measures of success—for instance, tracking increases in public confidence in government rather than the number of weekly arrests-per-officer or cases-per-judge—and adopting a problem-solving approach that focused on addressing underlying community concerns rather than issuing fines and jail sentences. In this session professionals currently working in community courts from around the country share how they undertook implementing and building buy-in for their programs.

Breakout 2: Engaging Participants: People-Centered Practices and Building Inclusive and Culturally Responsive Programming

Eligible for 1 CE and 1 CLE hour (diversity, inclusion & elimination of bias)

Moderator: Kenton Kirby, Director of Practice, Center for Court Innovation

Judge Linda Cooke, City of Boulder Municipal Community Court (Boulder, CO)

Mankinta Holloway, Court Administrator, Birmingham Municipal Court (Birmingham, AL)

Ionna Jimenez, Project Director, Brownsville Community Justice Center (Brooklyn, NY)

For community justice programs to be truly just, they must be reflective of community needs and built and facilitated specifically for the people who engage with them. People-centered and culturally-responsive programming values diversity and ensures that activities, procedures, systems, and staffing are aligned to support the highest level of engagement and best outcomes for those who will participate.

Breakout 3: Building the Research: A Blueprint for Evaluation

Eligible for 1 CE and 1 CLE hour (professional practice)

Moderator: Natalie Reyes, Director, International Justice Initiatives, Training and Technical Assistance, Center for Court Innovation

Featured Speaker: Nancy La Vigne, Ph.D., Director, National Institute of Justice (Washington, DC)

Deloris Vaughn, Ph.D., Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (JEDI) Evaluation Consultant (New Haven, CT)

Diane Whaley, Public Defense Coordinator/Community Court Executive (Olympia, WA)

Matthew Willis, Manager of Evidence and Impact, Neighbourhood Justice Centre, Magistrate's Court of Victoria, Australia (Victoria, Australia)

The session will begin with an overview of Director La Vigne's priorities for the National Institute of Justice and more broadly explore the importance of research and evaluation that focuses on improving public safety and ensuring the fairness and effectiveness of the justice system. This overview will allow the speakers to then delve into the community court model's adaptability. Its inherent localized, flexible approach has allowed community courts to flourish in multiple settings beyond courthouses—including neighborhood-based courts, local libraries, community centers, and even mobile—as well as serving a variety of issues and populations. This adaptability also makes community courts more difficult to evaluate than other, more standardized models. This session explores how to build the research base for community justice initiatives to ensure that this approach remains a sustainable, impactful solution to local problems.

12:45 – 1:45 pm

Intermission

Award ceremony will begin at 1pm

Honoring Judge Alex Calabrese

Community Justice Trailblazer Award Presentation

1:45 – 2:45 pm

Treatment Responses through a Community Justice Lens

Eligible for 1 CE and 1 CLE hour (professional practice)

Moderator: Chris Heinrich, Senior Program Manager, Community Justice, Training and Technical Assistance, Center for Court Innovation

Scott Carlson, Specialty Court Coordinator, The Las Vegas Township Community Impact Center (Las Vegas, NV)

Michael McGee, M.D., Distinguished Life Fellow, American Psychiatric Association (Washington, DC)

Judge John Zhuo Wang, Midtown Community Court (New York, NY)

As participants in community justice programs struggle with drug use, it can be challenging to stay up-to-date on the latest research on and best practices for treatment. This session will start with an overview of the latest best practices related to drug and alcohol addiction and their treatment, including medication assisted treatment. Then, through a conversation between a psychiatrist, a judge, and a specialty court coordinator, participants will gain better insight into addressing substance use challenges in the justice system specifically.

2:45 – 3:00 pm

Break

3:00 – 4:15 pm

Healing Clients and Community: A Discussion on Restorative Justice and its Use in Court Settings

Eligible for 1.25 CE and 1 CLE hour (professional practice)

Moderator: Adelle Fontanet, Director, Tribal Justice Exchange, Training and Technical Assistance, Center for Court Innovation

Cheryl Demmert Fairbanks, Esq., Justice/Peacemaker (Cedar Crest, NM)

Judge Patricia Spratt, North Lawndale Restorative Justice Community Court (Chicago, IL)

Restorative justice is a method of dispute resolution that focuses on repairing harm and restoring relationships. Restorative justice approaches include practices like community circles and healing circles, peacemaking, family group conferencing, and many others. Community justice initiatives have been a leader in adopting restorative justice practices—that focus on healing and community restoration rather than punishment. This session will do a deep dive into the foundational principles of restorative justice, including its origins, as well as how restorative justice approaches can be used inclusively, effectively, and collaboratively in community justice initiatives.

4:15 – 4:45 pm

Incorporating Community Voice, Lived Experience & Leadership in your Court

Moderator: Brittany Davis, Associate Director, Gender and Family Justice, Center for Court Innovation

Peter Valdez, Downtown Austin Community Court (Austin, TX)

Robert Kingham, Downtown Austin Community Court (Austin, TX)

Keris Myrick, Chief of Peer and Allied Mental Health Professions for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (Los Angeles, CA)

Since their inception, community justice initiatives have valued cross-sector, multidisciplinary efforts to plan and implement projects and programming. As these initiatives continue to evolve, it is crucial to incorporate the perspectives of program participants and other community members who have been historically impacted by local justice systems. This session will consider the importance of giving those with lived system experience a seat at the table and will cover how to execute that in a responsible, effective manner.

4:45 pm

Closing Remarks

Karhlton Moore, Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance

Day 2: November 4, 2022

- 9:30 - 9:40** **Welcoming Remarks**
- Medina Henry, Director, Community Justice Initiatives, Training and Technical Assistance, Center for Court Innovation*
- 9:40 – 10:30 am** **Fireside Chat with Judge Victoria Pratt: Procedural Justice and Dignity in the Courts**
- Eligible for 1 CE and 1 CLE hour (professional practice)
- Moderator: Medina Henry, Deputy Director, Training and Technical Assistance, Center for Court Innovation*
- Judge Victoria Pratt, Executive Director, Odyssey Impact (New York, NY)*
- Judge Pratt is a nationally and internationally recognized expert in procedural justice and alternative sentencing. This guided conversation will explore the Judge's latest book, The Power of Dignity. This discussion will expand on how we can transform courtrooms, neighborhoods, and our nation to support the vulnerable and heal community rifts.*
- 10:30 – 11:00 am** **Break**
- 11:00 – 11:30 am** **Share Your Story: Effective Communication Strategies for Community Courts**
- Brea Baker, Chief Equity Officer, Inspire Justice (Atlanta, GA)*
- This session will focus on artfully and effectively communicating your work and success to stakeholders and community members. We will review some of the free tools available to create digital content that can elevate the success of your local initiatives, while keeping in mind the frameworks of both a storyteller's narrative arch and a marketer's targeted outreach.*
- 11:30 – 12:30 pm** **Stories from the Field: Perspectives on Strategic Communication**
- Peter Liu, Human-Centered Design and User Experience Specialist, Communications, Center for Court Innovation*
- Judge Christopher Hazlett-Stevens, Department 4, Reno Municipal Court (Reno, NV)*
- Magistrate Jorge Abraham Ramírez Alvidrez, Superior Court of Justice of Chihuahua (Chihuahua, Mexico)*

Lic. María Isabel Sánchez Quirarte, Member and former Coordinator of the Citizens' Council on Security and Justice in Ciudad Juárez (Chihuahua, Mexico)

Learn about strategies community justice practitioners have used to craft narratives and disseminate information about their projects to promote community and stakeholder support for their initiative, including navigating funder relationships and different political landscapes.

12:30 pm

Concluding Remarks

Robyn Mazur, Director of Training and Technical Assistance, Center for Court Innovation

Sessions approved for CE credits as indicated above.

Sessions approved for transitional and non-transitional CLE credits as indicated above.

This project was supported by Grant # 2020-MU-BX-K005 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

