

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

PODCAST

WEBINAR

ARTICLE

Visit the RJC's [Online Resource Center](#), a national clearinghouse of promising and innovative rural justice practices that reflect the RJC's seven areas of focus.

RURAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

INNOVATION SITES

**Application Deadline
for Round 1:
July 15, 2021**

The Rural Justice Collaborative (RJC) is soliciting nominations for rural justice programs or initiatives that were developed in rural communities or adapted for rural communities that fall into the RJC's seven areas of focus.

[How to Apply](#)

To be considered, a program or initiative must:

- Primarily serve justice-involved individuals or families engaged in the court system or be designed to increase access to legal representation.
- Reflect innovation that is specific to a rural community.
- Have been operational for a least one year.
- Have a written description of the initiative, practice, or program.
- Have interest in serving as a mentor for other rural communities.

Innovation sites will be recognized for their work in rural communities and provided opportunities to share their successes in a variety of ways.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FAMILY CENTERED JUSTICE

**Application
Deadline:
June 25, 2021**

National Center for State Courts

[How to Apply](#)

RURAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

Rural communities face unique challenges that impact their ability to deliver fair and equitable justice. Despite these challenges, rural communities rely on their many strengths to address the needs of their residents.

The National Center for State Courts, in partnership with Rulo Strategies, 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.

The work under the RJC is supported by a crosssector advisory council composed of rural judges along with additional stakeholders in the justice, child welfare, and behavioral health systems. The advisory council will guide the initiative and identify innovative programs and practices.

National Center for State Court's (NCSC) Family Centered Justice is a court-wide approach committed to focusing on the family unit through meaningful, strength-based and trauma-responsive engagement, intentional case coordination, and multidisciplinary support. Similar to family centered practice in child welfare, Family Centered Justice promotes the value of family voice and family well-being.

This program aims to transform the delivery of justice to children and families in courts throughout the U.S. by infusing effective family drug court principles into the broader family and dependency court system.

The Family Centered Justice program aims to transform the delivery of justice to children and families in courts throughout the United States by infusing effective family drug court principles into the broader family and dependency court system. This program has the potential to impact the lives of many children and families across the United States by supporting out-of-the-box solutions to address the shortcomings of traditional court processes. Through multi-disciplinary, collaborative work, participating jurisdictions will implement strategies believed to lead to improved outcomes for families impacted by parental substance use and child welfare involvement.

Grant Amounts:

Up to six sites will be selected for funding. Each site will receive \$50,000 in funding for a twelve-month period that will begin in August 2021.

[**Access the full Family Centered Solicitation and Application**](#)



**FY 2021 RURAL VIOLENT
CRIME REDUCTION
INITIATIVE FOR LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

Bureau of Justice (BJA)

**Application
Deadline:
July 20, 2021**

[How to Apply](#)

The Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative will provide funding to law enforcement agencies and prosecutors' offices committed to engaging in strategies to address the underlying crimes and criminogenic conditions contributing to clearly identified violent crime problems occurring in rural jurisdictions.

This initiative is intended to assist in the development, implementation, and assessment of long-term, sustainable strategic solutions that are evidence based and tailored to local violent crime problems experienced in rural areas. Examples of allowable costs include, but are not limited to:

- Strategies and services to mitigate the risk for violent behavior in individuals dealing with mental health and/or substance use disorders, including crisis intervention programs and services.
- Strategies, personnel, services, and tools to improve intragovernmental collaboration. These efforts could include data sharing efforts or coordinating councils involving service providers, prosecutors' offices, community stakeholder groups, child protective services, treatment courts, corrections agencies, and other community stakeholders.

All applicants that receive funding under this initiative are expected to collaborate with a training and technical assistance provider. TTA providers will provide guidance and assistance.

Deadlines:

Grants.gov Deadline: July 6, 2021, 11:59 p.m. ET

Just Grants Deadline: July 20, 2021, 11:59 p.m. ET

Grant Amounts:

Up to \$150,000 for three years



PODCAST

Talk Justice: Challenges to Delivering Legal Services to Rural and Tribal Areas

In this episode of Talk Justice, host Jason Tashea discusses the daunting challenges to delivering civil legal services in rural and tribal communities with Nikole Nelson, Executive Director of Alaska Legal Services Corp., Rudy Sanchez, Executive Director of DNA-People's Legal Service, and Rebecca Rapp, General Counsel of Ascendum Education Group who is

helping form LSC's upcoming Rural Task Force.

For more episodes of Talk Justice: <https://www.lsc.gov/media-center/talk-justice-lsc-podcast/talk-justice-episode-six>



WEBINAR

Innovations in Rural Prosecution

Offered as part of the STAR Justice series (small, tribal, and rural), this panel features prosecutors from STAR areas discussing their problem-solving initiatives and procedural justice innovations.

Panelists:

- Dustin H. Boyd- District Attorney, Coryell County, Texas
- Andrea Harrington- District Attorney, Berkshire County, Massachusetts
- Pamela Metzger- Director, Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center, SMU Dedman School of Law
- Jarvis J. Parsons- District Attorney, Brazos County, Texas

To watch the webinar, click here: <https://www.smu.edu/Law/Centers/Deason-Center/Events/Past-Events/STAR-Justice-Innovations-in-Rural-Prosecution>



ARTICLE

[America's Rural-Jail-Death Problem \(March 29, 2021\)](#)

Across the country, an average of roughly three people died each day in local jails of all sizes in 2016, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, or BJS—a rate that is almost certainly an underestimate. A disproportionate number of those deaths happen in America's smallest jails.