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INNOVATION SITES

**Application Deadline
for Round 2:
October 29, 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.



VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Dates:
October 4-5, 2021

INSTITUTE FOR COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE

[Register Here](#)

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.

The Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) Model, created by the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center in 2005, is an innovative strategy to prevent domestic violence homicides. The Model incorporates evidence-based risk assessment into a community's domestic violence response system to identify and intervene in the most dangerous cases. These cases are monitored by a multidisciplinary team that shares case information and implements coordinated intervention plans to mitigate the danger, increasing both survivor safety and offender accountability. Studies have shown that survivors in rural areas report higher levels of intimate partner violence and higher severity of physical abuse when compared with their urban counterparts. Rural survivors face distinct barriers to accessing help and services, amongst other factors, which increases their risk of intimate partner violence. This training will provide an overview of the DVHRT Model, explore the applicability of the Model in rural settings and offer approaches to adapting the Model to best fit rural communities.

[For More Information](#)

RESOURCES

RESOURCE GUIDE FOR RURAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (JUNE 2021)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The USDA is prioritizing collaborations with its federal partners to help start and grow thousands of businesses and give individuals the educational and financial tools to succeed in rural America. This guide was created for community leaders and other local entities to help them access resources to create jobs, train talent, expand educational opportunities and provide technical assistance.



The guide outlines programs and services available at USDA and other federal departments and agencies that support workforce development in rural communities.

Included is a rural workforce resource guide matrix and a comprehensive list of other federal and federally supported programs, including the **Reentry Employment Opportunities (REO) program**.

The **Reentry Employment Opportunities (REO) program** provides funding authorized as Research and Evaluation under Section 169, of the Workforce Opportunity Investment Act (WIOA) of 2014 for justice-involved youth, young adults, and formerly incarcerated adults. The goal is to develop strategies and partnerships that facilitate the implementation of successful programs at the state and local levels that will improve the workforce outcomes for this population.

For more information use the following links:

[USDA Resource Guide](#)

[The Reentry Employment Opportunities program](#)

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.



ARTICLE

Casey Family Programs **[How Can Child Welfare Systems Support Families in Rural Communities?](#) (December 2020)**

Due to significant differences between geographical areas, some traditional or evidence-based child welfare strategies developed for urban settings may be less effective in rural communities. Recognizing the unique strengths of rural communities and making creative use of both traditional

and nontraditional funding is essential to provide services that not only protect children, but strengthen their families and support economic development and well-being for the community as a whole.



ISSUE BRIEF

[Rural Child Welfare Practice](#) (2018)

This issue brief highlights the importance of understanding the concerns and needs of children and families in rural communities, their strengths and resources, and the cultural sensitivity required of child welfare professionals as they work to achieve safety, permanency, and well-being for rural children.

TRAINING

University of Arkansas System Criminal Justice Institute **[Sexual Assault Training for Rural Law Enforcement Personnel](#) (2021)**

The Criminal Justice Institute's National Center for Rural Law Enforcement (NCRLE) is once again responding to the needs of rural law enforcement officers, both management and investigator, by offering the Sexual Assault Training for Rural Law Enforcement Personnel Online.

Restoring Safety, Self-Determination, and Tribal Sovereignty **[Register for the webinar](#) on Wednesday, July 21, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM CT**

Tribal sovereignty and safety for Native women are inextricably linked and restoring tribal sovereignty has become the focus of many Native women advocates. Today, Native women are the only population within the United States whose local government does not have the inherent right to prosecute the individuals who rape or murder them in their own homes.

Overcoming Rural Transport Challenges: Recovery Mobile Clinic Webinar **[Register for the webinar](#) on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 2:00PM ET**

Join Jordana Latozas ACNP, President of Recovery Mobile Clinic, as she describes the mobile medical model and discuss how they are growing and developing in the field.