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RESEARCH & REPORTS



Sarah Mason/Getty Images

ADULTS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS ARE OVERREPRESENTED IN THE PROBATION POPULATION

A recent survey of probation agencies found that although agencies were aware that 20% to 25% of people under their supervision had mental health issues, most agencies did not have specialized mental health approaches or training. Availability varied for urban and rural agencies, with around one in four (26%) rural agencies having specialized mental health probation compared with over half (56%) of urban agencies having a specialized response.

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT REMOTE APPEARANCE PROJECT REPORT HIGHLIGHTS GREAT SAVINGS FOR RURAL COURT USERS

This report by the Illinois Supreme Court presents findings from a two-year pilot program on remote court appearances in the southernmost counties of Illinois. Most case management and status proceedings were handled remotely during the pilot program, while motions were evenly split between remote and in-person proceedings. Trials were almost always in person. Over the course of the pilot program, findings showed remote proceedings in the First Judicial Circuit saved the agency 633.5 hours of travel time (18,432 miles of driving), resulting in cost savings.

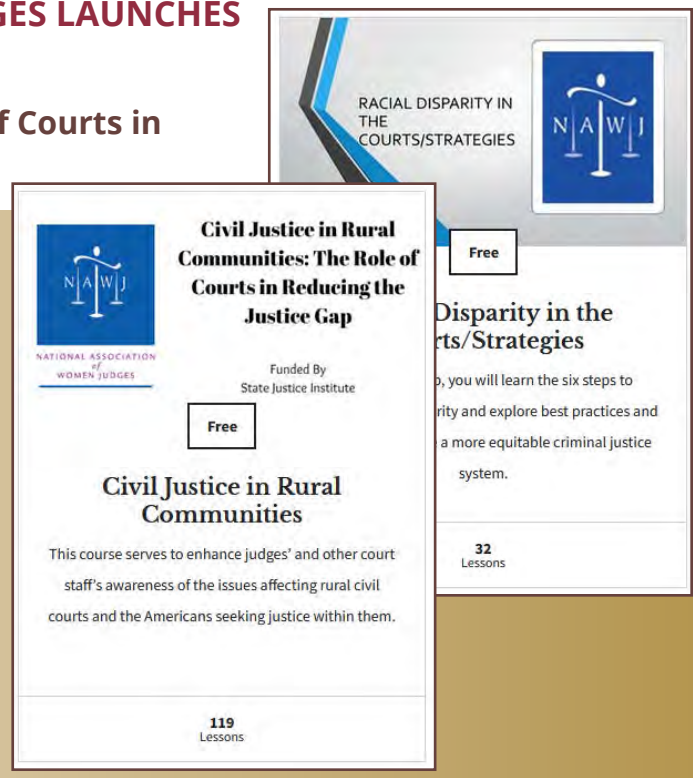


TRAINING

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES LAUNCHES COURSE ON RURAL COURTS

Civil Justice in Rural Communities: The Role of Courts in Reducing the Justice Gap

With funding from the State Justice Institute, National Association of Women Judges developed a course to enhance judges and other court staff's awareness of the issues affecting rural civil courts and the Americans seeking justice within them. This online, self-paced course has 14 chapters and is [available here](#). Each chapter takes approximately 5-10 minutes on average. Enrollment is enabled through self-service and requires signing up with a login.



RESOURCE

NATIONAL GUIDE TO IMPROVING COURT APPEARANCES

This report by ideas42 Safety and Justice, with support from the Pew Charitable Trust, aims to help courts achieve greater equity and efficiency in pretrial systems by adopting practices that help court users participate in necessary hearings, focusing on reducing wealth-based and other barriers to appearance. It seeks to capture learnings from court systems that have tried different ways to support appearance and highlight promising new ideas. Courts and system stakeholders can use this report to discover, adapt, and implement tested and promising practices in their jurisdictions.



PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

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 cross-sector advisory council composed of rural judges along with additional stakeholders in the justice, child welfare, and behavioral health systems. The advisory council guides and identifies innovative programs and practices.

FROM 'NO RESOURCES' TO A 'MODEL PROGRAM': NM'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TAILORED TO RURAL NEEDS

New Mexico's Reach Intervene Support Engage program (RISE) serves 10 rural counties across the state, allowing each to custom-design its services. In addition to therapeutic services inside jail facilities, participating counties provide intensive case management and community reentry services.

ENGAGING THE GREAT CIRCLE: A QUALITATIVE STUDY OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE'S MOBILE MEDICATION UNIT

The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon began a Mobile Medication Unit (MMU) as part of their Great Circle Recovery

Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) to address elevated rates of opioid use disorder (OUD) among American Indians and Alaska Natives in Oregon. The MMU provides methadone or buprenorphine for individuals with OUD, enrolled in the OTP who are living either on the reservation or in surrounding rural communities. This implementation study describes the service through document review and qualitatively assesses patient and staff experiences and the perceived barriers and facilitators to mobile services.

