

Office for Justice Initiatives

ANNUAL REPORT

May 2026

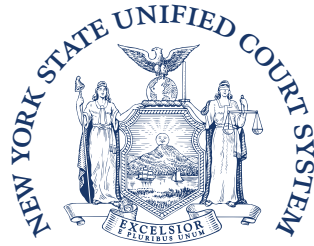


The Honorable Edwina G. Richardson

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives



<i>Kevi Adames</i>	<i>William Gratton</i>	<i>Kiran Mukhtar</i>
<i>Gillian Alman</i>	<i>Aimee Neri Gueye</i>	<i>Tara Muniz</i>
<i>Rachelle Auguste</i>	<i>KynNysha Hampton</i>	<i>Olga Perez</i>
<i>Keri Boedigheimer</i>	<i>Aruna Hekinian</i>	<i>Alexandra Quinteros</i>
<i>Trista Borra</i>	<i>Steven Helfont</i>	<i>Dennis Reilly</i>
<i>Randy Bowens</i>	<i>Emily Henderson</i>	<i>Diana Sakur</i>
<i>Thomas Carr</i>	<i>Christopher Henning</i>	<i>Heidi Saunders</i>
<i>Dre Cetra</i>	<i>Nicole Hylton</i>	<i>Kimberly Schwarz</i>
<i>Sidney Cherubin</i>	<i>Taydra Jones</i>	<i>Tabatha Sellick</i>
<i>Samantha Cleveland</i>	<i>Donald Karby</i>	<i>Sue Shafer</i>
<i>Aiyana Coard</i>	<i>Kenneth Kirton</i>	<i>Lisa Smith</i>
<i>Diana Colón</i>	<i>Cecille Latty</i>	<i>Michelle Smith</i>
<i>Mizrain Cortés</i>	<i>Isabel Leamon</i>	<i>Alicia Tabliago</i>
<i>Denisse Davalos</i>	<i>Judith Leconte</i>	<i>Amanda Trance</i>
<i>Sky Davis</i>	<i>Tracy Lyons</i>	<i>Azeeza Tropea</i>
<i>Kiana Douglas</i>	<i>Najah Mabins</i>	<i>Kimberly VanCamp</i>
<i>Jennifer Dunn</i>	<i>Yanixa Malca</i>	<i>Sandy Walker</i>
<i>Isabel Durante</i>	<i>Robert Marquez</i>	<i>Tony Walters</i>
<i>Angie D'Urso</i>	<i>Rosemary Martinez-Borges</i>	<i>Joseph Williams</i>
<i>Leslie Ebright</i>	<i>Susan McCafferty</i>	<i>Mei Wong</i>
<i>Christine Edwards</i>	<i>Laurie Milder</i>	<i>Tanusha Yarlagadda</i>
<i>Shain Filcher</i>	<i>Ameela Mohammed</i>	<i>Lisa Zayas</i>
<i>Cornelia Fulmore</i>	<i>Matthew Moore</i>	<i>Beck Zucker</i>



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Hon. Edwina G. Richardson, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

Michelle Smith, Esq., Chief of Staff

Rosemary Martinez- Borges, Esq., Deputy Chief of Staff

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Hon. Edwina G. Richardson, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives, administering the Attorney's Oath to CUNY Law School Graduates.

The Honorable Edwina G. Richardson

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives



Welcome to the Office for Justice Initiatives' annual report! Since May 2021, we have issued our annual report on Law Day in recognition of the natural synergy between our work and Law Day's celebration of the rule of law. This year's Law Day theme, The Rule of Law and the American Dream, captures the core of our mission and underscores the values honored on Law Day, such as the essential role of the rule of law and the benefits that can flow from it.

The rule of law is a simple concept: no one is above or below the law.

The World Justice Project defines the rule of law as “a durable system of laws, institutions, norms, and community commitment that delivers four universal principles: accountability, just law, open government, and accessible and impartial justice.” While these principles underly the Declaration of Independence, which approaches its 250th anniversary, they predate the United States: Aristotle deemed it “more proper that law should govern than any one of the citizens.” Yet the rule of law remains an enduring promise of our democracy, entrusted to each generation to strengthen and protect.

The Office for Justice Initiatives dreams of a judiciary where everyone has meaningful access to justice (to the rule of law) regardless of their background, income, or ability. This dream matters more than ever, and we in the Office for Justice Initiatives remain dedicated to it. We persistently chase this dream, striving for a rule of law that is accessible to everyone. We work so that, in New York State courts, the rule of law is not a distant aspiration but instead a reality in which every person can meaningfully participate, have trust in the process, and feel respected even if the outcome is not what they hoped for.

Like our mission statement, the rule of law and the dreams it safeguards are aspirational and require persistent stewardship. There is no finish line. We keep striving, knowing the work is ever expanding, always worthwhile, and ours to do.

It is a deep honor for me to lead the New York State Unified Court System's Office for Justice Initiatives. Our report highlights our programs that foster a judiciary grounded in dignity, fairness, and respect. I hope you enjoy our report, which reflects how we work to make the rule of law a reality for everyone who enters a New York State court—and in doing so, help them return to pursuing their dreams.



Executive Leadership



Michelle Smith
Chief of Staff



Rosemary Martinez-Borges
Deputy Chief of Staff



Beck Zucker
Special Counsel

Every year, we are inspired by the passion and dedication our team brings to the Office for Justice Initiatives. Their efforts strengthen our work to ensure that the rule of law is accessible to everyone regardless of background, circumstance, or ability. The people and the courts we serve remain centered in all we do, and, with this purpose in mind, we are pleased to share our annual report highlighting the progress and partnerships that shaped our past year.

We focused on cross divisional initiatives that supported judges, court staff, and communities across New York State. Our work was grounded in cooperation and communication across the Office for Justice Initiatives' Divisions and Offices, across the Unified Court System, and with our external partners. This work aligns with Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson's vision of courts as problem solvers capable of more than we can imagine, and it reflects our shared mission to deliver justice that is reliable, fair, and centered on the people we serve.

This year also brought significant achievements and continued growth. We expanded our staff to meet the rising need for access to the court system and for resources that support court users. We successfully worked with intergovernmental entities to increase funding for Judiciary Civil Legal Services, allowing us to support more essentials of life civil legal services. We also convened judges and court staff from problem solving, youth and emerging adult, and family courts for informative programs focused on best practices and increased understanding of these court users' unique needs. The Office of Guardianship Matters and Elder Justice enhanced services for the Guardianship Assistance Office by increasing staffing and onboarding new leadership to bolster services for non-professional (lay) guardians who act on behalf of incapacitated family members or friends who have limited resources. Additionally, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion hosted its first in person Diversity Summit, reaffirming the court system's commitment to promoting diversity, inclusion, and belonging.

As we reflect on our accomplishments over the past year, we also look ahead with a renewed focus on innovation, partnership, and equity in all we do so that the justice system and rule of law are available to everyone. We extend our sincere thanks to court leadership, our partners, and the communities we serve for their continued trust and support.



The Rule of Law and the American Dream

Held annually on May 1, Law Day celebrates the rule of law in America. This day provides an opportunity to learn about how the law and the legal process can promote justice and protect our liberties. Each year, the American Bar Association (ABA) selects a theme that highlights a particular part of our legal system. This year's theme, "The Rule of Law and the American Dream," emphasizes the ideal that no one is above the law. For more information about Law Day and this year's theme, visit the American Bar Association's Law Day page.

The Unified Court System's Mission Statement

The principles and aspirations in the Unified Court System's mission statement guide the Office for Justice Initiatives' work in making the rule of law accessible to and for everyone interacting with the courts.

The mission of the Unified Court System (UCS) is to deliver equal justice under the law and to achieve the just, fair and timely resolution of all matters that come before our courts.

In the service of our mission, the UCS is committed to operating with integrity and transparency, and to ensuring that all who enter or serve in our courts are treated with respect, dignity and professionalism. We affirm our responsibility to promote a court system free from any and all forms of bias and discrimination and to promote a judiciary and workforce that reflect the rich diversity of New York State.

Justice Coordinators' Year in Review



Justice Coordinator

Deployed in each Judicial District and throughout the state, Justice Coordinators provide on-the-ground, custom support for local equal and access to justice projects. Justice Coordinators facilitate community engagement and stakeholder participation to shrink access to justice gaps in their localities. Recently, the program expanded to the Court of Claims and the Appellate Divisions. In May 2025, the 4th Judicial District hosted the Justice Coordinators and OJI staff for a convening to share ideas and engage in professional development.

OJI is proud to support the Justice Coordinators in their critical work.

Drawing the Dream



Melissa Leahy, Justice Coordinator for the Appellate Division, Third Department, worked with Allie B's Cozy Kitchen, a local

restaurant in Albany, to host "Drawing the Dream," a Law-Day themed art event for local high school students. The Third Department provided art kits for the students to use and encouraged the students to continue developing their pieces to submit to the UCS' annual Law Day Art Contest.

Sojourner Truth Remembered



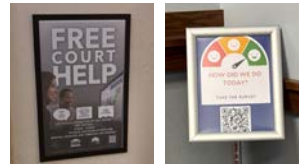
Pershia Wilkins, Justice Coordinator for the 3rd Judicial District, played a central role in organizing a Sojourner Truth traveling exhibit and launch event. First envisioned by Surrogate Sara McGinty, the event commemorated Sojourner Truth's life and legacy. The event included a panel discussion and unveiling of panels telling her incredible life story, including her unprecedented 1828 successful suit for the return of her son who had been illegally sold to a Southern slaveowner to circumvent New York's prohibition on slavery. Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Edwina G. Richardson moderated the panel.

Court of Claims' Equal Justice Work



The Court of Claims' Justice Coordinator Tracy Williford played pivotal role in the Court of Claims' inaugural Black History Month and Women's History Month events. Each event honored the Court of Claims' past, present, and future.

Signage Program in the 6th Judicial District



The 6th Judicial District launched a Signage Pilot Program to make courthouse navigation clearer, more accessible, and more welcoming for all visitors. Led in part by Christina Olevano, Justice Coordinator for the 6th Judicial District, this initiative reviewed existing signs, tested plain language and user friendly improvements, and focused on the needs of people with limited English proficiency, low literacy, disabilities, or heightened stress. The pilot demonstrated how thoughtful, accessible signage can reduce confusion, improve wayfinding, and strengthen public confidence in the courts.

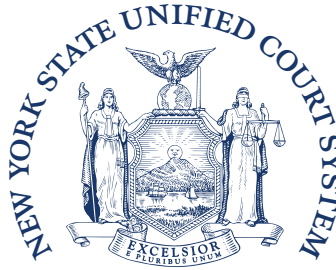
Future Focus Job Resource Fair

Robert West, New York City Criminal Court Justice Coordinator, and Darren Edwards, New York City Family Court Justice Coordinator, helped plan this resource fair in the Bronx on April 29, 2026. The fair featured re-entry friendly employers.

Justice Coordinators and Assigned Jurisdictions

		Latoya K. Phillip 1st, 12th Judicial District Supreme, Civil, and Criminal Terms, Surrogate's Courts, County Clerk Offices			Joseph Benedetto 10th Judicial District, Suffolk
		Marcel Hinds 2nd, 11th, and 13th Judicial District, Supreme, Civil, and Criminal Terms, Surrogate's Court, County Clerk Offices			Shannah B. Wright Appellate Division, 1st Department
		Pershia Wilkins 3rd Judicial District			Vacant Appellate Division, 2nd Department
		Crystal Valentin 4th Judicial District			Melissa Lahey Appellate Division, 3rd Department
		Hillary A. Warner 5th Judicial District			Sierra L. Clarke Appellate Division, 4th Department
		Christina M. Olevano 6th Judicial District			Tracy Williford NYS Court of Claims
		Elissa Fleming 7th Judicial District			Chynna Cummings NYC Civil Court, Citywide
		Danielle Maurice 8th Judicial District			Robert West NYC Criminal Court, Citywide
		Esther Louis-Juste 9th Judicial District			Darren Edwards-Hoy NYC Family Court, Citywide
		Angela F. Maynor 10th Judicial District, Nassau			





The Office for Justice Initiatives’ Year in Review



The Office for Justice Initiatives (OJI) is dedicated to ensuring equal access to justice for everyone entering a New York State court regardless of background, income, or ability. To pursue that mission, OJI develops, implements, and supports policies, programs, and innovative ways to address the evolving needs of all who interact with the New York State Unified Court System.

OJI traces its origins back to 1999 when then-Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye created the position of Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives. When Judge Richardson was appointed to this position in 2017, OJI was focused on the court system’s Access to Justice program. Since then, OJI has grown to encompass seven divisions and offices:

Access to Justice Division

Child Welfare & Family Justice Division

Judiciary Civil Legal Services Division

Office of Diversity & Inclusion

Office of Guardianship Matters & Elder Justice

Problem Solving Justice Division

Youth & Emerging Adult Justice Division

Access to Justice Division

A Message from Director, Lisa M. Zayas, Esq.



*In John Steinbeck’s *The Grapes of Wrath*, the narrator reflects on the impact of legal authority becoming detached from human responsibility and a world where the law exists on paper but no longer protects the people it was meant to serve. Ensuring that all people have equal access to information and resources to engage meaningfully in legal actions and proceedings that directly impact their lives is “access to justice,” which was absent in Steinbeck’s novel. We prioritize real-life experiences and needs when developing and delivering our programs and services, thereby ensuring our work is grounded in a human-centered approach. We believe that the American Dream encompasses more than material success; it includes dignity and perseverance, and recognizes our shared humanity.*

Programs from Around the State

Poverty Simulations

Poverty simulations are immersive experiences designed to enhance empathy and awareness for challenges that people experiencing financial insecurity struggle with every day. Participants are invited to consider the impact that existing legal, economic and social systems have on individuals. This past year, Division Director Lisa Zayas led poverty simulations around the state:

- 3rd Judicial District Judicial Conference (Monticello)
- Town and Village Justices (Albany)
- Judicial Institute’s Judicial Summer Seminars (Tarrytown)
- Judges and non-judicial court staff (Binghamton)



Attorney Emeritus Program

The Attorney Emeritus Program (AEP) matches attorneys who are 55 and older with pro bono civil legal service opportunities with registered host organizations. The Feerick Center for Social Justice at Fordham Law School co-administers the program, and the Attorney Emeritus Program Advisory Council works closely with the AEP team to support all aspects of the program. Information and professional development sessions are offered to host organizations and volunteers throughout the year, including:

- Part I Model Practices When Working with Interpreters and Disability Etiquette (July 2025)
- Language Access is Justice and Justice Through Language – International Interpreter’s Day (September 2025)



Last year marked 15 years since the launch of the Attorney Emeritus Program. The Access to Justice Division’s AEP Coordinator, Yanixa Malca, helped plan a celebration at Albany Law School on November 18, 2025, to recognize Attorney Emeritus volunteers’ and host organizations’ contributions to the program’s success. Seven AEP host organizations in the Capital District and Hudson Valley regions were awarded plaques in appreciation for their partnership, and twenty-one Emeritus volunteers were awarded certificates in recognition of their dedication and service to the program.

Help Centers

Help Centers are designed to provide unrepresented court users with information about the law, court procedure, and resources available to assist them with engaging meaningfully in the court process. Staffed by UCS employees, Help Centers offer access to volunteer attorney programs and/or have civil legal service providers onsite. In 2025, Help Centers received over 151,000 inquiries.

| 151,000+ Help Center Inquiries

The Access to Justice Division helped Westchester County Surrogate's court open the first districtwide Surrogate's Court Help Center in July 2025.

Volunteer Attorney Program

NYC Family Court Volunteer Attorney Program provides free online and phone consultations to unrepresented litigants on custody, visitation, support, paternity, guardianship and/or family offense matters. Last year, this program assisted over 1,900 litigants in 2025.

| 1,900+ NYC Family Court Litigants Assisted

Consumer Debt Volunteer Lawyer for the Day Program provides pro bono limited-scope legal representation to unrepresented defendants in consumer debt cases throughout New York City. Last year, this program assisted 4,411 litigants.

| 4,411 Consumer Debt Cases Supported

Uncontested Divorce Clinic, Kings County Supreme Court, in collaboration with the City Bar Justice Center, volunteer attorneys provide unrepresented litigants in uncontested divorce proceedings with legal advice and document preparation. This past year, the program assisted 217 litigants.

| 217 Uncontested Divorce Litigants Assisted

CourtHelp

CourtHelp is a publicly accessible website designed to provide court users who don't have attorneys with information about the law and court procedure. It also serves as an access point for court services such as Ask A Law Librarian. Last year, CourtHelp received 10,128,375 external visitors.

| 10.1 Million+ CourtHelp Website Visits

Court Navigator Program

The Court Navigator Program recruits and trains community members to provide unrepresented litigants with general information, written materials, and individualized assistance, such as wayfinding services, while at court. In 2025, the program expanded to New York City Family Court, New York County. The program operates in:

- New York City Civil Court, Kings County
- New York City Family Court, New York County
- Westchester Supreme and County Courts

Guardian Ad Litem Housing Program

Guardian Ad Litem Housing Program recruits, trains, and oversees a pool of qualified guardians ad litem (GALs). Judges presiding over housing court matters in New York City and Westchester County appoint GALs from this pool to serve as limited-authority fiduciaries who provide direct support and non-legal advocacy for impaired litigants. In fall 2025, the Access to Justice Division delivered two distinct training courses designed to support current GALs and individuals interested in becoming a GAL.

Pro Bono Celebration Week

Pro Bono Celebration Week is celebrated annually during the last week of October spotlighting the impact pro bono service. The Access to Justice Division takes part this national event, which is sponsored by the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Pro Bono, by hosting a Pro Bono Awards Night and free continuing legal education (CLE) programs covering uncontested divorce, family law, and consumer debt law.

The **2025 Pro Bono Awards Night** was co-hosted by the Access to Justice Division, the New York State Bar Association, and the New York County Lawyers Association. Held at New York City Civil Court, the co-hosts awarded plaques to 22 volunteers in recognition of their outstanding pro bono service. An additional 296 volunteers received certificates recognizing their distinguished contributions. Special recognition was given posthumously to Steven Adler, a longtime New York City Guardian Ad Litem, whose children accepted an award on his behalf.



Neurodiversity and the Courts

In 2025, the Office for Justice Initiatives formed a Statewide Neurodiversity and the Courts Working Group, bringing together judges and court staff throughout the state who self-identify as neurodiverse and/or have lived experiences supporting individuals who are neurodiverse. The working group's projects focused on creating sensory experiences in the courthouse, developing educational programming for judges and court staff, and training on responding to and interacting with neurodiverse people in the courtroom.

Best Practices for Trans Inclusive Language

Director Lisa Zayas and Special Counsel Beck Zucker worked with the Richard C. Failla LGBTQ Commission to develop the Best Practices for Trans-Inclusive Language bench card.

Law Day Art Contest

Beginning in 2021, the Access to Justice Division has coordinated an annual statewide Law Day art contest. Since 2023, the Historical Society of the New York Courts has co-sponsored the contest. The art contest invites high school students to explore the Law Day theme through art, encouraging them to engage with America's legal system and deepen their understanding of civic principles in a creative and personally meaningful way.

All participants receive a certificate and a pocket-sized United States Constitution. Statewide winners earn a cash prize courtesy of the Historical Society and have their artwork featured on the Unified Court System's website.

Congratulations to this year's winners!



Justice for All - Nana Wada

Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Art and Performing Arts (First Judicial District / New York County)

Artist's Description: The 'Rule of Law' means that when all people are equal, where no one is higher or lower than the other, and are free to live with freedom. So my art is to represent a justice scale, which is a symbolic representation of fairness, and how each side is at the same level, showing equality between all of the people. The Statue of Liberty shows the freedom the people have and the rights they own in the United States of America.



Liberty for All - Spencer Sweet

Averill Park High School (Rensselaer County)

Artist's Description: This work involves the theme of the rule of law and the American dream. A group of diverse children stand at the foreground, amazed by an American flag that serves as an inspiration to them. They represent a future that is equal under the law. Behind them, the US capitol and Lady Justice serve as the background and foundational pieces to the American experience. The Constitution also serves as a reminder that the law stems from the consent and wishes of the people that guide our country to be the equal and free place that it should be.



Reaching for the Stars - Jordan Merz

Fiorello H. Laguardia High School of Music and Art and Performing Arts (Kings County)

Artist's Description: Reaching for the Stars: Together, I wanted to depict all American people getting the chance to reach for the stars and achieve their American dream. In our Nation, I believe that everyone should get equal chances, equal opportunities and equal treatment. With my artwork, I wanted to show a variety of Americans all getting the same chance to reach for the stars to get their American dream.

Child Welfare & Family Justice Division

Message from Director, Dr. Najah Mabins, DHS



The rule of law is the bedrock upon which the American dream is built. It promises every child and family we serve that they will be treated with dignity, fairness, and accountability, regardless of circumstances. As we work across courts, child welfare agencies, and communities, we reaffirm our mission to translate legal principles into meaningful, safe, and hopeful outcomes for children and families.

We integrate research, practice guidelines, and performance metrics to continuously improve court outcomes. With our shared goal of family stability in mind, we support innovation that aligns statutory intent with real world impact for children and caregivers, leading to stability and the American dream being realized in safe, loving homes. Our work rests on four interwoven commitments: equality before the law, access to justice, evidence-informed practices, and hope through family permanence and stability. As we advance our work, let us be guided by the clarity of our shared purpose. Below are highlights from the past year showing how we put our values into actions.

Indian Child Welfare Act

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is a federal law that aims to keep Native American children connected to their families, tribe, and culture through adoptive or foster placements by establishing federal standards for state child custody proceedings that reduce disproportionate impacts on Native children. ICWA seeks to protect tribal nations' rights in caring for and deciding best interests of Native children while promoting stability and security of tribes and families.

In 2026, the Division hired the New York State court system's first Statewide ICWA Coordinator. Additionally, the Division held several programs centered on ICWA, including:

- 7th Annual ICWA Conference (Spring 2025)
- Every Child Matters Wal (September 30, 2025)
- New York City ICWA Training (November 2025)
- 8th Annual ICWA Conference (April 23, 2026)



Wellness Initiatives

52 Ways for 52 Weeks of Wellness Expansion

(Fall 2025) Launched in 2020, this weekly newsletter promotes judicial and staff wellness by issuing weekly email blasts on topics such as the importance of sleep and rest, the physical and mental benefits of movement, cultivating self-esteem, stress management, and the benefits of laughter. The Division broadened its impact by creating the 52 Ways for 52 Weeks of Wellness Team and expanding readership to about 700 recipients throughout the New York State court system and beyond.

| 700 Newsletter Recipients

Trauma Informed Care and Workforce Wellness

(2025-2026) This project provides training and technical assistance to multidisciplinary stakeholders, judges, court managers, and court staff on skills and strategies to promote staff wellness and to promote practices that promote public trust in the courts. The Division provided trainings and presentations to the Saratoga Family Treatment Court, various problem solving courts, and to various court cohorts including Supreme & County, City & District and Law Libraries Association and Family Court Chief Clerks Association.

Judge Richardson's Wellness Endeavors

Wellness is a cornerstone of the Office for Justice Initiatives' work, ensuring our efforts remain sustainable and impactful. Judge Richardson champions wellness across OJI and the court system. Her leadership in this area led to her selection for the National Judicial College's inaugural Judicial Coaching cohort, a significant step in expanding wellness-focused professional development throughout the judiciary. If you are interested in sessions or learning more about coaching, please reach out!

Judge Richardson also advances this work in her down time. She participated in the Happiness Sangha's Self-Compassion, Happiness, and Well-Being for Judges program, an international judicial wellness retreat hosted in Ischia, Italy. After completing the program last year, she was invited back as a faculty member. Judge Richardson's wellness efforts advance Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson's vision of making our courts better than we can imagine by developing tools and techniques to equip our judges and staff to maintain resilience and fortitude.

Trainings and Programs

Lived Experience Advisory Group

The Lived Experience Advisory Group held statewide virtual programs for National Foster Care Month, National Reunification Month, and Kinship Care Awareness with a total of nearly 800 participants.

| 800 Participants Statewide

3rd Annual Reasonable Efforts Judicial Academy



(March 12-13, 2026) This interactive, in-person training provided examined the critical role of family court statutory Reasonable Efforts and Active Efforts findings in shaping outcomes for court-involved children and families in child welfare proceedings. The Academy equipped judicial officers with tools to ensure child welfare agencies uphold their statutory duties to preserve family integrity and promote timely permanency.

Youth in Court Initiative

(2025-2026) This initiative brings youth into courtrooms to learn about permanency hearings through a simulated hearing and engaging with professionals from various disciplines in the child welfare profession. The Division supported three impactful Family Court events over the past year, including sessions held on April 15, 2025, and March 31, 2026, in Monroe County, as well as an event on August 22, 2025, in Steuben County.

Child Permanency Mediation Trainings

Child Permanency Mediation is a voluntary, confidential, and court-referred process that aims to resolve conflicts more expediently than traditional litigation. Throughout the year, the Division held three educational programs on child permanency mediation with 91 participants total.

| 91 Program Participants

Second Annual Better for Families Conference



(September 29-30, 2025) BFF is a collaborative approach that integrates family treatment court principles into the broader child welfare system. 126 participants from fourteen counties and the Seneca Nation convened in Cattaraugus County for a Better for Families (BFF) conference with the theme of “Looking Back, Moving Forward.”

| 126 Participants from 14 Counties and Seneca Nation

Education Toward Continuous Quality Improvement

Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) trainings use data and team-based problem-solving to improve processes, safety, and outcomes. They help create a culture of ongoing, incremental improvement. This past year, the Division held 17 trainings utilizing CQI principles and focused on topics such as wraparound services, National Adoption Day, vicarious trauma, restorative supervision, utilizing local services, roles and responsibilities, and medical approaches to child abuse.



Judiciary Civil Legal Services Division

Message from Director, Gillian T. Alman, Esq.



Established in 2011, the Judiciary Civil Legal Services (JCLS) grant reflects the core principle that access to civil legal representation is essential to protecting New Yorkers' rights, stability, and dignity. The JCLS Division provides programmatic oversight of this grant, which focuses on access in the "essentials of life" areas: housing, family matters, healthcare and education, subsistence income, and immigration.

The JCLS Division supports the OJI's broader mission by monitoring developments in civil legal needs, enhancing partnerships with external stakeholders and legal services providers, analyzing data on legal and access-to-justice services, and developing policy recommendations. Through this work, the Division helps make the rule of law meaningful and more accessible to everyone seeking redress in the courts, which enhances their ability to pursue their dreams.

JCLS Grant

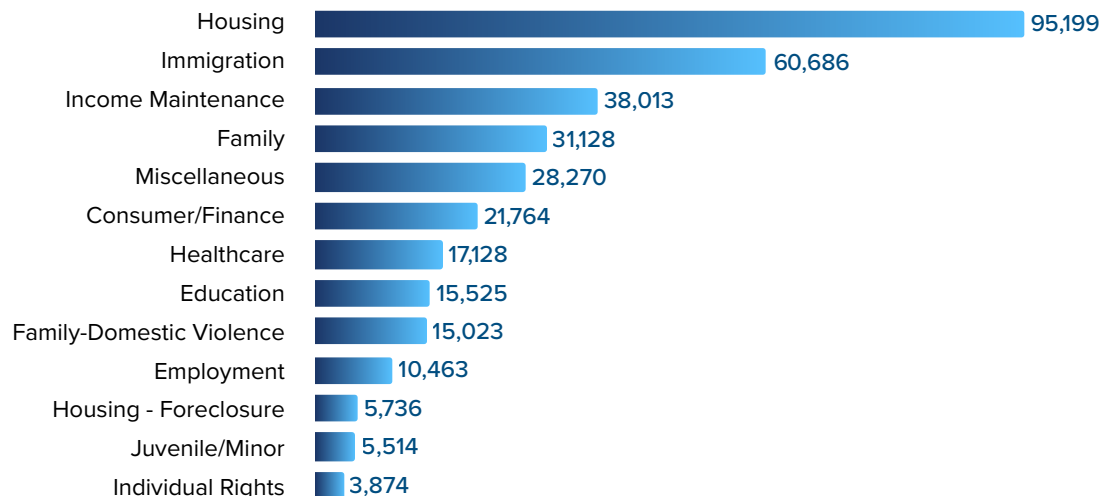
This past year, the Judiciary Civil Legal Services (JCLS) Division continued programmatic oversight of the JCLS grant, a \$150 million allocation from the legislature that facilitates low-income New Yorkers' access to civil legal services. Additionally, JCLS providers received an across-the-board 25% funding increase to further facilitate access to civil legal services.

| \$150 Million Grant to Support Civil Legal Services

| 701,744 New Yorkers Served Through Civil Legal Services

| 348,323 Cases Closed by JCLS Providers

During the most recent reporting period (fiscal year 2024-2025), over 701,744 people benefited from legal services supported by the JCLS grant. Grantees closed 348,323 cases in the following categories:

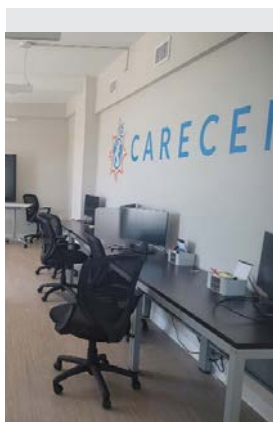
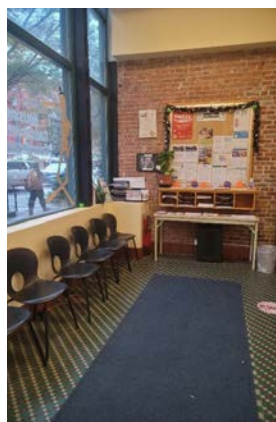


Site Visits

Director Gillian Alman conducted 20 in-person site visits to connect with providers. These visits showed firsthand how providers deliver essential support to people seeking legal assistance, bringing the program to life. The Division revamped its site visit process to focus on programmatic operations and help with:

- Monitoring and evaluating progress in complete contract deliverables
- Identifying and anticipating resource needs and/or anticipated changes in the scope of work
- Observing programmatic activities
- Seeing and collecting information on innovative strategies that could improve practice in the field, and
- Enhancing partnerships between the court system and the organization

JCLS Grant Impact



Advocates for Children of New York

Advocates for Children of New York protects vulnerable student populations, including immigrant and LGBTQ youth, facing losses in federal civil rights enforcement (shouldn't this be after the word "populations" including immigrant students and LGBTQ+ students) and hold New York State Public Schools accountable for meeting their commitments.

Housing Conservation Coordinators

Housing Conservation Coordinators provides free legal services to eligible low- and moderate-income tenants in the Hell's Kitchen/Clinton and Upper West Side neighborhoods in Manhattan.

Central American Refugee Center (CARECEN)

Central American Refugee Center empowers immigrants through legal services, community education, and advocacy. CARECEN is one of the largest immigration legal services providers on Long Island.

Access Justice Brooklyn

Access Justice Brooklyn provides civil legal services for Brooklyn residents in areas such as: Advance Life Planning, Consumer Debt & Bankruptcy, Family Stabilization, Homeowner Assistance, and Senior Assistance.

Office of Diversity & Inclusion

Message from Director, Tony Walters



The rule of law has never been static; it is an ever-evolving framework to help eradicate bias, discrimination, and inequality. In that spirit, the American Dream is our North Star to inclusion, fairness, equal access, and a sense of belonging for everyone. Our accomplishments over the past year reflect the Office of Diversity and Inclusion's commitment to advancing this work across the court system.

I am pleased to share highlights from our past year. We held the first event in our Community Remembrance Project by bringing a measure of justice to a man lynched in the Adirondack region through a Sankofa ceremony. Closer to home, our cultural consciousness presentations, spearheaded by Deputy Director Nicole Hylton, have been enthusiastically received by judges and UCS employees across the state. Statewide Coordinator for Equal Justice Randy Bowens continued to support the Justice Coordinators, who have coordinated exciting court and community programming which have enhanced access to our courthouses and provided platforms for court-community collaborations. And in April, we convened our fifth annual Diversity Summit in Albany, where diversity, equity, and inclusion experts guided conversations on fostering inclusive, fair, and respectful court environments.

The American Dream may not be a fixed destination, but with the support of our judicial leadership, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion remains steadfast in working to make the Unified Court System fair and inclusive for all.

Diversity Summit

On April 24, 2026, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion hosted its annual Diversity Summit, a hybrid convening held at the Albany Capital Center and livestreamed statewide. This year's theme, Rooted in Justice: Cultivating Principles to Practice, underscored our continued commitment to advancing dignity, fairness, and belonging across the Unified Court System.

The program featured a keynote address by Dr. Brian Marks, along with remarks from Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson and Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives Edwina G. Richardson. Participants also heard from a panel of diversity, equity, and inclusion professionals from New York State agencies that explored belonging, cultural consciousness, and trauma-informed practices and engaged in breakout sessions, which offered practical tools and strategies to strengthen our courts. The summit culminated in an award ceremony that recognized individuals and teams whose work champions the principles of justice, inclusion, and service.



Introduction to Cultural Consciousness Trainings



As the flagship educational offering of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Introduction to Cultural Consciousness (ICC) functions as an entry point for building a more culturally conscious and responsive Unified Court System. It is a foundational training that equips judges and court staff with tools to recognize how culture, identity, and cognitive shortcuts shape perception, decision-making, and courtroom interactions.

Grounded in the realities of judicial practice, ICC is designed to strengthen fairness, enhance the quality of judicial engagement, and advance equal access to justice for all who come before the courts. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion delivers these training throughout the state, most recently in the 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th Judicial Districts.

Educational Trainings

In addition to ICC trainings, ODI has participated in educational engagements, including presentations at:

- Radical Listening Workshop in the 6th Judicial District (May 2025)
- Mental Health Awareness Month hosted by the NYC Civil Court Equal Justice Implementation Committee (May 2025)
- Caribbean Heritage Month panel in Kings County (June 2025)
- Implementing Best Practices in New York State Treatment Courts trainings (Monthly)
- Court Officer Academy (August 2025)
- Nonjudicial Association Conference (October 2025)
- Court of Claims Judges Conference (October 2025)
- Youth Justice Summit (October 2025)
- Best Practices in Mental Health Courts training at the Practising Law Institute (June 2025)
- Reasonable Efforts Judicial Academy (March 2026)

Diversity Dialogues

[Diversity Dialogues](#) is a podcast series celebrating the different perspectives and backgrounds throughout the Unified Court System, and is produced in partnership with the Office of Court Administration's Communications Division. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion sincerely thanks John Caher, Senior Advisor for Strategic and Technical Communications, for dedicating his time and journalism skills to hosting this podcast. This past year, ODI released six new episodes featuring the Honorable Sarika Kapoor, the Honorable Joan B. Lefkowitz, Martin Huynh, Esther Louis-Juste, Marnee Ryan Lehtonen, and Mindy Jeng.

6 New episodes released in 2025

Workforce Diversity Endeavors

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion worked with the Division of Human Resource's new Recruitment Unit and the Justice Coordinators to enhance recruitment efforts so that our workforce reflects the rich diversity of New York State.

Affinity Groups

Recognized UCS employee affinity groups provide forums for employees to discuss matters affecting their professional development. These groups help with attracting, recruiting, and retaining diverse employees, as well as promote diversity, cultural awareness, and an inclusive work environment. The UCS has ten recognized affinity groups. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion supports these groups through convenings and coordinating annual reports.

Coordinating Equal Justice



Housing within the Office of Diversity and Inclusion is the court system’s Statewide Equal Justice Coordinator, a role filled by Randy Bowens. Randy plays a central role in advancing equal justice across the state, serving as the thread connecting the many local equal justice committees at various levels of the court system. He, along with Access to Justice Division Director Lisa Zayas, provides essential support to the Justice Coordinators and the impactful work they conduct in their localities. One manifestation of his work is the Equal Justice Calendar of Events, a statewide resource he maintains that showcases the breadth of equal justice efforts in the courts. Through his work and unique ability to bring more people into OJI’s equal justice work, Randy helps all voices feel welcomed, included, and valued in our work.

Community Remembrance Project

“Justice demands that we remember, and remembrance demands that we act.”

Hon. Teneka Frost

Fourth Judicial District City Court Judge and participant in the August 16, 2025, Sankofa ceremony and soil collection

In 1932, an unknown Black man was denied justice, dignity, and remembrance after a group of white men chased him through the woods for three days before prematurely extinguishing his life. On August 16, 2025, members from the Office for Justice Initiatives, across the Unified Court System, the Legacy Museum, and the Adirondack Experience gathered in the Adirondacks to commemorate him with a Sankofa ceremony. Rooted in Akan culture, the concept of Sankofa has been adopted by many African and Black communities globally as a symbol of cultural affirmation. Sankofa emphasizes the importance of learning from history and experiences to inform present actions and build a better future. Photo 4 Nicky Soil Collection with caption Deputy Director Nicole Hylton pouring water during the Sankofa ceremony. Photo Credit: Joe Dolan, the Adirondack Experience.



During the Sankofa ceremony, attendees gathered soil into jars that will be displayed alongside hundreds of others at the Legacy Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, as part of its national lynching memorial. Photo 5 Group 1 with caption Attendees observing the soil collection ceremony. Photo credit to Joe Dolan, the Adirondack Experience

In the next phase of this historic project, ODI will work with external partners to install a plaque commemorating this part of New York’s history. This project symbolizes our collective responsibility to make justice accessible to every person, regardless of race or circumstance.

Office of Guardianship Matters & Elder Justice

Message from Director, Diana Colón, Esq.



Capacity in adulthood allows people to live independently with self-determination, yet it can be diminished at any point due to aging, illness, injury, or mental health challenges. In New York, Article 81 of the Mental Hygiene Law provides a framework grounded in due process principles to determine incapacity and, when necessary, appointing the least restrictive form of guardianship to support an individual's wellbeing. The Office of Guardianship Matters and Elder Justice (OGMEJ) works to strengthen this system and make effective and equitable guardianships, which facilitate the rule of law, accessible to vulnerable populations. To further its 2025 strategic priorities, OGMEJ advanced explorations, collaborations, and programming to improve New York's guardianship system, thereby promoting safety and support for incapacitated persons so they can live with as much dignity and respect as possible.

Exploring Options for a Public Guardian

OGMEJ also supports policies to improve guardianship systems across the state. The Office worked with the Unified Court System's Guardianship Advisory Committee and the Office of Court Administration's Counsel's Office to add measures supporting a public guardian office to the court system's legislative agenda.

International Engagement

OGMEJ partnered with the National Center for State Courts to welcome Judge Yumi Fukaya, a judge on Japan's Sendai High Court, as part of the National Center's visiting scholar program. This visit included observing guardianship proceedings followed by discussions, fostering mutual learning and strengthening international engagement. Photo 2 YF visit with caption Judiciary Civil Legal Services Director Gillian Alman (fourth from left) and OGMEJ Director Diana Colón with the group that hosted Judge Yumi Fukaya (front row, third from right)



Guardianship Assistance Office

Housed within OGMEJ, the Guardianship Assistance Office is a statewide, specialized Help Center that provides non-professional (lay) guardians appointed under the Mental Hygiene Law with support to help them meet their legal responsibilities and to meet an incapacitated person's personal and/or property management needs. Last year, the Guardianship Assistance Office provided case management assistance to over 1,600 lay guardians.

| 1,600+ Lay Guardians Supported Statewide

With an increased staff of lawyers and court analysts knowledgeable in elder law and human and social services, the Guardianship Assistance Office has enhanced capacity to provide one-on-one practical support for lay guardians statewide, including legal information, training, and in-person or virtual appointments.

Inclusive Guardianship Panel at Lavender Law

OGMEJ Director Diana Colón participated on a panel at the National LGBTQ+ Bar Association's annual Lavender Law Conference discussing the unique considerations and challenges courts and practitioners face when placing individuals from the LGBTQ+ community into guardianship. Special Counsel Beck Zucker moderated the panel.

Addressing Elder Abuse

The Office partnered with Adult Protective Services, the New York State Office for the Aging, the Weinberg Center for Elder Justice, and internal working groups to explore pilots to enhance identification and mitigation of elder abuse. Some of these approaches include:

Elder Justice Navigators

OGMEJ is working with the Weinberg Center on a pilot program that will train Mental Hygiene Law Article 81 fiduciaries on elder abuse identification and intervention.

Referrals to Elder Abuse Interventions and Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team (E-MDT)

OGMEJ is exploring a formal referral mechanism to E-MDT, which is funded by the New York State Office of Victim Services and the New York State Office for the Aging. These referrals are reviewed by a multidisciplinary team to assess whether elder abuse is present.

Increased Wellness Checks

OGMEJ is working with the Kings County Supreme Court on a pilot program in which emergency medical technicians would perform regular wellness checks at an incapacitated person's home. This pilot program, spearheaded by Judge Rachel Freier, aims to prevent neglect and provide an additional measure to enhance the safety and wellbeing of incapacitated individuals.

Problem Solving Justice Division

Message from Director, Steven Helfont, Esq.



The Problem Solving Justice Division (PSJD) supports courts across New York State in developing effective and innovative responses to the challenges that bring people into the justice system. Our work helps jurisdictions integrate treatment, accountability, and trauma informed principles into practice, taking innovative approaches to the justice system.

Over the past year, we worked closely with the judiciary and multidisciplinary partners statewide to advance initiatives that strengthen court processes and improve the experience of all court users. Our key initiatives included the ongoing development and implementation of treatment court best practices, and providing guidance and training to promote consistent, high quality responses to substance use and behavioral health needs. PSJD also advanced the creation of Problem Solving Court Centers of Excellence. Complementing this effort, we strengthened our network of trained peers and created more opportunities for them to engage with participants. We also assisted jurisdictions interested in launching or enhancing problem solving courts. We also continued our foreclosure related work, supporting judges and staff in managing complex civil matters that significantly impact homeowners and communities. Together, these efforts reflect the New York State Unified Court System's commitment to strengthening our courts, supporting our communities, and improving outcomes for all New Yorkers.

Implementing Best Practices in New York State Treatment Courts Trainings

In 2025, PSJD embarked on a two-year journey to train all judges and staff in treatment courts on best practice standards and topics reflecting the UCS' priorities and values. These mandated, district-wide trainings empowered all team members to handle the complexities of treatment courts with empathy and understanding. Over the course of ten in-person programs, PSJD trained over 700 judges and UCS staff.

700 Judges and Court Staff Trained



Christine Edwards, PSJD's Chief Counsel, shepherded these trainings from concept to reality. Each all-day training covered:

- self-care and wellness techniques
- strategies for recruiting participants from target populations
- employing fair and inclusive practices
- roles and responsibilities of the judge
- strategies for multidisciplinary teams
- substance use, mental health, and trauma treatment and recovery management

The trainings drew on knowledge and expertise across the Office for Justice Initiatives, including Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Edwina G. Richardson, Michelle Smith, Rosemary Martinez-Borges, Aimee Neri Gueye, Nicole Hylton, Jennifer Dunn, Kim VanCamp, and Sky Davis. Statewide Coordinating Judge for Problem Solving Courts Debra J. Young and Assistant Deputy Counsel Jessie Aitcheson also made invaluable contributions to these trainings.

In January 2026, PSJD launched the second round of best practices trainings, focusing on the remaining best practice standards.

Opioid Intervention Courts

Susan McCafferty, who serves as Opioid Court Project Director, maintained the Opioid Intervention Court Center of Excellence, the first-of-its-kind online resource for courts, recovery peer advocates, and anyone interested in learning more about these courts and the underlying research.



BRIDGE Team Going Above and Beyond

The Batavia Rapid Intervention Program of Genesee (BRIDGE) demonstrates how opioid intervention court teams can make a critical difference through rapid, coordinated care. When a pregnant participant entered the court while actively using opioids, the court referred her to BRIDGE. The team quickly connected her with specialized treatment and developed a plan to help her avoid incarceration and access the care she needed. With support from court staff and a BRIDGE Certified Recovery Peer Advocate, she was promptly transported from jail to a treatment facility, where she began addressing her substance use and mental health needs while building parenting skills. After giving birth to her healthy, drug-free baby, she returned to treatment. BRIDGE staff remained supportive, frequently driving hours to deliver breastmilk to the family that was caring for her baby until they could be reunited. This story reflects the strength of problem solving courts: teams committed to meeting participants' needs—in the courtroom and beyond—with urgency and humanity.

Trainings and Conferences

NY Association of Treatment Court Professionals

Every March, treatment court professionals from around the state gather for the NYATCP's flagship conference, which drew over 790 attendees this year. PSJD staff Dennis Reilly and Jennifer Dunn, who serve on the organization's board, played a key role in organizing the conference. Assistant Deputy Counsel Thomas Carr, Senior Management Analyst Samantha Cleveland, Regional Project Director Sky Davis, Technical Analyst Leslie Ebright, and Opioid Court Project Director Susan McCafferty presented at the conference. Additionally, Chief Administrative Judge Joseph Zayas, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Edwina Richardson, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge James Murphy, and Statewide Coordinating Judge for Problem Solving Courts Debra Young provided remarks.

790+ Conference Attendees

Symposium on Gender-Based Violence



In November 2025, the Division hosted its annual Symposium on Gender-Based Violence for judges and court staff. Lisa Smith, who serves as Assistant Deputy Counsel, spearheaded this event that covered motivational interviewing, case management tools and best practices for domestic violence cases, artificial intelligence in domestic violence cases, and the New York State Domestic Violence Fatality Team's findings.

Best Practices for Mental Health Courts

The Problem Solving Justice Division also designed trainings on implementing best practice standards in courts for people with mental health disorders. These trainings included a program in September 2025 with the Practising Law Institute, Mental Health Issues & the New York State Courts: Implementing Best Practice Standards in Mental Health and Co-Occurring Courts, which is available online.

Know Your Data Trainings

These trainings help problem solving court judges and court staff understand data from their courts, empowering them to make informed decisions about their courts, maximize program impact, address fairness and bias, and manage resources. Leslie Ebright, PSJD’s Technology Analyst, met with judges, case managers, coordinators, and project directors from 40 courts across the state to discuss data for 76 different problem solving courts.

| 40 Courts Engaged in Data Trainings **| 76** Problem Solving Courts Analyzed

Impaired Driving Seminars

Every spring, Assistant Deputy Counsel Thomas Carr and Senior Court Analyst Judith Leconte organize four regional programs throughout the state for judges and court professionals focused on impaired driving cases. The program features presentations on developments in the law, alcohol and cannabis testing, bench trials, and local courts’ role in identifying participants for problem solving courts.

Guide to Problem Solving Courts in New York

The Division supported Statewide Coordinating Judge Young with developing and launching a Guide to Problem-Solving Courts in New York. Circulated in February 2026, this guide supports judges, court staff, coordinators, and team members by providing a comprehensive overview of the types of problem solving courts in New York and the populations they serve.

Problem Solving Courts Opened

| 8 New Problem Solving Courts Launched

Over the past year, PSJD helped launch the following problem solving courts:

- Chenango County Integrated Domestic Violence
- Chenango County Opioid Intervention Court
- Columbia County Opioid Court
- Elmira City Court Mental Health Court
- Fulton County Superior Court Mental Health Part
- Madison County Integrated Domestic Violence
- Ulster County Mental Health Court
- Warren County Superior Court for Veterans Treatment (first Superior Court for Veterans Treatment!)



Thomas Carr, Assistant Deputy Counsel, received the New York State Association of Traffic Safety Boards 2025 Roy Thorpe Award in recognition of his

outstanding contributions to improving traffic safety throughout New York State. Congratulations, Tom!

Foreclosure

PSJD Director Steve Helfont advanced foreclosure-related initiatives, including:

- Facilitated the Foreclosure Working Group’s meetings
- Supporting writing and publication of the Unified Court System’s annual Report of the Chief Administrator of the Courts on the Status of Foreclosure Cases
- Overseeing the release of the UCS Guide for Part 36 Foreclosure Referees

Youth & Emerging Adult Justice Division

Message from Director, Rosemary Martinez-Borges, Esq.



The Youth and Emerging Adult Justice Division is dedicated to promoting positive youth development and community safety by incorporating evidence-based and trauma-informed principles into youth and emerging adult court operations. The Division engages and supports judges and court staff statewide on operational and substantive youth justice-related matters. A central tenet to our mission is advancing positive sustainable outcomes for system-involved youth and our communities through the development of educational initiatives and the establishment of effective policies and procedures.

Youth Justice Summit

The Youth & Emerging Adult Justice Division brought together approximately 100 Youth Part and Family Court Juvenile Delinquency judges for a two-day Youth Justice Summit in Westchester County on October 23 and 24, 2025. Centered on promoting positive, sustainable outcomes for youth and communities, participants engaged in interactive and dynamic sessions facilitated by over thirty presenters. Topics included integrating trauma-informed practices in courts, adolescent brain development, motivational interviewing, navigating Raise the Age case law and statutory amendments, emerging adult justice, UCS data, and understanding detention, placement & available alternatives in the youth justice system. The Summit also highlighted the lived experiences of individuals directly impacted by our youth and juvenile systems, which proved to be invaluable to the program.



Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Edwina Richardson and Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Adam Silvera opened the first day of Summit with remarks emphasizing the importance of collaboration, innovation, and shared responsibility in ensuring fairness for system-involved youth.

Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson opened the second day of the Summit with an aspirational call to action: “We don’t give up on people — particularly our youth.” Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas and First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George followed, drawing upon their experiences as Youth Part judges to motivate and galvanize attendees.

Statewide Youth and Emerging Adult Justice Working Group

The Division launched a statewide working group on December 17, 2025. The group, which consists of Administrative Judges, Supervisory Judges, Youth Part Judges and back-up Youth Part Judges, Family Court Juvenile Delinquency Judges, Emerging Adult Justice Judges, UCAN Judges, Court Attorneys, Chief Clerks, District Executives, and other key court personnel, meets quarterly and is a platform for participants to come together, exchange insights and strategies, discuss policies and best practices, and provide feedback on current and future youth justice issues and initiatives.

Student Aides

The New York State Unified Court System's Student Aide program provides high school, recent high school graduates, college students, and law school students with an opportunity to learn firsthand about the court system through an immersive, paid summer internship. In its third year, this program teaches participants about the government's Third Branch and encourages civic engagement and careers in the court system.

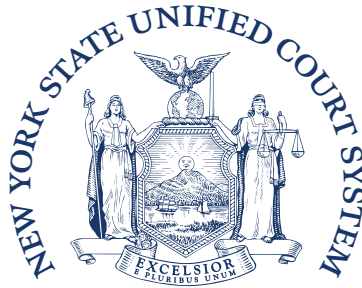


The Youth and Emerging Adult Justice Division, together with New York City Justice Coordinators Latoya Phillip and Chynna Cummings, Statewide Equal Justice Coordinator Randy Bowens, and Deputy Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion Nicole Hylton, took 34 Student Aide interns on an immersive civic engagement experience in Albany. The trip included a private tour of the Court of Appeals, the Capitol, and the Appellate Division, Third Department. On this unique trip, the Student Aides gained a firsthand look at New York's branches of government.

Internship Program

Each semester, the Division hosts students from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice and other schools around New York City. The internship provides interns with training on, among other things, the Raise the Age Legislation, the Unified Court System's structure, the jury selection process, and the right to counsel. Moreover, the interns participate in impactful court observations at various courts throughout New York City, such as: the Appellate Division, First Department; Midtown Community Court; Family Court; Criminal Court; New York City Civil Court's Self-Represented Part; New York City Housing Court; Small Claims Court; the Commercial Part; and Judge Ellen Biben's Alternatives to Incarceration Part. The internship concluded with a trip to Albany for a day of civic engagement, which included a tour of the Court of Appeals and the Capitol building.





Office for Justice Initiatives



Thank you for reading the Office for Justice Initiatives' 2026 annual report!

Guided by the rule of law and the belief that the American dream must be within reach for all, we remain steadfast in our mission to deliver meaningful access to justice for everyone entering a New York State courthouse regardless of background, income, or ability.

For more information or to get involved, contact us at:

(646) 386-3200

DCAJ-OJI@nycourts.gov

www.nycourts.gov/oji