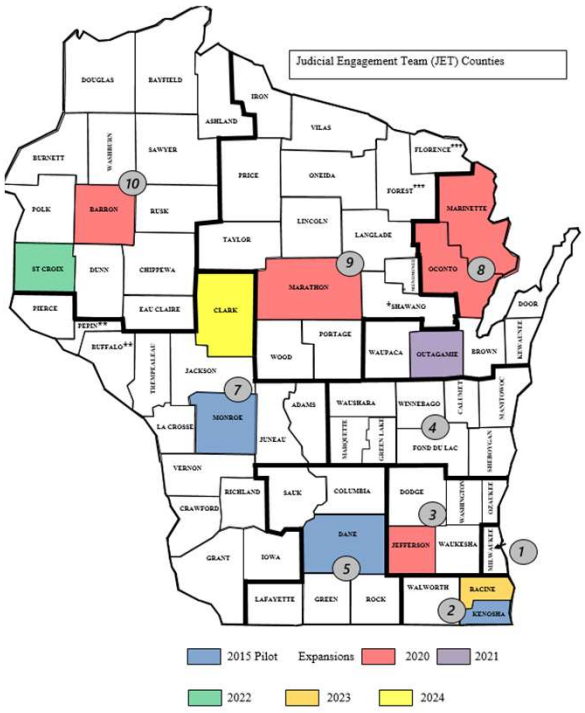
Wrap-in

Hon. Todd Ziegler
Monroe County Circuit Court
Sparta

Judicial Engagement and Judicial Leadership

"As a court and as a system … we cannot do any less than what we expect our families to do. That means that we must periodically review our practices and core beliefs to make changes as needed to be as effective as possible to help our families."

Hon. Elizabeth G. Crnkovich
Douglas County Nebraska Juvenile Court

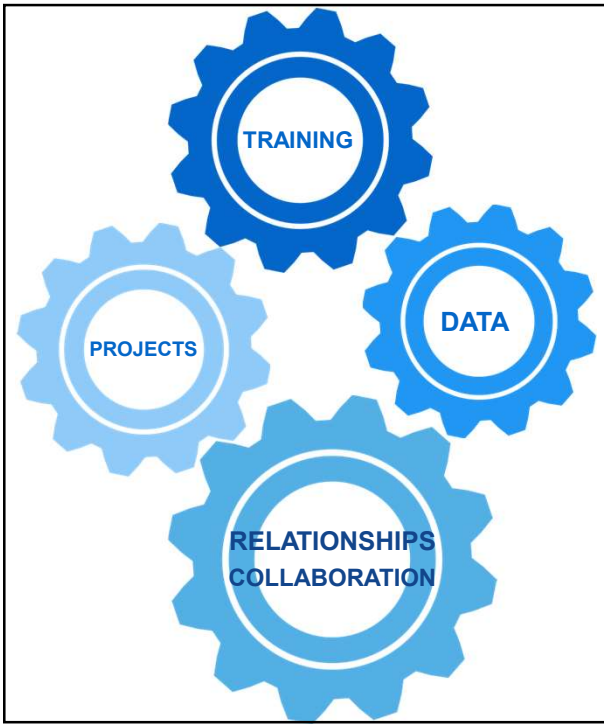


Judicial Engagement Teams (JET)

- 2015 - 3 pilot counties
- 2020 – Barron, Jefferson, Marathon, Marinette/Oconto
- 2021 - Outagamie
- 2022 - St. Croix
- 2023 - Racine
- 2024 - Clark
- 2025 - Exploring possible expansions with: Manitowoc, Wood, and Waupaca

Judicial Engagement Teams (JET)

- Mentor Judge and CCIP Legal Advisor
- Goal is to improve child welfare practice
- Share data
- Survey stakeholders
- Strategic planning
- Training
- Each county is different



The focus and frequency of each JET county is unique.

JET Counties meet:

- monthly
- every other month
- quarterly
- twice per year

CCIP also works with counties without a formal JET to facilitate multi-disciplinary meetings and trainings.

Monroe County JET

- CASA appointed for all children placed out-of-home
- Review hearings for out-of-home placements every 2-3 months instead of just 6 months permanency plan reviews. Also review hearings after return home
- Two Judges presiding over all CHIPS cases with every other week intake for each judge. Also included delinquency, truancy, juvenile ordinance, TPR and adoptions
- One Judge/One Family model
  - CHIPS case controls but must be sufficiently related. CHIPS judge decides and notifies parties in writing of determination. Parties 5 days to object. If objection filed then schedule hearing. Parties may still file substitution of judge. All hearing held separately unless agreed upon by the parties. Confidentiality is not waived
- Counsel appointed for all parents at the TPC hearings
- Social worker to provide proposed conditions of any proposed dispositional order or consent decree to parties at least 48 hours prior to pretrial

If your county is interested in becoming a JET and/or would like CCIP to facilitate a multi-disciplinary meeting, please let us know!!!

Kristen Wetzel
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Fairness Challenge Pilot Project

- Goal – Make courts more fair using research about how people assess fairness. Enhance public perception, confidence and trust in judiciary
- Fairness = fair outcomes + fair processes and treatment
- Key Objectives
  - Implement training and implement strategies to improve practices
  - Measure litigant and judicial perspectives on court fairness
  - Make incremental adjustments based on available feedback
  - Grow a community of practice of judges committed to implement research based practices

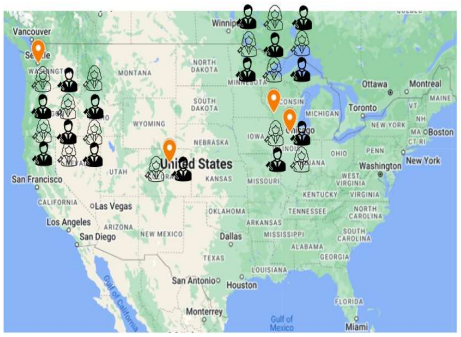
Who we are

Project staff

-**Emily LaGratta**, LaGratta Consulting (NY)
-**Lesley De Paz**, Nonprofit Orchard (MN)
-**Judge Monique Walker**, State Court of Richmond County (GA)
-**Judge Tim Kuhlman**, Toledo Municipal Court (OH)

Pilot courts (with 26 participating judges)

- King County Superior Court (WA)
- Westminster Municipal Court (CO)
- La Crosse County & Monroe County Circuit Courts (WI)
- Boone County & Winnebago County, 17th Judicial Circuit Court of IL



Key Activities

- Planning and Assessment
  - ► Court observation
  - ► Self-assessment
  - ► Initial litigant feedback
- Training and Practice
  - ► Remote training
  - ► Peer-to-peer support
  - ► Habit-building tactics
  - ► Feedback loop – monthly meetings

Elements of Procedural Fairness and Research

- Voice – providing litigants with the ability to participate and tell their side of the story
- Understanding – assuring litigants understand court procedures, court decisions and how decisions are made
- Respect – treating individuals with courtesy and respect, including respect for people's rights
- Neutrality – consistently apply legal principals being transparent about how the rules are applied and how decisions are being made. Show unbiased principled decision maker
- RESEARCH SHOWS PROCEDURAL FAIRNESS MORE IMPORTANT THAN WHETHER WON

Survey Questions

- Did the judge treat you fairly today?
- Did the judge help you understand what happened in court today?
- Do you feel that the judge listened to your questions and concerns today?
- How could the court improve its services?

Our hypothesis

Questions or Comments?