

**Resource List for Youth Court Programs
(Updated February 2007)**

Table of Contents

State Resources2

- Illinois Youth Court Association**
- Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority**
- Resources for School-Based Programs in Illinois**
- Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative**

National Resources5

- National Youth Court Center**
- Constitutional Rights Foundation**

Youth Court Resources7

- Publications**
- Videos**
- Satellite Videoconferences**
- Audio Teleconferences/Web Casts**

Web Sites14

Other Online Resources15

Funding16

STATE RESOURCES

ILLINOIS YOUTH COURT ASSOCIATION

The Illinois Attorney General's Web site includes the [Illinois Youth Court Association's \(IYCA\) Web page](#). The IYCA page provides useful resources for youth courts, including three Power Point presentations. These presentations are an introduction to youth courts, the concept of balanced and restorative justice, and how to integrate youth courts into school disciplinary programs. The page also provides links to information on the IYCA, Illinois youth court programs, youth court publications, and other resources.

To receive important program information and updates, new programs should contact Theresa Geary and request to be added to the IYCA listings. Additionally, all current programs should check to ensure that their program listing is accurate.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Theresa Geary by phone at 312-814-0991 or via e-mail at tgeary@atg.state.il.us.

ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) is a state agency dedicated to improving the administration of criminal justice. The Authority works to enhance the information tools and management resources of state and local agencies, and it serves as a statewide forum for criminal justice coordination, planning, and problem solving. The ICJIA is also responsible for research, information systems development, and administration of federal funds. Visit the ICJIA Web site at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/index.cfm> for up-to-date information on current publications and resources.

Publications Available Through the ICJIA

The following publications are available through the ICJIA at no cost to promote the use of restorative justice in Illinois:

From the "Little Book" Series:

- *The Little Book of Restorative Justice*, by Howard Zehr
- *The Little Book of Family Group Conferences*, by Allan MacRae and Howard Zehr
- *The Little Book of Circle Processes*, by Kay Pranis
- *The Little Book of Restorative Discipline for Schools*, by Lorraine Stutzman
- *The Little Book of Restorative Justice for People in Prisons*, by Barb Toews
- *The Little Book of Conflict Transformation*, by John Paul Lederach

To request books, please contact the ICJIA by phone at 312-793-8550 or e-mail at cja.irc@illinois.gov.

Guides to Implementing Balanced and Restorative Justice:

The ICJIA has created a series of guides designed to assist in the statewide promotion of balanced and restorative justice (BARJ). BARJ is a philosophy of justice that can guide the work of individuals who deal with juvenile offenders, their victims, and the communities in which they live. Each publication provides profession-specific information on how the BARJ philosophy could be used in the juvenile justice system.

The goals of each guide are to: promote compliance among those working in juvenile justice in Illinois with the state's policy on BARJ as outlined in the Juvenile Court Act; improve the response to juvenile conflict and crime by increasing the knowledge and understanding of BARJ by juvenile justice professionals, agencies, communities, and their members; and offer strategies, programs, and practices that incorporate the values and principles of BARJ.

To obtain free copies of these guides, contact the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority or download the files by clicking on the links below.

- *A Guide for Defense Attorneys*
<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/pdf/BARJ/BARJdefense.pdf>
- *A Guide for Juvenile Court Judges*
<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/pdf/BARJ/BARJjudges.pdf>
- *A Guide for Prosecutors*
<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/pdf/BARJ/BARJprosecutors.pdf>
- *A Guide for Law Enforcement Officers*
<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/pdf/BARJ/BARJ%20law%20enforcement.pdf>
- *A Guide for Juvenile Probation*
<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/pdf/BARJ/BARJProbation.pdf>
- *A Guide for Juvenile Detention*
<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/pdf/BARJ/detention.pdf>
- *A Guide for Juvenile Corrections*
<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/pdf/BARJ/ICJIA%20Corrections.pdf>

RESOURCES FOR SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS IN ILLINOIS

Chicago-Based Alternatives, Inc.

Chicago-based Alternatives, Inc., contracts with Chicago Public Schools (CPS) to run CPS peer jury programs. For more information on the Alternatives restorative justice/peer jury program, visit www.peerjury.com or contact Christine Agaiby at CAgaiby@alternativesyouth.org.

Chicago Public Schools interested in the program should contact Dr. Inez R. Drummond at idrummond@cps.k12.il.us to request an application.

Mary Durnil

Mary Durnil is another resource for individuals interested in forming or learning more about a school-based peer jury program. Mary runs a middle-school-based peer jury program in Decatur. Her program utilizes a peer jury model where the students run the sessions along with an adult facilitator. If Mary could be of assistance to you and your organization in starting or enhancing your program, please contact her at MDurnil@dps61.org.

ILLINOIS BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE

[The Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice \(IBARJ\) Initiative's Web site](#) includes information about resources in Illinois and training announcements. Also provided is an IBARJ list serve for those interested in learning more about restorative justice. Through the list serve, participants are periodically sent information regarding upcoming trainings and other networking opportunities. In addition, participants may post questions through the list serve to be answered by other members. To join the list serve, send an e-mail with "subscribe to IBARJ list serve" in the subject line to sallywolf@illicom.net. Participants are able to remove themselves from the list serve at any time by sending an e-mail to the same address.

NATIONAL RESOURCES

NATIONAL YOUTH COURT CENTER (NYCC)

The [National Youth Court Center \(NYCC\)](#) is an online database of youth court resources maintained by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges for the National Association of Youth Courts.

New Youth Court Program Coordinators

The NYCC's Web site includes a special section for new youth court program coordinators at http://www.youthcourt.net/program_coordinator.htm. This page includes information about publications and resources as well as answers to some frequently asked questions. This site is an excellent starting point for new coordinators.

Recruitment Posters

The National Youth Court Center has designed new recruitment posters for youth courts. Posters are available for download at http://www.youthcourt.net/YC_Month_2006/overview_06.htm.

Visit the [NYCC Web site](#) for the most up-to-date information on current publications and resources.

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

The Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) is a non-profit, non-partisan, community-based organization dedicated to educating America's young people about the importance of civic participation in a democratic society. Visit the [CRF Web site](#) for the most up-to-date information on current publications and resources.

Service Learning NETWORK

This sixteen-page Spring 2003 newsletter explores the notion that youth courts can serve as learning laboratories, not just for youthful offenders but for the entire student body. This publication is available for download at http://www.crf-usa.org/network/net9_3.htm.

For other general information regarding youth courts and service learning, visit the following articles from the *Service Learning NETWORK*:

- *Project Profiles: Two Youth Court Community Service-Learning Projects*
http://www.crf-usa.org/network/network12_1/Net_12_1_profiles.html)
- *Introducing Community Service Learning*
http://www.crf-usa.org/network/network12_1/Net_12_1_leadart_print)

Giving Back: Introducing Community Service Learning

Recently, the Constitutional Rights Foundation and the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago updated and revised *Giving Back: Introducing Community Service Learning*.

This manual is a useful resource for youth courts and other juvenile justice agencies seeking to apply school-based learning methods to court-mandated community service.

This publication is available for download at http://www.crf-usa.org/YouthCourt/Giving_Back_2006.pdf.

YOUTH COURT RESOURCES

PUBLICATIONS

The following are some of the publications offered by NYCC and affiliated organizations. Visit the [NYCC Web site](#) for the most up-to-date information on current publications and resources.

National Youth Court Guidelines

By Tracy M. Godwin, Michelle E. Heward, and Tom Spina, Jr.
(Published in 2000; 146 pages)

Developed by the National Youth Court Center, the *National Youth Court Guidelines* are designed to give youth courts direction for developing and operating effective programs for the ultimate purpose of increasing program accountability and integrity of the “youth court field.” Each chapter begins with a brief overview of the guidelines that are recommended for that particular program area. Afterwards, each guideline is discussed in more detail. A rationale for each guideline, as well as tips for implementing each guideline, is included. At the conclusion of each chapter there is a section that identifies some outcomes youth court programs might reasonably expect if they adhere to the recommendations made in the guidelines.

To order a free copy or download this publication online, visit the National Youth Court Center at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/Alpha.htm#N>.

Peer Justice and Youth Empowerment: An Implementation Guide for Teen Court Programs

By Tracy M. Godwin, David J. Steinhart, and Betsy A. Fulton
(Published in 1996; Revised in 1998; 176 pages plus appendices)

The American Probation and Parole Association developed *Peer Justice and Youth Empowerment: An Implementation Guide for Teen Court Programs* to provide program organizers with baseline information on developing, implementing, and enhancing teen court programs within their jurisdictions. Rather than endorsing one particular model of teen court, this manual provides program organizers with a general overview of issues to consider and guides them through a decision-making process for the implementation of a teen court program that fits local needs. Sample forms and other helpful resources also are included as supplementary materials.

To order a free copy or download this publication online, visit the National Youth Court Center at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/Alpha.htm#P>.

Youth Court: A Community Solution for Embracing At-Risk Youth

By Sarah S. Pearson and Sonia Jurich, American Youth Policy Forum
(Published in 2005)

To order a free copy or download this publication online, visit the National Youth Court Center at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/Alpha.htm#Y>.

Selected Topics on Youth Court: A Monograph

Edited by Tracy Godwin Mullins
(Published in 2004, 118 pages)

Developed by the National Youth Court Center, this monograph features papers on the following six topics:

- Addressing Truancy in Youth Court Programs
- Underage Drinking and Other Substance Abuse: Opportunities for Prevention and Intervention by Youth Courts
- An Overview of School-Based Youth Court Program Design Options
- Building Culturally Relevant Youth Courts in Tribal Communities
- A Comparison of Statewide Youth Court Associations and Networking Groups
- Media Access Guidelines for Youth Courts

To order a free copy or download this publication online, visit the National Youth Court Center at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/Alpha.htm#S>.

Policymakers Support Youth Court Growth: Voices and Recommendations from the Field

By Sarah H. Pearson
(Published in September 2004, 10 pages)

This National Youth Court Center policy brief provides an overview of perspectives on youth court from local, state, and national policymakers. Information on the benefits of youth courts and tips for establishing youth courts are included.

To order a free copy or download this publication online, visit the National Youth Court Center at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/Alpha.htm#P>.

Youth Court: A Path to Civic Engagement

By Sarah H. Pearson
(Published in September 2003, 8 pages)

This National Youth Court Center policy brief provides local, state, and federal policymakers with background information on youth courts and highlights current local and state policy in support of youth courts. It also describes how youth courts help

young people learn the value of actively participating as citizens to help make a difference in their communities.

To order a free copy or download this publication online, visit the National Youth Court Center at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/Alpha.htm#Y>.

Street Law for Youth Courts: Educational Workshops

By Lena Morreale Scott

(Published 2001; Revised 2002)

Developed by Street Law, Inc., through a subcontract with the National Youth Court Center and OJJDP, *Street Law for Youth Courts: Educational Workshops* is designed as an informational resource for youth courts establishing their educational workshops/programs. These interactive lessons focus on the most frequent offenses for which youth are referred to youth court: theft, possession of alcohol, possession of marijuana, vandalism, and traffic violations. The lessons include instructor's guides, lesson plans, and handouts for youth participants. The lessons are designed to initiate a law-related education program as a sentencing option for youth court offenders. The lessons also may be used to train youth court volunteers.

Download a copy of this publication at

<http://www.streetlaw.org/content.asp?ContentId=204>

or at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/Alpha.htm#S>.

Youth Courts: Young People Delivering Justice

By Margaret Fisher

(Published in March 2002; 36 pages)

This *Roadmap* booklet, developed by the American Bar Association, Office of Justice Initiatives, through a subcontract with the National Youth Court Center and OJJDP, introduces youth courts to those who are interested in justice improvement. It examines the nature, structure, and benefits of youth courts and explores the roles played by a variety of government and community entities. It highlights examples of successful youth courts throughout the United States based in juvenile justice settings, community settings, and school settings. The booklet spotlights unique innovations in youth courts and discusses statewide associations that play a role in supporting and networking youth courts within a state.

To order a free copy or download this publication online, visit the National Youth Court Center at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/Alpha.htm#Y>. To order multiple copies of this *Roadmap* booklet, contact: Office of Justice Initiatives, ABA, 750 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60610-0892, Phone: (800) 285-2221, Fax: 312-988-5568, E-mail: abasvctr@abanet.org. View online or download a complete copy at <http://www.abanet.org/justice/pdf/youthcourtsroadmap.pdf>.

Youth Court Volunteer Training Package

By Margaret E. Fisher
(Published in 2001)

Based on the *National Youth Court Guidelines*, these instructional resources for youth court staff offer high-quality materials for training youth court volunteers. They provide trainers with the opportunity to model the qualities inherent to effective youth courts and to examine some of the universal moral principles and common codes of behavior that underlie legal systems, including honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion.

The complete training package includes:

- *A Guide for Trainers*, with lessons for all youth court models on topics such as the American justice system, balanced and restorative justice, conducting a hearing, and deliberating on a disposition.
- *Youth Volunteer Handbooks*, for adult judge, youth judge, youth tribunal, and peer jury program models.
- *Changing Lives: America's Youth Court*, a short video introducing the concept of youth courts.
- A CD to tailor materials to local needs.

The Youth Volunteer Training Package materials may be purchased as a packaged set (\$45) or individual items can be ordered by contacting the American Bar Association Service Center at 1-800-285-2221. Discounted rates are available for bulk orders on volunteer handbooks.

The Role of Restorative Justice in Teen Courts: A Preliminary Look

By Tracy M. Godwin
(Published in 2001; 8 pages)

In March 2000, the American Probation and Parole Association convened a focus group to examine and discuss the role of restorative justice in teen court programs (also called youth and peer courts). The panel consisted of persons working actively in teen courts and persons working actively in more traditional restorative justice-based programs.

This paper provides a brief overview of restorative justice principles and addresses several key issues that teen courts can use to integrate more restorative justice-based practices in their programs. Key issues discussed include how youth courts can rethink the role of victims and the community within their programs, how youth courts can alter the way their proceedings and practices are structured, and how youth courts can rethink and redefine sentencing options so they are based on the restorative justice philosophy.

To order a free copy or download this publication online, visit the National Youth Court Center at <http://www.youthcourt.net/publications/article1.pdf>.

Impact of Teen Court on Young Offenders

By Jeffrey A. Butts, Janeen Buck, and Mark B. Coggeshall
(Published in April 2002; 48 pages)

This is the first report of findings from the Evaluation of Teen Courts Project, which was conducted by the Urban Institute and funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

The Evaluation of Teen Courts Project studied teen courts in four states: Alaska, Arizona, Maryland, and Missouri. Researchers measured pre-court attitudes and post-court recidivism among more than 500 juveniles referred to teen court for nonviolent offenses such as shoplifting and vandalism. The study compared recidivism outcomes for teen court defendants with outcomes for youth handled by the regular juvenile justice system.

Download a copy of the report online at
<http://www.youthcourt.net/Publications/Training.htm>.

Teen Courts: A Focus On Research

By Jeffrey A. Butts and Janeen Buck
(OJJDP Juvenile Justice Bulletin; published October 2000; 16 pages)

This bulletin provides information on characteristics of teen court programs, as gathered by the Evaluation of Teen Courts Project, and the operational and managerial problems they face. It also summarizes the evaluation literature on teen courts.

Download a copy of this bulletin at <http://www.jbutts.com/pdfs/teencourtsfocus.pdf>. To order a free copy of this bulletin, contact: Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, 1-800-638-8736, Reference number NCJ 183472.

Youth Court Training for Results

By G. Dale Greenawald
(Technical Assistance Bulletin No. 26, ABA; published 2004)
<http://www.abanet.org/publiced/tab26.pdf>

Youth Court: A National Movement

By Paula A. Nessel
(Technical Assistance Bulletin No. 17, ABA; published 2000)
<http://www.abanet.org/publiced/tab17.pdf>

2006 National Youth Court Month Action Kit

The *2006 National Youth Court Month Action Kit* was developed by the National Youth Court Center to assist youth courts in planning, conducting, and promoting community projects and activities to be held during National Youth Court Month. Sections of the *Action Kit* include tips for planning events, suggested activities to commemorate National Youth Court Month, strategies for communicating more effectively with the media, and a listing of national youth court resources.

To download the Action Kit, go to
www.youthcourt.net/YC_Month_2006/overview_06.htm.

In Session

The NYCC quarterly newsletter, *In Session*, provides timely articles, interviews, and other information of interest to youth court programs.

View past issues of *In Session* on the NYCC Web site at
<http://www.youthcourt.net/Newsletter/overview.htm>.

NYCC Update

The *NYCC Update* is a monthly electronic communiqué to keep subscribers informed of project activities and other youth court and juvenile justice related events.

View past issues of *In Session* on the NYCC Web site at
http://www.youthcourt.net/NYCC_Update/overview.htm. To sign up to receive the *NYCC Update*, e-mail youthcourt@ncjfcj.org.

VIDEOS

Getting the Most Out of the Deliberation Process

(Produced by the National Youth Court Center in April 2002; Video features two 20-minute segments; Facilitator Guide, 13 pages)

This video assists youth court programs in providing orientation on the deliberation process for youth who will be serving as jurors or judge panels. The video comes with a facilitator guide.

Contact the National Youth Court Center for a free copy of the video and facilitator guide at youthcourt@ncjfcj.org.

SATELLITE VIDEOCONFERENCES

The National Youth Court Center and the American Probation and Parole Association have participated in a national satellite videoconference on youth court programs.

Youth Courts: A Legal Guide for Getting Involved

In November 2003, Justice Television Network conducted a satellite videoconference titled, *Youth Courts: A Legal Guide for Getting Involved*. J. Robert Flores, Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, discussed the U.S. Department of Justice's National Youth Court Initiative; John Duncan, Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of New York, and William C. Pericak, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Supervisor, Albany Office, Northern District of New York, discussed the role of the U.S. Attorney's Office in youth courts; and John Grebert, former Chief of Police in Colonie, discussed the role of law enforcement in youth courts. Assistant Attorney General Deborah J. Daniels provided taped introductory remarks welcoming participants to the broadcast. Tracy Godwin Mullins, Director of the National Youth Court Center, served as moderator for the broadcast.

This broadcast can be accessed online through the NYCC Web site at http://www.youthcourt.net/training_ta/2003/November_03_Videoconference.htm.

AUDIO TELECONFERENCES/WEB CASTS

Making Evaluation Simpler for Youth Courts Using Performance-Based Measures

On July 15, 2003, the NYCC broadcasted, *Making Evaluation Simpler for Youth Courts Simpler Using Performance-Based Measures*. This audio teleconference provides background information on the concept of using performance-based measures in evaluation efforts and describes how youth courts can develop performance-based measures to collect needed data for enhancing their programs and seeking funds.

The broadcast can be viewed online at http://www.youthcourt.net/training_ta/2003/2003_Audio_Teleconference_July_Download.htm.

WEB SITES

National Youth Court Center Web Site

www.youthcourt.net

The National Youth Court Center's Web site provides valuable resource materials for youth court programs, including downloadable copies of many youth court publications, a listing of youth courts in the United States, and information on training and technical assistance opportunities.

NYCC Youth Court Youth Volunteers Site

http://www.youthcourt.net/Youth_Resources/default.htm

The National Youth Court Center developed a youth court youth volunteer Web site that complements the existing NYCC Web site. The youth Web site provides youth volunteers with access to valuable resource materials and serves as a networking opportunity for youth involved in youth courts across the United States.

Restorative Justice Online

<http://www.restorativejustice.org>

The Balanced and Restorative Justice Project

<http://www.barjproject.org>

The Center for Restorative Justice and Peacemaking at the University of Minnesota

http://rjp.umn.edu/Copy_of_Restorative_Justice_Dialogue_Resources.html

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

<http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/implementing/contents.html>

This site provides a guide for implementing the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Model.

OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES

ONLINE LESSONS

Links to these lessons are available in the online training section of the NYCC Web site at http://www.youthcourt.net/online_training/index.htm.

Getting the Most Out of the Deliberation Process

The National Youth Court Center has created two Internet-based lessons designed to orient youth court volunteers on the deliberation process.

Preparing Your Case

This resource was designed to serve as a tool for youth attorneys to use in the preparation of their youth court cases. Topics covered include developing opening and closing statements, developing questions to ask during hearings, and interviewing respondents and witnesses.

Web Search: What Do Our Laws and Policies Say About Underage Drinking?

Street Law, Inc., has developed an online lesson to provide youth court administrators with another option for helping to teach the young people in their courts about the effects of underage drinking. The lesson is geared to middle school and high school students. While this resource was primarily developed to be used as a sentencing options for respondents, the lesson also can be used to train youth court volunteers.

FUNDING

POTENTIAL FUNDING AND VOLUNTEER AID FOR YOUR YOUTH COURT

The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary

The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary are committed to programs that improve and promote the welfare of children.

In 1997, the National Headquarters of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary adopted a resolution to place youth courts within their National Children and Youth Program and to encourage youth court involvement throughout the nation. A year later, the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary of Illinois adopted a similar resolution, focusing on promoting youth courts around the State.

Citizens interested in starting a youth court in their community or working with existing youth courts should contact their local American Legion Auxiliary Post to inquire about funding opportunities and volunteer assistance.

To locate a post in your area, contact your city or township authorities, or contact the state American Legion Auxiliary:

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Illinois
P.O. Box 1426
Bloomington, Illinois 61702
(309) 663-9366

RESOURCES FOR AFTER-SCHOOL SNACKS AND SUPPERS

Nourish Their Bodies, Feed Their Minds: Funding Opportunities for Meals and Snacks Provided by After-School Programs in Illinois

By Illinois After-School Partnership
(Published in 2006)

This free guide is designed to help after-school and summer program providers in Illinois access federal funding through the Child Nutrition Programs. This guide offers information on eligibility guidelines, local examples, resources on how to enroll, and much more. To order one or more printed copies of the guide, please e-mail iasp@icvp.org. Include your name, address, phone number, and the number of copies you wish to receive.

In addition, a PDF version of this guide can be downloaded at http://www.illinoisafterschool.net/downloads/IL_FRAC_Guide.pdf.

For additional information about potential funding opportunities for youth courts, please visit

http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/communities/youthadvocacy/iyca_grants.html.

GRANT WRITING

Effective Strategies for Searching for Youth Court Funding and Writing Grants

On February 24, 2004, the NYCC broadcasted *Strategies for Locating Youth Court Funding and Writing Effective Grants*. The audio teleconference/Web cast gives youth court coordinators information on how to locate possible funding sources and plan for program sustainability, as well as on how to write effective grants.

The broadcast can be viewed online at

http://www.youthcourt.net/training_ta/2004/Feb04_Audioteleconference_Downloading_Info.htm.

For links to resources on grant writing and funding, please visit

<http://www.youthcourt.net/resources/funding.htm>.