

THE VALUE OF JUDICIAL INVOLVEMENT IN CROSS-SYSTEMS WORK

“Crossover” between the child welfare and juvenile legal systems is a rising concern in many states and communities. While the aforementioned systems are key players in the matter, the courts can also heavily influence responses to crossover.

For instance, **pre-court coordination** can be utilized to ensure all parties to a case are aware of a young person’s involvement in multiple systems and can serve to align and drive recommendations that reflect a youth and family’s needs holistically. **Dedicated crossover dockets** and **one-family/one-judge models** are another way to not only align case goals, service provision, and resources but to lessen the burden on families who are otherwise required to attend multiple hearings for their various cases.

Further, court officials stand to influence **cross-system collaboration outside** the courtroom. Judges who are actively involved in the development of interagency practices and policies often aid in accountability to the newly adopted multi-agency engagement, making the efforts more likely to be sustained over time.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE? CHECK OUT THESE RESOURCES!



National Council of Juvenile Justice and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)

[When Systems Collaborate: How Three Jurisdictions Improved Their Handling of Dual-Status Cases](#)

This is a case study of three jurisdictions that developed exemplar policies and practices related to youth involved in the juvenile legal and child welfare systems.



State Bar of Texas

[Two Doors to the Courthouse: A Judicial Perspective on Dual Status Youth](#)

Authored by two judges who co-chaired the Texas Dual Status Task Force, this article describes the dichotomy of the juvenile legal and child welfare systems and how the two can interact to produce disparities for children involved in both if not deliberately addressed by the courts, system leaders and staff, and related partners.



Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) at Georgetown University

[Consolidated Court Proceedings for Crossover Youth](#)

This brief by CJJR, the organization that developed the Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM), outlines various court models that can be employed to support dually-involved youth and includes examples of how those practices have been introduced in various communities.



The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

[Courting Judicial Excellence in Juvenile Justice: A 50 State Study](#)

This comprehensive analysis of juvenile court practices captures the landscape of juvenile court practices across the country and puts forth five key recommendations for strengthening the youth justice system.



CROSSOVER YOUTH PRACTICE MODEL
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