

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**FAMILY COURT SELECTED BY
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES**

The Family Court of the State of Delaware was one of sixteen courts selected by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (“NCJFCJ”) to pilot the School Pathways to the Juvenile Justice System Project (the “Project”). Fifty five courts applied to participate in the Project.

The Project’s goals are to evaluate the school-to-juvenile justice system referral process; develop means and procedures to reduce referrals of youth to juvenile courts for school-based misbehaviors; and expand on the use of positive disciplinary practices in schools. Ultimately, the Project wants to ensure student engagement in the educational process and limit exclusion from schools. As part of the Project, Family Court will receive technical assistance from a NCJFCJ facilitator, including a site visit. Current referral practices and procedures will be assessed to determine what strategic planning is necessary to address issues related to the school-to-juvenile justice system referrals.

This Project was awarded to the NCJFCJ by the Atlantic Philanthropies, in conjunction with the Public Welfare Foundation and the Open Society Institute. The NCJFCJ received additional funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to conduct an evaluation of the Project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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