

Tribal Justice Exchange

The Center for Court Innovation's Tribal Justice Exchange provides training and technical assistance to American Indian and Alaska Native tribes seeking to develop or enhance their justice systems. The Tribal Justice Exchange helps tribes develop problem-solving justice initiatives, encourages collaboration between tribal and state justice systems, and highlights innovative tribal justice practices from across the country.

Planning a Problem-Solving Justice Initiative

The Tribal Justice Exchange works with tribal courts, law enforcement, treatment providers, community groups, and others to help plan and implement problem-solving justice initiatives in Indian Country. The team recently helped the Navajo Nation create the Aneth Community Court, which uses alternatives to incarceration, community-based services, and judicial monitoring to get better results in criminal cases. A planning toolkit and other free publications are available online.

Justice System Assessments

The Tribal Justice Exchange frequently works with tribes to conduct comprehensive justice system assessments. Working in partnership with tribal officials, the team helps to gather justice system data, map local resources, interview key stakeholders, and conduct community surveys. This process provides tribes with a wealth of information that they can use to guide the development of their justice systems.

Problem-Solving Justice Training

For tribes that are interested in planning and implementing a specific initiative—like a Healing to Wellness Court, a domestic violence court, or a truancy reduction program—the Tribal Justice Exchange offers topical training by subject matter experts. Training can be delivered on-site or remotely and can be tailored to meet the unique needs of each individual community.

Tribal Access to Justice Innovation

The Tribal Access to Justice Innovation website (tribaljustice.org) is designed to help practitioners find information about innovative tribal justice programs and practices being used around the country. It offers detailed profiles of specific tribal justice programs, as well as podcasts, videos, and a discussion forum. Practitioners can use the website to learn about promising programs, listen to interviews with program staff, contact the programs directly, and find a wealth of publications, forms, and other resources.

Tribal Code Development

The Tribal Justice Exchange is partnering with the Tribal Law & Policy Institute, the Tribal Judicial Institute, and others to offer assistance with tribal code development. Experienced attorneys and subject matter experts from these organizations can help tribes evaluate the need for tribal code revisions, provide examples of existing tribal codes, and help draft and edit new code provisions.

For More Information

Visit: courtinnovation.org/topic/tribal-justice
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