



• PROJECT NAME	Red Hook Community Justice Center
• TYPE OF PRACTICE	Community court model
• CITIES AND/OR COMMUNITIES, COUNTRY/IES	Red Hook, Brooklyn New York USA
• IMPLEMENTED SINCE...	June 2000
• BRIEF DESCRIPTION	At Red Hook, a single judge hears neighborhood cases from three police precincts (covering approximately 200,000 people) in an isolated neighborhood of Brooklyn that ordinarily would go to three different courts—Civil, Family, and Criminal. The courthouse is a hub for an array of unconventional programs and partnerships, including: mediation, community service, a youth diversion court, housing resource center, and citizen volunteers.
• PROMOTING OR LEADING ENTITIES	The Center for Court Innovation
• PARTICIPANTS	Kings County District Attorney’s Office, New York State Unified Court System, Legal Aid Society, the City of New York, Advocates for Children, Bridge Back to Life, Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway Initiative, Community Counseling and Mediation, Counseling Services of the Eastern District of New York, Exalt, Fifth Avenue Committee, Groundswell, Community Mural Project, New Pathways to Counseling, New York City Department of Education, New York City Department of Probation, New York City Housing Authority, New York City Law Department, New York Peace Institute, Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow, Realization Center, Red Hook Initiative, Resource Counseling Center, Sanctuary for Families, Safe Horizon, Sunset Park Promise Neighborhood, The Door.
• OBJECTIVES	Enhancing public trust in justice, reducing incarceration, increasing accountability, ameliorating fear within the community and promoting procedural fairness.
• TARGETS	The Justice Center handles low-level criminal cases (including some felonies), as well as selected Family Court and Civil Court matters. While the court directly serves the three police precincts in Red Hook, social services are open to anyone.
• MAIN RESULTS	The Justice Center has reduced the use of jail at arraignment by 50 percent. Compliance rates with court orders average 75% –a 50% improvement over comparable courts.
• METHODOLOGY	The Center uses a variety of research methodologies. Social scientists perform quantitative and qualitative studies that evaluate the Center’s success in meeting its objectives.
• EVALUATION INDICATORS / METHOD	Evaluation indicators include, but are not limited to: citizen approval ratings of police, prosecutors and judges; compliance rates with court orders; rates of incarceration; surveys of defendants on the fairness of outcomes; surveys of public support.
• DEGREE OF SUCCESS (EVALUATION RESULTS)	A door-to-door survey revealed that 94% of local residents support the community court. Before the Justice Center opened, only 12% of local residents rated local courts favorably. Since 1999, the percentage of Red Hook residents who say they are afraid to go to the parks or subway at night has dropped 42%. More than 85% of

	<p>criminal defendants report that their cases were handled fairly by the Justice Center—results that were consistent regardless of defendant background (e.g. race, sex, education) or case outcome.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONTACT 	<p>Julius Lang Director of Training & Technical Assistance Center for Court Innovation +1-646-386-4460 langj@courtinnovation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PROJECT LINKS 	<p>http://www.courtinnovation.org/project/red-hook-community-justice-center</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PROJECT LOGO 	 <p>The logo consists of four horizontal red bars stacked vertically. The text 'RED HOOK' is on the first bar, 'COMMUNITY' on the second, 'JUSTICE' on the third, and 'CENTER' on the fourth. All text is in white, uppercase, sans-serif font.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OBSERVATIONS 	<p>The Justice Center is a unique public-private partnership engaging all levels of government—county, city, state, and federal. The partnership is more than just funding—it relies on an array of institutional partners to identify local problems, supervise community service, and offer social services.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIMILAR PROJECTS 	<p>Midtown Community Court (New York, USA); Liverpool Community Justice Centre (UK); Vancouver Downtown Community Court (Canada); Melbourne Neighbourhood Justice Centre (Australia)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PICTURE OF ACTIVITY OR CENTER 	 <p>A photograph of the exterior of the Red Hook Community Justice Center. The building is a multi-story brick structure with large windows. A vertical banner hangs from a pole in front of the building, displaying the text 'RED HOOK COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER' in red and white.</p>