



## Agenda

### Wednesday, August 16, 2017

8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	<i>Registration Open</i>	<b>Second Floor</b>
1:00–1:20 p.m.	<b>Welcome and Opening Prayer</b> <i>Clarence Carter, Director, Office of Family Assistance (OFA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</i>	<b>Salon 4</b>
1:20–2:00 p.m.	<b>Introductions: Connecting Stories Activity</b>	<b>Salon 4</b>
2:00–2:15 p.m.	<i>Break</i>	
2:15–3:15 p.m.	<b>Plenary: Supporting Tribal and State Program Collaboration and Coordination</b> This session will highlight strategies for building coalitions as both states and tribes work toward the goals of building self-sufficiency and ensuring family well-being. The panelists will discuss how shared goals for children and families can serve as the foundation for partnership and will share examples of successful tribal and state collaborations.	<b>Salon 4</b>
	<b>Speakers:</b> <i>Gloria Cobb, Director of Economic Support, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians</i> <i>Gail Nahwahquaw, Tribal Affairs Director, Wisconsin Department of Health Services</i> <i>Paulette Bushers, TANF Program Manager II, Oklahoma Department of Human Services</i> <i>Mark Pendergrass, Tribal TANF Program Manager, Muscogee Creek Nation</i>	
	<b>Moderator:</b> <i>Larry McDowell, Regional Program Manager, OFA, Region VI</i>	
3:15–3:30 p.m.	<i>Break</i>	

3:30–4:30 p.m.	<p><b>Plenary: Creating Partnerships Between Employers and Human Services Programs</b></p> <p>Engaging employers can help human services agencies create work experience programs that help participants gain the skills necessary to obtain stable employment. Those work experience programs could include transitional jobs, on-the-job training, and providing wage subsidies to employers. Providing subsidized employment can be especially helpful for youth and individuals with criminal backgrounds. This session will feature tribal and state examples of employer partnerships that state and tribal programs can replicate.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><i>Julie Settle, Work Assistance Program Manager, Tanana Chiefs Conference</i></p> <p><i>Sisifo Taatiti, Assistant Director, Utah Department of Workforce Development</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p> <p><i>LaMonica Shelton, Regional Program Manager, OFA, Region IV</i></p>	<b>Salon 4</b>
4:30–4:45 p.m.	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	

**Thursday, August 17, 2017**

7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	<i>Registration Open</i>	<b>Second Floor</b>
8:30–10:00 a.m.	<p><b>Plenary: Tiered Steps in Career Pathway Education and Employment</b></p> <p>Career pathways can span the continuum from youth employment programs to post-secondary programs targeted toward jobs in a specific industry. Each step plays an important role in preparing clients for employment and self-sufficiency. In this plenary, participants will hear about a series of tiered education and employment steps along a career pathway. Speakers will discuss a GED preparation program that uses AmeriCorps funds to train student tutors and a Health Profession Opportunity Grants program.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><i>Mary Rousseau, ABE/GED Director, Sitting Bull College</i></p> <p><i>Anitra Hill, Youth Tutor, Sitting Bull College</i></p> <p><i>Larry Anderson, Job Development Specialist, Cankdeska Cikana Community College</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p> <p><i>Kisha Russell, Regional Program Manager, OFA, Region VIII</i></p>	<b>Salon 4</b>
10:00–10:15 a.m.	<i>Break</i>	

10:15–11:30 a.m.

## Concurrent Sessions

### **Best Practices for Managing Tribal TANF and NEW Grants**

**Studio B**

There are many administrative requirements associated with managing a Tribal TANF or NEW grant. This session will share best practices in managing these grant requirements. Topics will include plan renewals, data reporting, calculating work participation rates, submitting amendments, and handling audits. Whitney Jones will also provide tips on managing federal grants based on her experience as a Tribal TANF manager.

#### **Speakers:**

**Sam Stitt**, Tribal TANF Program Specialist, OFA, Region X

**Whitney Jones**, Deputy Director, South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency

### **Exploring Tribal TANF – An Intro Session with a Focus on Program Startup and Sustainability**

**Studio D**

Under Tribal TANF, tribal governments have flexibility to establish eligibility criteria, cash assistance amounts, work participation rates, time limits, and penalties. Understanding how best to use flexibility allowed under Tribal TANF to tailor services to local needs can be challenging. This session will provide an overview of Tribal TANF, covering the use of Tribal TANF funds, work requirements, reporting, and how to ensure the best outcomes for Tribal TANF families. This morning session will also feature tribal speakers who will focus on the unique challenge of starting a new Tribal TANF program.

#### **Speakers:**

**Mikaela Smith**, Family Assistance Program Specialist, OFA, Region IX

**Frank Canizales**, Director of Social Services, Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

**Jamie Beihn**, TANF Program Director, Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

### **Healthy Family Development**

**Studio E**

Healthy relationship skills do not come naturally, especially when family fragmentation is so common. Providing education on interpersonal skills, healthy dating behaviors, and conflict management can help Tribal TANF programs accomplish the goals of preventing out-of-wedlock pregnancies and encouraging development of two-parent families. In this session, participants will learn from two tribal programs that provide healthy marriage and relationship education to both youth and adults.

#### **Speakers:**

**Jennifer Parsons**, California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc.

**Amanda Lopez**, Nez Perce Youth Project, Nez Perce Tribe

#### **Moderator:**

**Gary Allen**, Regional Program Manager, OFA, Region VII

**Incorporating Traditional Teachings Into Tribal TANF and NEW Grants**

Tribes have flexibility to define acceptable work activities under Tribal TANF and NEW grants. A tribe can opt to include traditional teachings, such as arts, crafts, or gardening, as countable work activities. This session will highlight two tribes that use traditional teachings as guides and resources for teaching participants job skills.

**Speakers:**

***Deannah Neswood-Gishey***, Senior Programs and Projects Specialist, Navajo Nation Division of Social Services

***Cheryl Begay***, Case Management Coordinator, Navajo Nation Division of Social Services

***Valerie Switzler***, Manager, The Confederation Tribes of Warm Springs Culture and Heritage Department

**Moderators:**

***Denise Litz***, Branch Chief, Division of Tribal TANF Management, OFA

***Tonya Davis***, Lead Program Specialist, Division of Tribal TANF Management, OFA

11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. *Lunch On Your Own*

1:00–2:15 p.m.

### **Table Talks**

**Salon 4**

Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in small group dialogue with their peers around core issues facing Tribal TANF, NEW programs, and Native communities. Table topics will include:

- *Table 1: Integrating Tribal TANF under 477*
- *Table 2: Partnership Development (A)*
- *Table 3: Economic Development and Entrepreneurship Opportunities*
- *Table 4: Transportation*
- *Table 5: Childcare Resources*
- *Table 6: Supporting Non-Needy Relative Caretakers*
- *Table 7: Assisting Participants Pursuing a GED*
- *Table 8: Leading Change*
- *Table 9: Substance Abuse Prevention Programs*
- *Table 10: Career Pathways*
- *Table 11: Case Management Challenges and Best Practices (A)*
- *Table 12: Participant Assessments*
- *Table 13: Challenges and Solutions for Smaller Tribes*
- *Table 14: Implications of Dropping Caseloads*
- *Table 15: Employer Engagement*
- *Table 16: Case Management Challenges and Best Practices (B)*
- *Table 17: Partnership Development (B)*

Following these discussions, notetakers will compile and post key lessons learned for participant viewing.

#### **Moderator:**

*Nicole Pexton, Associate, ICF*

2:15–2:30 p.m.

*Break*

2:30–3:45 p.m.

### **Concurrent Sessions**

#### **Best Practices for Managing Tribal TANF and NEW Grants**

**Studio B**

There are many administrative requirements associated with managing a Tribal TANF or NEW grant. This session will share best practices in managing these grant requirements. Topics will include plan renewals, data reporting, calculating work participation rates, submitting amendments, and handling audits. Whitney Jones will also provide tips on managing federal grants based on her experience as a Tribal TANF manager.

#### **Speakers:**

*Sam Stitt, Tribal TANF Program Specialist, OFA, Region X*

*Whitney Jones, Deputy Director, South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency*

### **Exploring Tribal TANF – An Intro Session with a Focus on Growing Existing Programs**

**Studio D**

Under Tribal TANF, tribal governments have flexibility to establish eligibility criteria, cash assistance amounts, work participation rates, time limits, and penalties. Understanding how best to use flexibility allowed under Tribal TANF to tailor services to local needs can be challenging. This session will provide an overview of Tribal TANF, covering the use of Tribal TANF funds, work requirements, reporting, and how to ensure the best outcomes for Tribal TANF families. This afternoon session will feature speakers who will focus on how to grow and enhance existing Tribal TANF programs.

#### **Speakers:**

***Mikaela Smith***, Family Assistance Program Specialist, OFA, Region IX

***Gretchen Scott***, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

***Cindy Hoaglen***, Tribal TANF Director, Round Valley Indian Tribe

### **Healthy Family Development**

**Studio E**

Healthy relationship skills do not come naturally, especially when family fragmentation is so common. Providing education on interpersonal skills, healthy dating behaviors, and conflict management can help Tribal TANF programs accomplish the goals of preventing out-of-wedlock pregnancies and encouraging the development of two-parent families. In this session, participants will learn from two tribal programs that provide healthy marriage and relationship education to both youth and adults.

#### **Speakers:**

***Jennifer Parsons***, California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc.

***Amanda Lopez***, Nez Perce Youth Project, Nez Perce Tribe

#### **Moderator:**

***Gary Allen***, Regional Program Manager, OFA, Region VII

**Connecting Body, Mind and Spirit – Working with People with Substance Use Disorders**

**Studio F**

Substance use disorders are complex and challenging to address effectively. This session will explore theories of addiction and foster a conversation about the challenges that Tribal TANF, NEW programs, and Native communities face in addressing substance use disorders. Some traditional teachings on wellness and ways to promote wellness in TANF and NEW programs will also be discussed. Finally, participants will learn about a few ways to establish meaningful collaboration between substance abuse providers, community service providers, and individuals.

**Speaker:**

*Alan R. Rabideau, Consultant, First Nations Behavioral Health Association*

**Moderator:**

*Frances Dixon, TANF Program Specialist, OFA, Region V*

3:45–4:45 p.m.

**Regional Breakouts**

Federal staff will meet with tribal representatives grouped by region to discuss strategies, policies, and other issues of particular relevance to their local area. These smaller groups will allow tribes an opportunity to meet one-on-one with regional and tribal peers, as well as think about areas of potential technical assistance and guidance that would help them partner for better outcomes for children and families.

- *Region X*                      *Studio B*
- *Region IX*                     *Studio D*
- *Region VIII*                 *Salon 1*
- *Region VII*                    *Salon 3*
- *Region VI*                     *Salon 5*
- *Region IV and V*            *Salon 7*
- *NEW Programs*            *Studio F*

**Moderator:**

*OFA Regional Staff*

8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

*Registration Open*

**Second Floor**

8:30–9:45 a.m.

**Concurrent Sessions**

**How Data Informs Practice**

**Studio B**

High performing organizations regularly analyze data and use those insights to drive continuous improvement in program operations. However, it may be intimidating to determine what data to collect or how to analyze it. This session will discuss how to collect and use data, how to analyze data to identify areas for improvement, and how to monitor program changes. Tribal TANF and NEW staff can apply these lessons to foster a culture of learning and continuous improvement in their programs.

**Speakers:**

*Tammy Charles, Wyandotte Nation*

*Ryan Howard, Owens Valley Career Development Center*

*Denis Turner, Executive Director, Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association*

**Moderator:**

*John Disque, TANF Program Specialist, Administration for Children and Families, Region VI*

**Returning to the Source – Strategies for Integrating Tribal TANF Plans and Policies and Procedures into Day-to-Day Activities**

**Studio D**

New policies, plans, or procedures can easily be ignored if they are not fully integrated into daily activities. Writing a policy, plan, or procedure is only the first step of implementation; employees need to be aware of policies and trained how to follow them in their job duties. This session will cover best practices on ensuring that staff understand and consistently implement Tribal TANF plans, policies, and procedures as part of their daily work.

**Speakers:**

*Claude Enfield, Northland Pioneer College*

*Melanie Luna, TANF Sites Director, Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association*

**Moderator:**

*Marjorie Hudspeth, Program Specialist, OFA, Region VIII*



## **Coordinating Services for Parents and Children**

**Studio E**

Providing services to children alongside their parents can help break the intergenerational cycle of poverty. These program models often combine comprehensive employment and training opportunities for parents and caregivers with educational and enrichment opportunities for their children. In this session, participants will hear from Whānau Tahī, an innovative New Zealand tribal program providing whole family services, and a program focused on families at risk of entering the foster care system from the Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska.

### **Speakers:**

**Stephen Keung**, *President and CEO North America, Whānau Tahī*

**Lexy Gallant**, *Child Welfare Administrator, Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*

**Barbara Dude**, *Child Welfare Specialist, Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*

### **Moderators:**

**Frank Rojas**, *Program Specialist, Division of Tribal TANF Management, OFA*

**Tonya Taylor**, *Program Specialist, Division of Tribal TANF Management, OFA*

9:45–10:00 a.m.

*Break*

10:00–11:30 a.m.

## **Plenary: Professionalizing Case Management**

**Salon 4**

Effective case management is vital to a client's success in a Tribal TANF or NEW program. Many programs dedicate substantial resources to enhancing professional development opportunities in the area of case management, including training caseworkers to adopt a coaching approach with clients and developing strategies for staffing challenging cases with colleagues and supervisors. This session will highlight a number of professionalizing case management examples and provide an overview of Public Consulting Group's online training modules on coaching skills.

### **Speakers:**

**Evie Campbell**, *Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Duluth Department of Social Work*

**Nicole Grogan**, *Tribal TANF Case Management Supervisor, Muscogee Creek Nation*

**Renee Benson**, *Public Consulting Group*

**Petie Booth**, *Public Consulting Group*

### **Moderator:**

**Julie Fong**, *Regional Program Manager, OFA, Region IX*

11:30–11:45 a.m.

## **Meeting Conclusion and Closing Prayer**

**Salon 4**

**Stan Koutstaal**, *Division Director, OFA, Tribal TANF Management and Regional Operations*