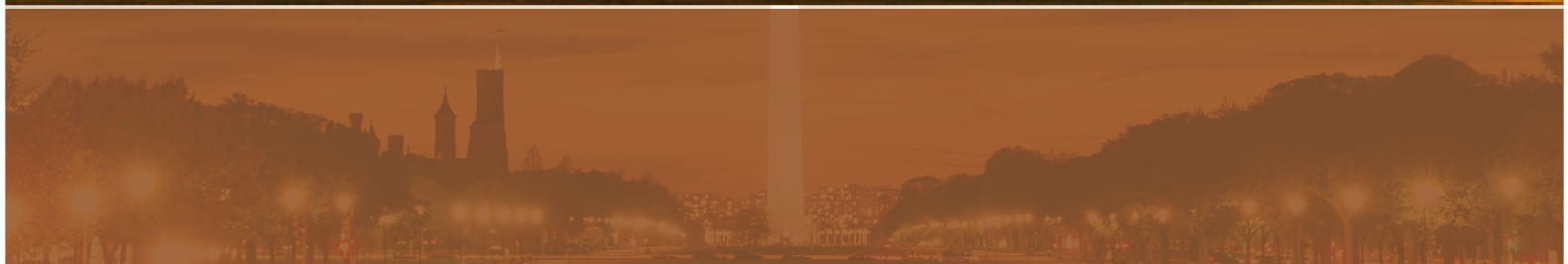


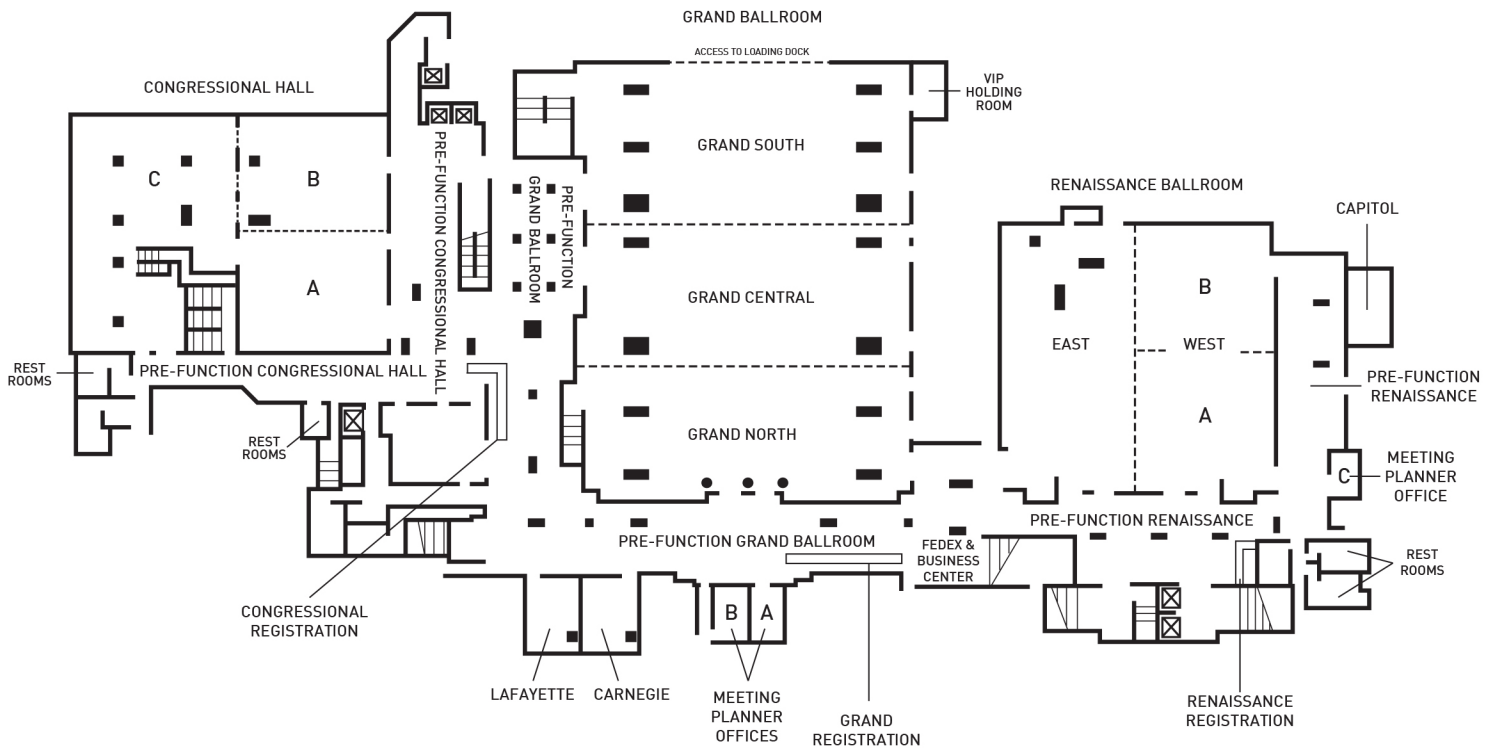


ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

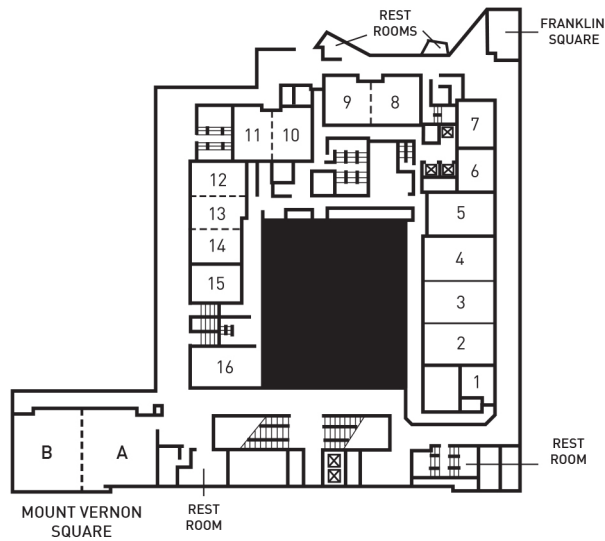
Tribal TANF Summit

August 31 - September 1, 2015
Washington, District of Columbia





BALLROOM LEVEL



MEETING ROOM LEVEL



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W., Washington, DC 20447 www.acf.hhs.gov

August 31, 2015

Greetings,

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance (OFA), it is our pleasure to welcome you to the Washington DC area for the Tribal TANF Summit. This Summit is designed to bring together tribal leaders and Tribal TANF program administrators from more than 70 tribes, along with experts from the field to share innovative strategies and updates related to Tribal TANF program implementation.

During our time together, OFA will share valuable program-related information with tribal leaders and Tribal TANF administrators. Leaders will have an opportunity to hear from tribal and state peers who are navigating similar issues and challenges as they work to meet the needs of those being served in Indian Country. This meeting, which is aimed to enhance and improve program performance, will provide technical assistance, guidance, and program related information to Tribal TANF administrators.

The *Tribal TANF Summit* will provide a number of excellent opportunities for you and your colleagues administering Tribal TANF programs to learn from each other by sharing promising practices and strategies for addressing barriers for the individuals served by your programs.

We look forward to an inspiring, valuable and informative Summit. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to improving the lives of tribal families and communities. Thank you again for joining us, we hope that you have a wonderful stay.

Sincerely,

Felicia Gaither, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Tribal TANF Management
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance



2015 TRIBAL TANF SUMMIT AGENDA

AUGUST 31, 2015-SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 | WASHINGTON, DC

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2015

8:30 a.m.—9:00 a.m.

Welcome and Tribal Opening

Renaissance Ballroom

Nisha Patel, *Director, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

Felicia Gaither, *Director, Division of Tribal TANF Management, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

Lester Alford, *Tribal TANF Executive Director, Karuk Tribe of California*

9:00 a.m.—10:15 a.m.

WIOA Implementation in Tribal Areas and Investing in our Youth and the Community: Summer Youth Employment Programs in Indian Country

During this session, representatives from the Department of Labor will discuss the rollout of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) and how it relates to tribal communities. The session will also feature information on summer youth employment opportunities, including an example from a Tribal TANF program that has successfully engaged youth in employment.

Athena Brown, *Division Chief, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Division of Indian and Native American Programs*

Amanda Ahlstrand, *Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration, United States Department of Labor*

Matthew Barnes, *Program Services Director, California Tribal TANF Partnership Administration*

Moderator:

Stan Koutstaal, *Program Manager, Health Profession Opportunity Grants, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

10:15 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

BREAK

10:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. *What Can Tribes Do? Strategies and Institutions in American Indian Economic Development*

This session will provide tribes with insight and information on the link between governance and economic development as well as how Tribal TANF plays a role in this relationship. Dr. Stephen Cornell will discuss the experiences, findings, and guiding principles emerging from the work of the Harvard American Indian Economic Development organization in assisting tribes to develop policies and governance structures that support and drive economic development efforts. Mr. Joseph Nayquonabe will share his experiences leading the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, an entity created by the tribal government of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, in developing and nurturing a wide range of business efforts in east-central Minnesota. Mr. Nayquonabe will discuss the importance of diversification in economic development (both gaming and non-gaming ventures) and touch on his organization’s connection to Tribal TANF.

Stephen Cornell, *Co-Director of the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development & Director, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, University of Arizona*

Joseph Nayquonabe, *Chairman of the Board and Commissioner of Corporate Affairs, Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures*

Moderator:

Denise Litz, *Family Assistance Program Specialist, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

12:00 p.m.—1:30 p.m. *LUNCH ON YOUR OWN*

1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m. *Peer Networking*

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

- *Economic Development*
- *Summer Youth Employment and Job Creation*
- *Evaluation and Program Assessment*
- *Job Advancement/Development*
- *Health Insurance Marketplace*
- *Data Management and Performance Measurements*
- *Tribal TANF Success Stories*

Following the small group discussions, attendees will have the opportunity to share key lessons learned.

Moderator:

Lynn Carrier, *Senior Associate, ICF International*

3:00 p.m.—3:15 p.m.

BREAK

3:15 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Successful Tools for Case Managers

Case managers are tasked with many functions in building a successful program. They must motivate, assess customers, write career plans, help customers become employed and follow-up post placement. This session will cover a variety of tools and strategies for helping case managers be efficient and effective.

Jodie Sue Kelly, Co-Founder, Cygnet Associates

Moderator:

Liliana Hernandez, Program Specialist, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

5:00 p.m.

Informal Networking

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

- 8:30 a.m.—8:45 a.m. Renaissance Ballroom** **Day Two Welcome and Tribal Opening**
- Felicia Gaither**, *Director, Division of Tribal TANF Management, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
- Dennis Zotigh**, *Cultural Specialist, Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian*
- 8:45 a.m.—10:00 a.m.** **Listening Session**
- The listening session will provide tribes and states with an opportunity to voice their shared questions, comments, and concerns to Administration for Children and Families (ACF) leadership on its vision to serve the needs of Native American children, families and communities.
- Listening Panel:**
- Mark Greenberg**, *Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
- Lillian Sparks Robinson**, *Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
- Nisha Patel**, *Director, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
- Moderator:**
- Felicia Gaither**, *Director, Division of Tribal TANF Management, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
- 10:00 a.m.—10:50 a.m.** **Building Tribal and State Relations**
- This session will highlight strategies for building coalitions as both states and tribes work toward the goals of building self-sufficiency and ensuring well-being for families. The panelists will discuss how shared goals for children and families can serve as the foundation for collaboration, and will share examples of successful tribal and state coalitions.
- Lesa Evers**, *Tribal Relations Manager, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services*
- Anita Fineday**, *Managing Director, Indian Child Welfare Programs, Casey Family Programs*
- Moderator:**
- Heather Zenone**, *Senior Advisor, Tribal Children, Children’s Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
- 10:50 a.m.—11:00 a.m.** **BREAK**

- 11:00 a.m.—11:45 a.m. *Building Tribal and State Relations Breakout Sessions***
- Federal staff and panelists from the Building Tribal and State Relations session will meet with tribal and state representatives grouped by Region to discuss strategies for successful coalition building around issues such as tribal consultation and child welfare. These smaller groups will allow tribes an opportunity to meet one-on-one with their state 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.
- Renaissance Ballroom *Regions I, II, IV, V, VII, and X***
- Moderators:**
- Heather Zenone**, *Senior Advisor, Tribal Children, Children’s Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
- Lillian Sparks Robinson**, *Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
- Mount Vernon AB *Regions VI, VIII, and IX***
- Moderators:**
- Lesa Evers**, *Tribal Relations Manager, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services*
- Anita Fineday**, *Managing Director, Indian Child Welfare Programs, Casey Family Programs*
- 11:45 a.m.—1:00 p.m. *ADJOURN/LUNCH ON YOUR OWN***
- 1:00 p.m.—1:15 p.m. *Opening Remarks—Gateway to Opportunity: Improving Parental Employment and Family Well Being Outcomes***
- 1:15 p.m.—5:00 p.m. *Gateway to Opportunity Workshops (for State and Tribal TANF Summit participants)***



Matthew Barnes has worked to improve the lives of Native American children and families for over 10 years. He started as the director of the first Native American Boys & Girls Club in California, became site manager for California Tribal TANF Partnership (CTTP) and is now program services director for CTTP. As program services director, Mr. Barnes oversees teen pregnancy prevention, workplace success, work experience, and youth employment programming for CTTP's 16 counties, serving 18 partner tribes as well as unaffiliated federally recognized tribal members and California Judgment Roll participants. Mr. Barnes earned his bachelor of social work from the Humboldt State University.

Stephen Cornell is professor of sociology and director of the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at the University of Arizona. He co-founded and continues today to co-direct the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development; he also led the development of the Native Nations Institute at Arizona, a partner program to the Harvard Project. Dr. Cornell has spent much of the last 25 years working with Native nations in the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand on self-determination, governance, and development issues.

Jodie Sue Kelly has been in the workforce development field for over three decades. She is a popular speaker at national, regional, and local conferences. She was awarded the 2004 National Association of Workforce Development Professional of the Year award. Ms. Kelly has a master's degree from George Mason University in information systems and an undergraduate degree from California University of Pennsylvania in psychology.

Athena R. Brown is an enrolled member of the Ft. McDermitt Paiute/Shoshone Tribe in northern Nevada. Ms. Brown currently serves as the chief of the Division of Indian and Native American Programs, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. She formerly served as the superintendent of the Western Nevada Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior from October 2007 to August 2014 in Carson City, NV. She also served as the chief of staff to the director of the Bureau of Indian Education in Washington, DC. Ms. Brown recently returned to the Washington, DC area to serve as the division chief. She has vast experience working with Indian Country in various fields including employment and training, Public Law 93-638, tribal operations, and economic development, and she has worked for the private sector, national Indian organizations, and tribal and federal organizations.

Amanda Ahlstrand joined the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration in January 2003 and currently serves as the administrator for the Office of Workforce Investment. As such, she provides federal oversight and leadership for the nation's workforce investment system, authorized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). In addition to WIOA programs, she has responsibility for implementing the Senior Community Service and Employment program, H-1B Technical Skills Training grants, and the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training program. As federal partners in this system, she and her talented team work to ensure that both job seeker and business customers are at the center of service delivery across programs designed to serve employers, unemployed and dislocated workers, youth, Indians and Native Americans, farmworkers, people with disabilities, and others.

Ms. Ahlstrand has also served as the division chief for Strategic Investments and as a team lead for the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Performance and Results Office. Prior to joining ETA, Ms. Ahlstrand worked for a private consulting firm, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and the American Society for Training and Development. Ms. Ahlstrand has a bachelor of arts degree in economics and sociology from the University of Notre Dame and a master of public policy degree from Georgetown University.

Joseph Nayquonabe Jr. is the commissioner of corporate affairs and CEO of Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (MLCV). As CEO, Mr. Nayquonabe serves as the chairman of the board of directors for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, which analyzes new business opportunities and oversees the Mille Lacs Band's existing businesses, including Grand Casino Mille Lacs, Grand Casino Hinckley, the Crowne Plaza St. Paul Riverfront Hotel, the DoubleTree by Hilton in St. Paul, MN, the Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City, Eddy's Resort on Lake Mille Lacs, Sweetgrass Media, 2020 Brand Solutions, and numerous small businesses. When Mr. Nayquonabe assumed the role of CEO, he made the boldest move in the company's history when he directed MLCV to grow its non-gaming revenue streams and invest in hospitality and marketing industries. Since then, non-gaming revenue has grown more than 236% and non-gaming cash flow has increased by 1,191%. In addition to his work, Mr. Nayquonabe serves on the Friends of Como Zoo board of directors, the American Indian Advisory Board for St. Cloud State University, Minnesota Lodging Association, and the American Red Cross Minnesota Region Board of Directors.

Felicia Gaither is the director for the Division of Tribal TANF of the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Family Assistance (OFA), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Gaither is responsible for the oversight and administration of the Tribal TANF Program, Native Employment Works Program, and the Tribal TANF Child Welfare discretionary grant program, providing technical assistance and guidance to regional offices, states, and tribes administering the TANF program throughout the nation. Previously, Dr. Gaither served as the Region VIII-Denver Program Manager in OFA, where she was responsible for providing technical assistance and guidance to state and tribal administrators in Colorado, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Dr. Gaither has years of experience working in human services. She has served in many capacities working for a variety of organizations at the local, state, and federal levels. Dr. Gaither received her bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Nebraska, a master's degree in public administration from Wichita State University, and a Ph.D. in human services from Capella University.

Dennis W. Zotigh is a Kiowa, San Juan Pueblo, and Santee Dakota Indian and is a member of the Kiowa Gourd Clan and a descendent of Sitting Bear and No Retreat, both principal war chiefs of the Kiowa. He is the director of the internationally known dance company, The Great American Indian Dancers. As a performer and lecturer, Mr. Zotigh has toured 49 states and 21 foreign countries. As both an Indian dancer and singer, he has competed and won numerous awards for his talents. He currently sings with the former world champion Indian singing group The Zotigh Singers. Prior to joining the staff of National Museum of the American Indian, Mr. Zotigh played an important role in developing the American Indian Gallery of the new Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City, OK in the capacity of American Indian researcher and historian. Mr. Zotigh truly seeks to preserve the past, to broaden how Native Americans are viewed in the present, and to create new opportunities for Indian youth in the future.

Mark Greenberg is the acting assistant secretary for the Administration for Children and Families. He also serves as both the principal deputy assistant secretary and the acting commissioner for the Administration on Children, Youth and Families. Before joining HHS, Mr. Greenberg directed the Georgetown University Center on Poverty, Inequality, and Public Policy, a joint initiative of the Georgetown University Law Center and the Georgetown Public Policy Institute. In addition, he was a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress (CAP) and the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). He previously served as the executive director of CAP's Task Force on

Poverty and as CLASP's director of policy. During his career, Mr. Greenberg has written extensively on issues relating to federal and state welfare reform efforts, workforce policy issues affecting low-income families, child care and early education policy, tax policy, poverty measurement, and a range of other low-income issues. In addition, he frequently provided technical assistance to state and local governments regarding poverty reduction strategies. Prior to coming to DC, Mr. Greenberg worked at Jacksonville Area Legal Aid in Florida and the Western Center on Law and Poverty in Los Angeles, CA. Mr. Greenberg is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School.

Lillian Sparks Robinson, a Lakota woman of the Rosebud and Oglala Sioux Tribes, is the commissioner of the Administration of Native Americans. She has devoted her career to supporting the educational pursuits of Native American students, protecting the rights of indigenous people, and empowering tribal communities. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Sparks served as the executive director of the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) where she worked extensively on K-12 and early childhood education policy and appropriations impacting American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students. Before joining NIEA, Ms. Sparks served as a staff attorney with the National Congress of American Indians, where she worked on international indigenous rights, sacred sites and religious protection, and issues related to youth and healthcare. Ms. Sparks also previously worked in the legal department at the National Indian Gaming Commission at the Department of the Interior. Ms. Sparks received her bachelor's degree in political science from Morgan State University, located in her hometown of Baltimore, MD, and her *juris doctor* from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, DC. Ms. Sparks is admitted to practice in Maryland.

Nisha Patel is the director of the Office of Family Assistance. Ms. Patel has nearly two decades of experience developing, managing, and implementing initiatives to increase economic opportunities for low-income families in the US. She was most recently deputy director of Ascend at the Aspen Institute, where she played a key role in national efforts to expand two-generation approaches to improve outcomes for children and their parents. Prior to the Aspen Institute, Ms. Patel was a program officer in the U.S. Program at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, where she managed a \$40 million portfolio focused on reducing inequity and increasing postsecondary success through community partnerships and policy development. She previously held positions as director of programs at Washington Area Women's Foundation and senior policy analyst at the Center for Law and Social Policy, where she co-authored numerous publications and provided technical assistance to states and communities focused on welfare reform, workforce development, and work supports for low-income families. Earlier, Ms. Patel worked at the National Legal Aid and Defender Association. She has also served as an adjunct professor at the George Washington University. Ms. Patel is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and holds a master of social work with a concentration in social and economic development from Washington University in St. Louis.

Lesia Evers currently serves as the tribal relations manager for the Department of Public Health and Human Services, a position she has held since January 2013. In this capacity, she helps guide the department's internal and external work with tribal governments, tribal health programs, and Indian people. Previously, she was appointed by Governor Brian Schweitzer to serve as his state director of Indian affairs from June 2010 to January 2013 and as the economic development specialist for Indian Country for the Governor's Office of economic development from July 2008 to June 2010. Ms. Evers has held other state government positions such as the Indian Country Economic Development program manager for the Department of Commerce and as the executive assistant to the director of the Montana Department of Agriculture. In addition, Ms. Evers worked for the Blackfeet Higher Education Program, State of Alaska, and the Alaska Job Corps Center.

Ms. Evers was born on the Blackfeet Reservation in Browning, MT. She is of Blackfeet descent and is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. She attended college at Montana State University in Bozeman and Matanuska Susitna College in Palmer, AK.

Anita Fineday became the managing director of the Indian Child Welfare Program for the Casey Family Programs in 2011. She previously served as the chief judge for the White Earth Tribal Nation for 14 years. She holds a master's degree in public administration from the Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and a *juris doctor* from the University of Colorado School of Law. She has previously served as an associate judge for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and the Grand Portage Band of Chippewa. She has also taught federal Indian law and policy at the tribal college, university, and law school levels. She is an enrolled member of the White Earth Tribal Nation.



2015 Tribal TANF Summit

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