Additional Funding Streams for Non-Custodial Parent (NCP) Services

Sometimes TANF program dollars are scarce or not able to be used for creative services that would help non-custodial parents. Sometimes Child Support program dollars can't be used for certain purposes beyond the scope of the program.

The following may be other funding stream for Tribes to consider when thinking about building programs that serve the needs of the NCP.

Government Grants in General

A wide variety of federal grants are announced to the public on a regular basis at http://www.grants.gov/. There may be opportunities posted here of interest to Tribes to apply for grants that could provide additional funding resources for services to NCPs in such things as job search skills, financial literacy, or responsible parenting skills.

Special Grants from the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE)

Each year, OCSE announces special grant opportunities. These competitive grants give the recipients a chance to do unique and creative things for a limited period of time. Two types of grants are given by OCSE each year:

- <u>SIP (Special Improvement Project) Grants</u>: These grants are designed for community organizations or Tribes that want to experiment or build something new
- <u>Section 1115 Grants</u>: These grants are typically available to State Child Support programs but possibilities may exist for a Tribe and a State to work together to apply for grants in this category.

More information about these grants is at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/grants/.

Special "Access and Visitation" Grant Dollars

OCSE currently provides each State with a unique stream of money dedicated to helping parents with access and visitation issues with their children. More information is available at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/access_visitation/

Some states chose to distribute this money to community and other government organizations to provide those direct services through a competitive bid process. The President's proposed budget now before Congress proposes to expand Access and Visitation Funding and if passed may allow Tribes to also receive similar funds.

Fatherhood Organizations

- The National Fatherhood Initiative website at www.fatherhood.org is a resource for information on how to engage fathers. They have at times offered "capacity building" grants for initiatives that look to engage fathers in the lives of their children.
- The Native American Fatherhood and Families Association is another resource for information and training on how to engage fathers. Their website is at www.nativeamericanfathers.org/

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) Grant

Although this is grant money that will go to States, a percentage of each State's grant is to be dedicated to Tribal-focused initiatives. This grant is aimed at teen pregnancy prevention and building healthy relationships. Information about the grant can be found at

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/view/HHS-2010-ACF-ACYF-PREP-0125

There may be opportunities to seek funding for the Tribe from the State with these grant dollars to support Tribal efforts in this area