

Agenda

Meeting Objectives

- Provide an opportunity for face to face communication and the exchange and sharing of information related to current priorities and initiatives; program successes and challenges; and other information pertinent to improving TANF program administration and outcomes.
- Opportunity to learn about models for improving economic outcomes through effective assessment and appropriate work placements.
- Opportunity to learn strategies and approaches for effective collaboration with internal and external partners leading to enhanced comprehensive client services.
- Opportunity to learn about the basic steps of the TANF penalty process.
- Opportunity to learn approaches and implementation strategies for effectively working with clients experiencing co-occurring disorders and multiple barriers to employment, such as substance abuse and mental health disorders.

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Networking

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Opening Blessing

9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

Julie Fong
TANF Program Manager
Office of Family Assistance
Administration for Children and Families – Region IX

Sharon Fujii
Regional Administrator
Administration for Children and Families—Region IX

Meeting Overview

Emily Zoellner
TANF Program Specialist
Administration for Children and Families – Region IX

9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Updates from Region IX and the Office of Family Assistance

During this session, participants will hear from the new Director for the Division of Tribal TANF Management, Office of Family Assistance on ACF Initiatives and priorities and current issues pertaining to the Tribal TANF program. The Region IX TANF Program Manager and Region IX TANF staff will provide updates on current issues and changes at the Regional level. Participants will have the chance to dialogue with the Director as well as with Region IX staff.

Felicia Gaither

Director
Division of Tribal TANF Management
Office of Family Assistance
Administration for Children and Families
(via teleconference)

Julie Fong

TANF Program Manager
Office of Family Assistance
Administration for Children and Families – Region IX

Emily Zoellner

TANF Program Specialist
Administration for Children and Families – Region IX

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Case Management for Successful Outcomes

Tribal TANF programs serve clients with a wide variety of experiences, skills, barriers, and goals. In this session, attendees will learn the critical importance of comprehensively assessing clients' skills, strengths, and needs in order to help them on their path to self-sufficiency. The session will include current comprehensive assessment models that are being successfully utilized in Tribal TANF programs, and will provide attendees with suggestions for tailoring assessments to fit their unique needs.

Vera Hyatt

Senior Programs and Projects Specialist
Customer and Staff Development
Navajo Nation Program for Self-Reliance

Christina Techico

Project Director
Online Work Readiness Assessment (OWRA) Tool

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Enhancing Opportunities for Tribal TANF Clients through Strategic Partnership and Collaboration

One of the most effective ways for Tribal TANF programs to serve clients is to establish and develop strong collaborations with partner agencies, communities, and businesses. These partnerships can enable Tribal TANF programs to identify potential job training, educational opportunities, employment options, and support services for their clients. In this session, participants will first learn strategies for improving communication and identifying partnership opportunities within their organization; they will then learn strategies for forming partnership with outside agencies such as service providers, community groups, and employers. Participants will be encouraged to consider how they may implement such strategies within their unique programs.

Dion Wood

TERO/Child Care Director
Karuk Tribe of California

Kathy Atkins

Owner
Redbird Events

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Peer Networking: An Opportunity to Share Lessons Learned in Program Planning and Development

During this structured networking session, Tribal TANF program representatives will engage in discussions designed to address key issues among Tribal TANF programs, including: summer youth engagement; stakeholder identification and partnership building; case management and staff development; and other crucial areas of interest. Tribal TANF program representatives will have the opportunity to interact with three different peer groups over the course of the networking session. The session will conclude with the opportunity for Tribal TANF program representatives to share what they learned from their peers.

4:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Day One Close-out

5:00 p.m.

Adjourn

Agenda

Wednesday, September 26, 2012

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Networking**
- 9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. **Opening Blessing**
- 9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Day One Recap**
- Emily Zoellner**
 TANF Program Specialist
 Administration for Children and Families – Region IX
- 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Connecting Tribal TANF Clients with Work Opportunities: Keys to Successful Placements**
Constructing work programs to fit the Tribal context and to fit TANF participants' unique needs is important. This session will include suggestions for matching Tribal TANF participants to work experience, on-the-job-training, subsidized employment, and summer youth employment programs.
- Don Shircel**
 Client Development Director
 Tanana Chiefs Conference
- Kathy Atkins**
 Owner
 Redbird Events
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. **Break**
- 11:15 p.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Overview of the TANF Penalty Process**
During this session, Region IX staff will present an overview of the TANF penalty process. Region IX staff will review when a penalty may be imposed, how a Tribe will be notified in the event of a penalty action, and what options are available in responding to a penalty notice. Region IX staff will also briefly discuss additional accountability provisions.
- Region IX Tribal TANF Team**
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Supporting Tribal TANF Clients with Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Health Disorders

Tribal TANF clients who are dealing with multiple barriers, such as co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders, face unique challenges in becoming self-sufficient. In this session, participants will learn tools for effectively serving these clients and their families. Such tools include: connecting clients to existing community resources; building internal capacity to identify issues and intervene appropriately; interdisciplinary staff training; developing and maintaining coordinated case management systems; and family-centered, culturally competent, strengths-based treatment programs.

Elizabeth Evans

Business Services and ATR Coordinator
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Behavioral Health

Bill Hardy

Director
Ketchikan Indian Community Behavioral Health

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Day Two Close-out and Evaluation

3:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks and Adjourn