Speaker Biographies

Lester Lee Alford, Jr. serves as the Database Administrator for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California. Mr. Alford is of Karuk/Shasta Indian descent and he is originally from the Quartz Valley Indian Reservation located in Northern California. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a Masters of Art in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix. In addition to his work with the Washoe Tribe, Mr. Alford has held various positions with the M.A.C.T. Health Board, Inc., Hoopa Valley Tribal TANF program and California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc.

Glen Basconcillo is the Chief Operations Officer with the Owens Valley Career Development Center, a Tribal organization providing social services, education, language, and literacy services in Central California. With over 30 years of public and tribal social services policy development, program development, program evaluation and compliance, he brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in human services delivery systems. Prior to the OVCDC, he was Program Development Director for the Kern County Department of Human Services during the development and implementation of the landmark welfare reform legislation of 1996 that created TANF. His duties included developing plans and programs for the implementation of welfare reform and testifying to the Legislature related to public policy and program development. He also performed presentations to human services partnership organizations emphasizing collaboration in the development of systems with positive service outcomes. At OVCDC, he served as TANF Director prior to being appointed Chief Operations Officer. Currently, he facilitates a quarterly workgroup of the California Tribal TANF programs and participates in numerous, local, state, regional and national forums on TANF. His career reflects a dedication to continually improve systems to achieve the best outcomes for participants.

Guy Christian serves as the Supervising Welfare Fraud Investigator for the Tulare County District Attorney's Office. Guy was born and raised in Fresno, California. After graduation from High School he joined the Navy, he was assigned to the Pacific Submarine Fleet. After his discharge from the Navy he worked for the California Department of Forestry as a Fire Apparatus Engineer in Tulare County and as a Fire Captain and Paramedic Captain in Orange County.

Guy joined the Tulare County District Attorney's Welfare Fraud Unit in 1996 and was promoted to Supervising Investigator in June of 1998. He has worked in and supervised surveillance operations, warrant operations, and Food Stamp undercover operations both as a supervisor and as an undercover agent. Guy developed and instructs a training program for the Tulare County Health and Human Services eligibility staff. The program is designed to meet the state required fraud training for Social Services staff. Included in the training are interview techniques, elements of fraud, State and Federal rules and regulations, and courtroom procedures. He has served as a member of the 2009, 2010 and 2011 California Welfare Fraud Investigators Association's Conference Curriculum Committee. Guy was elected to the Board of CWFIA in June 2010 as a Zone 1 Director. He was appointed as Vice President of CWFIA in January 2011 and elected to that office in July 2011. He has served as Chairman of the Tulare County In Home Support Services Advisory Committee for the past nine years.

Speaker Biographies

Tilford Denver serves as the Public/Community Relations Coordinator for the Owens Valley Career Development Center. Owens Valley Career Development Center is a consortium of Sovereign Nations providing the opportunity for improvement in the quality of life by focusing on education and self-sufficiency. This is done while protecting, preserving and promoting the cultures in the spirit of positive nation building for Native people of today and generations of tomorrow.

Janet Deschinny is a trainer for the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Since 2004 she has also worked for the Brewster Center and the Tohono O'odham Nation's Domestic Violence Program where her jobs have included advocate, community educator, community education coordinator, volunteer coordinator and family resources coordinator. In her current role, Janet trains groups around the state of Arizona on domestic violence issues. She is a certified Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Adjunct Instructor. Janet hopes to start a domestic violence/sexual assault advocacy center in her home communities of Oak Springs & Pine Springs, Arizona. When she is not working, you can find her weaving Navajo rugs, spending time with her family, or experimenting in the kitchen with different cooking recipes.

Dana Eisenberg is a Senior Communications Specialist at BLH Technologies, Inc., and provides communications strategy, research, and planning for the Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She serves as a member of the Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network Team, providing training and technical assistance support services to States, counties, localities, Tribal organizations, and community-based organizations. Ms. Eisenberg is knowledgeable regarding the research design, implementation, and evaluation of health messages targeting special populations. She has conducted many literature reviews, developed survey instruments, entered and evaluated the resultant data, and contributed to journal articles and reports on health communication topics.

Ms. Eisenberg earned B.A. degrees in communication studies and psychology from the College of New Jersey and earned her M.A. in communication from Ohio State University.

Pat McBrayer has been employed by the State of Arizona, Department of Economic Security, for the last 29 years. Her experience started with Job Service as a case manager with Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) program, and she has since held various positions within the Family Assistance Administration including: Eligibility Worker, Supervisor, Manager, Trainer, Program and Policy Specialist. Pat has been married for 40 years, has two children, and 13 grandchildren.