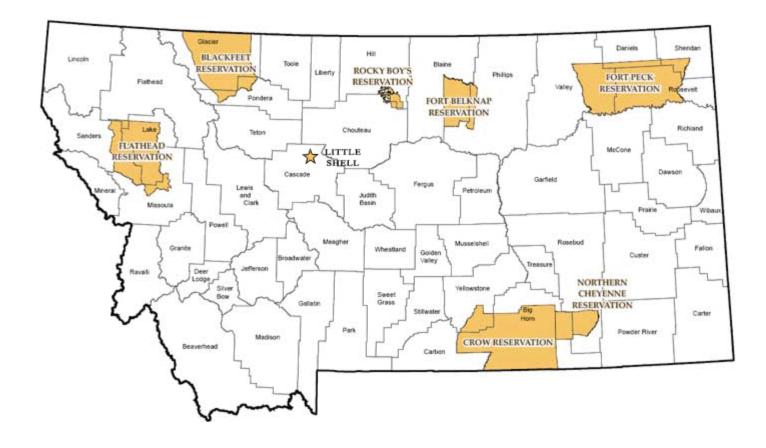
Building and Fostering Relationships between States and Tribes

Tribal TANF Summit Washington, DC September 1, 2015

Lesa Evers Tribal Relations Manager Department of Public Health and Human Services State of Montana



Indian Reservations in Montana





Reservations/Tribes

Blackfeet Reservation

Home of **Blackfeet Tribe** Tribal Headquarters is in Browning

Crow Reservation

Home of **Crow Tribe** Tribal Headquarters is in Crow Agency

Flathead Reservation

Home of **Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes** Tribal Headquarters is in Pablo

Fort Belknap Reservation

Home of **Assiniboine & Gros Ventre Tribes** Tribal Headquarters is in Fort Belknap Agency

Fort Peck Reservation

Home of **Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes** Tribal Headquarters is in Poplar

Northern Cheyenne Reservation

Home of **Northern Cheyenne Tribe** Tribal Headquarters is in Lame Deer

Rocky Boy's Reservation

Home of **Chippewa & Cree Tribes** Tribal Headquarters is in Rocky Boy Agency

► *Little Shell (only recognized by State of MT) Referred to as the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana Tribal Headquarters is in Great Falls, no large land base

Seeking Federal Recognition



Building Relationships

- Important to acknowledge the historical relationship between tribes and other government agencies.
- Realize that making change requires a commitment to work differently.
- Encourage those doing similar work/program delivery to be introduced so they can begin to know each other.
- Recognize that building trust will happen over time and ultimately depends on the investment.
- Understand the value of good relationships and why the effort matters.



It Does Matter

- It is a worthwhile and necessary effort.
- We can learn and share.
- It helps us grow.
- We can implement and improve.

- Policies can be changed and barriers reduced.
- The ultimate benefit is to those we serve.



Approach is Key

- Commit to a genuine and meaningful relationship.
- Be inclusive and invite/include when appropriate.
- Show up, be prepared and engage and expect the same of others.
- Listen and be open to differing ideas, thoughts and opinions.
- Promise only what you can deliver.

- Follow up and follow through.
- Communicate often.



Contact Information

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