



The conference artwork, which was developed by Nicholas Birdshead, shows a silhouette design of a young man and young woman, surrounded by a series of rays and hands. The young man is holding scales to represent “Justice.” The young woman is holding a basket with herbs and medicinal plants, representing “Healing.” The young man and young woman represent the present and the youth we are working for. The rays that are radiating around the central point represent rays of hope for the youth, hope for a better day, and hope for the future of our people. The rays also represent the sacred circle of life and everything involved in our journey. There are eight hands on top of the rays representing the claiming of the sacred circle. They also represent the four sacred directions and the sky, earth, past and future. The present is represented by ourselves and the youth. In the palm of each hand is a symbol. Starting from the top hand and moving clockwise; the symbols represent Love, Family, Culture, Connection, Equality, Wellness, Health, and Hope. All of this together represents the reclaiming of the sacred circle.

OJJDP Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Office of Justice Programs ♦ U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP):

OJJDP, a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, accomplishes its mission by supporting states, local communities, and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for juveniles. The Office strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system's efforts to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families.

Through its components, OJJDP sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming. Learn More: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/>

OJJDP Vision: The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) envisions a nation where our children are free from crime and violence. If they come into contact with the justice system, the contact should be both just and beneficial to them.

OJJDP Mission: OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP supports the efforts of states, tribes, and communities to develop and implement effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that enhance public safety, ensure youth are held appropriately accountable to both crime victims and communities, and empower youth to live productive, law-abiding lives.



Caren Harp, Administrator

Caren Harp was sworn in as Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention on January 19, 2018.

Ms. Harp is a former director of the National Juvenile Justice Prosecution Center at the American Prosecutors Research Institute. She also served as Chief of the Sex Crimes Prosecution Unit in the Family Court Division of the New York City Law Department. Ms. Harp was a member of the American Bar Association's

Juvenile Justice Standards Task Force and the National Steering Committee of the Office for Victims of Crime-sponsored Vision 21 Project of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

During her 23-year career as a trial lawyer, Ms. Harp spent 20 years on the prosecution side of the court system, either prosecuting cases or training prosecutors, and 3 years as a public defender. As a deputy prosecutor, Ms. Harp tried a wide range of cases in criminal and juvenile court, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and capital murder. As a trial attorney for the Arkansas Public Defender Commission, she represented indigent defendants charged with major felonies, including capital murder, and managed attorney caseloads and court coverage in six counties.

Prior to being appointed Administrator, Ms. Harp served for 5 years as an associate professor of law at the Liberty University School of Law where she taught courses on children and the law, evidence, professional responsibility, and trial advocacy.

She received her bachelor of science and master's degrees from the University of Arkansas and her juris doctor degree from the University of Arkansas School of Law. Ms. Harp is admitted to practice in Arkansas and New York.

Dear OJJDP Tribal Grantees and Guests,

Welcome to the 2018 National Tribal Youth Conference and the home of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. We wish to thank them for their generosity of allowing us to enter into their territory and share their beautiful location. As you can see by the title above, we developed the conference content through a cultural lens with a focus on justice and healing by emphasizing prevention, intervention, and treatment of tribal youth.

The 2018 Tribal Youth Conference supports the basic goals of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP also supports the efforts of states, tribes, and communities to develop and implement effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that enhance public safety, ensure youth are held appropriately accountable to both crime victims and communities, and empower youth to live productive, law-abiding lives.

To support these efforts, the Indian Country Child Trauma Center currently operates the OJJDP Tribal Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center (TY T/TA) and has worked to coordinate and facilitate the National Tribal Youth Conference to support tribal grantees in their Tribal youth programs and Healing to Wellness court efforts. The event has been organized in partnership with OJJDP's TTA center in Alaska – the Resource Basket – operated by the Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP) serving Alaska Native tribal youth programs and Healing to Wellness court grantees. This conference offers the following:

Track A: Prevention- Workshops will focus on shaping effective programs to support tribal youth diversion from the juvenile justice system and will cover topics such as youth leadership and development, pro-social program development, community based prevention programs and partnership development.

Track B: Intervention- Workshops will focus on strategies and emergent approaches to serve Tribal youth in the juvenile justice system and will cover topics such as the intersection of indigenous knowledge, youth engagement, and appropriate cultural approaches for youth services and intervention.

Track C: Treatment- Workshops will focus on evidence-based and promising treatment approaches to serve Tribal youth and reduce recidivism and individual/community harm through effectual identification of youth behavioral, social and educational needs. In some, workshops may address trauma-informed and restorative approaches that strengthen individual and community accountability to champion Tribal youth.

We hope you enjoy your time at the conference. We look forward to sharing this experience with you and supporting the opportunity to connect and interface with leaders in the fields of Tribal juvenile justice, intervention and prevention. Conference materials will be available for download on the Conference web page. Please visit and download materials at: <https://tribalyouthprogram.org/training-opportunities/conference-meetings/>.

Respectfully,

Dolores Subia BigFoot, PhD.
Director
Indian Country Child Trauma Center
OJJDP Tribal Youth Training and Technical
Assistance Center

Catherine Clements, MPH
Community Development Division Director
Rural Alaska Community Action Program
Resource Basket Training and Technical Assistance
Center



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At-A-Glance Agenda

	Session Time	Horizon Ballroom I	Horizon Ballroom II
Mon Dec 3rd	9:00am-10:30am	Opening and Plenary: "From Grieving to Believing, A Brother's Story"	Track A: Prevention
	10:30am-10:45am	Break	
	10:45am-12:00pm		The Building of a Youth Diversion Program
	12:00pm-1:30pm	Lunch (on your own)	
	1:30pm-3:00pm		Mentoring for Inspiration and Action
	3:00pm-3:30pm	Break	
	3:30pm-5:00pm		We R Native: Harnessing Technology to Improve Health Outcomes for American Indian and Alaska Native Youth
		Dinner (on your own)	
	7:30pm-	Sharing as Relatives: Community Connection Circle (Optional)	
Tues Dec 4th	8:30am-10:00am		Youth Violence Reduction Causes and Cessation
	10:00am-10:30am	Break	
	10:30am-12:00pm		Tribal Youth Program Peer Perspectives- Mescalero Apache Tribal Youth Program "Remembering Your Past to Create Your Future"
	12:00pm-1:30pm	Lunch (on your own)	
	1:30pm-3:00pm		Restorative Justice Circle Peacemaking Panel
		"Orientation to OJJDP Tribal Grants Management"	
	3:00pm-3:15pm	Break	
	3:15pm-4:30pm	Reclaiming the Sacred Circle: Focus on Tribal Youth	



Tapestry		Palm Canyon A/B	
Track B: Intervention		Track C: Treatment	
Break		Break	
Integrating Financial Management Skills Training into Juvenile Justice Programming		Caring for Native Youth with Substance Use Disorders	
Lunch (on your own)		Lunch (on your own)	
"Coming Home: Understanding and Addressing Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Native Communities"		Drum-Assisted Recovery Therapy for Native Americans (DARTNA): A Promising Substance Use Prevention Program for American Indians and Alaska Natives	
Break		Break	
Building Cohesion and Community Collectives- Tribal Youth Circle Peacemaking		Screening and Assessment to Support Tribal Youth- Creating Culturally Relevant Tools and Resources	
Dinner (on your own)		Dinner (on your own)	
Creating Connections for Youth through Culture, Court, and Club		Perspectives on Development of the Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court- Panel Discussion and Peer Dialogue	
Break		Break	
Circle Work as Intervention in the Tribal Juvenile Justice System		Sacred Perspectives: What Youth Are Saying About Culture-Based Prevention Programming	
Lunch (on your own)		Lunch (on your own)	
Tribal Youth Views- Youth Perspectives on Prevention- Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council		Re-awakening our Tribal Aunt and Uncle Societies	
OJJDP Program Managers		<i>(This session will take place in Plaza A/B)</i>	
Break		Break	





Reclaiming The Sacred Circle: Justice And Healing For Tribal Youth Through Prevention, Intervention And Treatment

Concurrent Breakout Sessions: *Participants may attend sessions in any of three principal tracks that include 1 to 1.5 hour presentations and/or skills-based workshops to support the development of effective Tribal youth prevention, intervention, and court-based programs.*

This conference sponsors 3 Tracks.

Track A: Prevention- Workshops in this track will focus on shaping effective programs to support tribal youth diversion from the juvenile justice system. Workshops will cover topics such as youth leadership and development, pro-social program development, community based prevention programs and partnership development.

Track B: Intervention- Workshops in this track will focus on strategies and emergent approaches to serve Tribal youth in the juvenile justice system. Workshops will cover topics that may include the intersection of indigenous knowledge, youth engagement, and appropriate cultural approaches for youth services and intervention.

Track C: Treatment- Workshops in this track will focus on evidence-based and promising treatment approaches to serve Tribal youth and reduce recidivism and individual/community harm through effectual identification of youth behavioral, social and educational needs. As well, workshops may address trauma-informed and restorative approaches that strengthen individual and community accountability to champion Tribal youth.



Conference Opening and Welcome

Monday December 3, 2018

Monday, December 3

9:00 am – 9:30 am

Conference Opening and Welcome
Tribal Youth TTA Center Welcome
US DOJ Staff- Opening Comments
Jennifer Yeh, Deputy Associate Administrator

Conference Materials will be available for download on the Conference web page. Please visit <https://tribalyouthprogram.org/training-opportunities/conference-meetings/>

Plenary Session

9:30 am – 10:15 am

Opening Plenary: “From Grieving to Believing, A Brother’s Story”

ROOM – Horizon Ballroom I

Carlos Rivera serves as Executive Director at White Bison, Inc., he is a licensed drug and alcohol counselor and works in the areas of drug and alcohol assessment, treatment, support, intervention, mentorship, rehabilitation, Wellbriety, identification of treatment resources for individuals with opioid addiction, and support for victims of trauma. Rivera brings hope to Native Americans with his life-changing personal journey. Growing up without a mother or father figure, Rivera became a ward of the court at age 13. He spent his teen years living on the streets or in group homes, treatment programs or juvenile detention centers. Through the process of intervention and recovery, Rivera found a sense of direction and the motivation to build a healthy foundation for his own family. After earning a degree in chemical dependency studies, Rivera became a substance abuse counselor and was appointed by California Gov. Jerry Brown to the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency State Committee. He currently serves as Executive Director at White Bison, Inc., an international non-profit that provides culturally-based healing resources to Native America.

Speaker:

Carlos Rivera (Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians), CADC II

10:15 am – 10:30 am

Morning Announcements and OJJDP Tribal Grantee Resource Introduction- Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute



BREAK

10:30 am – 10:45 am

Morning Break

Concurrent Sessions

10:45 am – 12:00 pm

Track A- Prevention: The Building of a Youth Diversion Program

Room: Horizon II

Speakers:

Johanna Farmer, J.D. - Tiwahe Program Manager
Annette Leyva - Attendance Achievement Administrator-
Pascua Yacqui Tribe

Session Description:

This presentation will provide an overview of the Attendance Achievement Program, a truancy diversion program implemented within the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. This session will discuss truancy reduction amongst Pascua Yaqui Tribal community youth, along with successes and challenges faced as part of program development and implementation. The session will share examples of strategies implemented to address barriers as part of new program development and will provide a focused discussion on the importance of code, policy, and procedure as part of programmatic infrastructure. The session will include a dialogue regarding the collaborative nature of the program which is a unified effort of the Tribal prosecutor's office, Tribal education department, Tribal court, and the Tucson Unified School District.

Track B- Intervention: Integrating Financial Management Skills Training into Juvenile Justice Programming

Room: Tapestry

Speaker:

Cortney Yarholar, M.S.W. - OJJDP Tribal Youth Training
and Technical Assistance Center

Session Description:

This session will utilize the Building Native Communities (BNC) curriculum developed by the First Nations

cont. Development Institute, and acknowledges the broader understanding Native communities have that assets are not only money but also sovereignty, kinship, Native languages and arts, and natural resources, among others. The training materials include culturally relevant examples and note the ways Native communities have been saving for generations. The BNC curriculum is designed to provide Native-specific and culturally-relevant financial education training for practitioners and programs working in Native communities. Participants will learn how to connect with the First Nations Development Institute, how to access training and certifications they offer and technical assistance that is available. Participants will also learn about free upcoming certification trainings being offered by the Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition (ONAC).

Track C- Treatment: Caring for Native Youth with Substance Use Disorders

Room: Palm Canyon A/B

Speakers:

Mark Espinosa - Director and Health Systems
Administrator
Carrie Greene, M.S. Ed. LPCC - Behavioral Health
Consultant, California Area Office, Youth Regional
Treatment Center (YRTC), Indian Health Service

Session Description:

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, among persons aged 12 and older, the rate of substance dependence or abuse is higher among American Indians or Alaska Natives (AI/AN) than any other population group. Native youth are disproportionately suffering from substance use and co-occurring disorders. Youth Regional Treatment Centers provide culturally appropriate residential treatment for Native American youth between the ages of 12-17. This session will identify the YRTCs, how to refer youth to these facilities, and the services that are provided.

LUNCH (on your own)

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Concurrent Sessions

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm



**Track A- Prevention:
Mentoring for Inspiration and Action**

Room: Horizon II

Speakers:

Elizabeth Santiago - Chief Program Officer
Desireé Robertson - Director of Training and Product Design National Mentoring Partnership (MENTOR)

Session Description:

Incredible shifts taking place all over our nation have prompted the mentoring world to re-evaluate how our work can be more relevant, inspiring and critical. This interactive workshop will support communities, programs and individuals in identifying the ways in which mentoring can support youth outcomes and discussing implementation strategies that are culturally relevant and uplifting. Participants will have an opportunity to share identified challenges facing their communities, discuss and identify the ways in which mentoring (formal through a program and informal through community members) can support youth, analyze and discuss the shifting nation and the shifts in programming that need to occur to embolden youth and others, and outline concrete next steps to making changes within relevant program.

**Track B- Intervention:
“Coming Home: Understanding and Addressing Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Native Communities”**

Room: Tapestry

Speaker:

Logan Tootle - Safe Harbor Youth Worker, Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center

Session Description:

What is commercial sexual exploitation (CSE)? How does this relate to the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women, girls, Two Spirit individuals, and gender non-conforming individuals in our communities? What can we do to address the problem and prevent it from happening? This session will address the dynamics of CSE among Native youth, drawing connections between past, present, and the larger issue of violence against Native women in the United States. Participants will learn about efforts to address CSE among the Urban Native population in Minneapolis, Minnesota and tribal youth in Greater Minnesota. Through collaboration with other attendees, participants will create action plans that align with the needs in their communities.

**Track C- Treatment:
Drum-Assisted Recovery Therapy for Native Americans (DARTNA): A Promising Substance Use Prevention Program for American Indians and Alaska Natives**

Room: Palm Canyon A/B

Speakers:

Daniel Dickerson, D.O., M.P.H. - Associate research Psychiatrist, UCLA, Integrated Substance Abuse Programs (ISAP)
Benjamin Hale, Drum Group Facilitator

Session Description:

There is a significant need for developing and analyzing culturally centered substance use treatment approaches for American Indian and Alaska Native people (AI/ANs). However, few research programs have focused on the development and analyses of culturally centered substance use interventions for AI/ANs. This presentation will provide an overview of a potentially effective substance use intervention targeting American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) utilizing drumming as its core component of treatment [Drum-Assisted Recovery Therapy for Native Americans (DARTNA)]. DARTNA integrates AI/AN drumming, 12-step philosophy, and concepts focused on the Medicine Wheel. This presentation will describe the development of this community-informed intervention and promising results from a pretest conducted among a sample of AI/ANs with histories of substance use disorders. Also, an overview of an ongoing feasibility clinical trial will be provided. A discussion with regard to the utility of DARTNA as a potential prevention intervention for AI/AN youth in reservation-based and urban settings will also be provided.

BREAK

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Afternoon Break

Concurrent Sessions

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

**Track A- Prevention:
We R Native: Harnessing Technology to Improve Health Outcomes for American Indian and Alaska Native Youth**



Room: Horizon II

Speakers:

Danica Brown- Healthy Native Youth, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

Session Description:

Despite their immense cultural resilience and pride, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth are one of the most at-risk populations in the U.S., living in communities disproportionately affected by high rates of poverty, unemployment, and health disparities. To reverse these trends, Native youth are stepping up and getting involved in health promotion efforts – harnessing the power of peer education, technology and social media to promote protective factors for physical, mental, spiritual and sexual health. Online health information-seeking is now the norm for AI/AN youth. This session will discuss social media trends and share strategies to engage youth in their own health and well-being, using multimedia communication channels and skill-building tools like: Native VOICES, #WeNeedYouHere, and Text4SexEd. This session will also discuss technology-based strategies to engage youth in their own health and well-being.

Track B- Intervention:

Building Cohesion and Community Collectives- Tribal Youth Circle Peacemaking

Room: Tapestry

Speaker:

Erin Thin Elk, M.S.W. - OJJDP Tribal Youth TTA Center
Kris Miner Schweigert - Circle Space Services

Session Description:

Circle Peacemaking can be an effective prevention tool for schools and community-based tribal youth programming to promote understanding, build relationships, and repair harm. When working with youth, it is important to promote interconnectedness and agency. Participants are invited to learn two foundational Restorative Justice Peacemaking Circle elements, collective experience and group cohesion. Key to these elements are values and storytelling. This session will provide participants with both theory and understanding, as well as experiences to build upon and duplicate with youth. The experiential session includes time in peacemaking circle and requests participants share a story to build connection.

Track C- Treatment:

Screening and Assessment to Support Tribal Youth- Creating Culturally Relevant Tools and Resources

Room: Palm Canyon A/B

Speakers:

Evan Elkin, Ph.D. - Reclaiming Futures
Dolores Subia Bigfoot, Ph.D. - OJJDP Tribal Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center, (OUHSC)
Judge Chantel Cloud - Southern Ute Tribe

Session Description:

Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts have become increasingly popular in Indian Country because they represent a non-adversarial and culturally resonant alternative to traditional treatment court models that hold the promise of restoring a sense of pride in the role that the tribal community, culture and identity can play in the practice of therapeutic jurisprudence. However, communities looking to implement the Healing to Wellness Court framework have faced challenges integrating meaningful cultural elements into the screening, assessment and treatment practices that are central to the process. Few, if any tribal adaptations of mainstream evidence-based treatment practices or validated screening and assessment tools are available to native communities who often struggle to create effective hybrid practices on their own or to get satisfying outcomes using non-tribal models “off the rack”. This panel will explore challenges, successes and innovative strategies to bring a meaningful cultural dimension to screening, assessment and treatment in a youth justice setting.

End Day 1

Dinner on your own

7:30 pm –

Please join us for an optional evening networking opportunity to strengthen connections with your peers.

Room: Horizon I

Speakers:

Facilitators: Tribal Circle Keepers, OJJDP Tribal Youth TTA and RurALCAP

Session Description:

This optional evening session will be held as a circle open to the community of youth service providers participating in the 2018 National Tribal Youth Conference and invited guests. Participants are welcome and may join this circle to share and connect with other Tribal prevention, intervention, and court-based service providers. This session will be led by circle keepers.



Tuesday December 4, 2018

Tuesday, December 4

Concurrent Sessions

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Track A- Prevention: Youth Violence Reduction Causes and Cessation

Room: Horizon II

Speakers:

Christopher Cuestas - North Dakota Native American Drug and Gang Initiative (NADGI) and National Violence Prevention Resource Center

Session Description:

Tribal communities seek to enhance safety and well-being within the community. Early identification is important to support prevention of youth violence within Tribal communities. This session will provide a glimpse into the a positive impact that coordination, strategic planning and programming can have in influencing and reducing youth related disruptive sub-culture behavior. Current risk factors impacting Tribal youth such as gangs, drugs, and sex trafficking will be examined while providing examples of strategic responses for these risk factors that may be implemented within Tribal youth program or community intervention efforts.

Track B- Intervention: Creating Connections for Youth through Culture, Court, and Club

Room: Tapestry

Speaker:

Hon. Whitney Gravelle - Chief Judge Bay Mills Indian Community
Candace LeBlanc - Asst. Director Boys and Girls Club of Bay Mills
Joshua Hudson - Program Manager for the National Native Network at the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan

Session Description:

This session about creating connections using non-traditional and unique resources within tribal communities for high-risk and high-need young adults. This session will



cont. focus on the collaborative efforts occurring within the Bay Mills Indian community between judicial and youth service partners working with after-school programmatic efforts to serve Tribal youth. Participants will receive insight on how to guide their young adults along a path of rehabilitation and healing within and outside of the juvenile justice system.

**Track C- Treatment:
Perspectives on Development of the Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court- Panel Discussion and Peer Dialogue**

Room: Palm Canyon A/B

Speakers:

Chantel Cloud - Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court Judge, Southern Ute Tribe
Tiffany Jackson - Executive Director, Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point
Shelley Kaleak - Native Village of Barrow
Tracy Benson - Native Village of Barrow
Facilitated by Anna Rangel Clough, JD, OJJDP Tribal Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center

Session Description:

Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts are transformative justice processes designed to support Tribal youth on their wellness journey. This session will highlight perspectives from Tribal juvenile healing to wellness and youth program staff and judicial leadership. Perspectives on approach, working with Tribal youth and implementing culturally supportive and collaborative processes will be shared and discussed. This session will include a facilitated dialogue with panel discussion by Judge Chantel Cloud- Southern Ute Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court, Tiffany Jackson- Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point, Alaska, and Shelley Kaleak and Tracy Benson from the Native Village of Barrow.

BREAK

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Morning Break

Concurrent Sessions

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

**Track A- Prevention:
Tribal Youth Program Peer Perspectives-
Mescalero Apache Tribal Youth Program
“Remembering Your Past to Create Your Future”**

Room: Horizon II

Speakers:

Tribal Youth Program Panel:
Ardena Orosco - Prevention Director Mescalero Apache Tribe
Eloise Damon - Mescalero Apache Tribal Youth Program

Session Description:

Indian country has been impacted by various kinds of trauma. Research indicates that American Indian youth are at increased risk of trauma, depression, and PTSD as a result of grief and exposure to violence. Facilitators will guide participants in understanding the impacts of historic trauma in order to move towards a future of awareness and skill building for a resilient future. Facilitators will share how working through these key concepts has improved the services provided to support Mescalero Apache youth involved in youth programmatic services.

**Track B- Intervention:
Circle Work as Intervention in the Tribal Juvenile Justice System**

Room: Tapestry

Speaker:

Phil Burdick - Co-Superintendent Sitka Public Schools
Curt Shuey - Ts'ilq'u Circle Coordinator, Kenaitze Indian Tribe

Session Description:

Participants will learn and share diverse processes and purposes of the Circle tradition to address difficult or important circumstances in a good way, grounded on core human principles. The Circle can be a culturally meaningful way to engage youth in schools and divert youth away from the state justice system or other common responses to trouble. Participants will learn of success stories and challenges and how Alaskans are “making it our own.”

**Track C- Treatment:
Sacred Perspectives: What Youth Are Saying
About Culture-Based Prevention Programming**



Room: Palm Canyon A/B

Speakers:

Allyson Kelley Ph.D. - Allyson Kelly and Associates

Session Description:

Youth substance use and misuse is a major public health concern. We know that Native youth initiate substance use earlier and are more likely to use multiple substances. Native youth also experience more severe consequences they are two to three times more likely to be arrested for substance use and misuse than non-Native youth. Factors that place Native youth at greater risk for substance misuse and abuse include, historical and present-day traumas, exposure to violence, discrimination, and social inequalities. Culture-based prevention, intervention, and treatment programs are one way that tribal communities are addressing these inequalities and welcoming youth back to the sacred circle. This session will describe the importance of culturally based prevention programs, summarize youth perspectives on substance use and misuse based community analyses and explain how the social determinants of health can be used as a framework to address factors that place Native youth at greater risk for substance use and misuse.

LUNCH (on your own)

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Concurrent Sessions

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Track A- Prevention:
Restorative Justice Circle Peacemaking Panel

Room: Horizon II

Speakers:

- Phil Burdick - Sitka School District
- Curt Shuey - Kenaitze Indian Tribe
- Elaine Henderson - Bi-Cultural Training Specialist Navajo Nation
- Dawnell Begay - Office Specialist Navajo Nation
- Roman Bistuie - Program Coordinator Navajo Nation
- Judge Whitney Gravelle - Chief Judge Bay Mills Indian Community
- Kris Miner Schweigert - Circle Space Services

Session Description:

This panel will offer perspectives and dialogue surrounding restorative approaches, circle work as prevention and intervention within school-based and judicial settings. Perspectives from numerous communities will share the steps that communities can take to build a circle program, peacemaking or other restorative approach as an intervention with the community to address community harm, youth delinquency, and critical needs facing Tribal youth.

Track B- Intervention:
Tribal Youth Views- Youth Perspectives on Prevention- Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council

Room: Tapestry

Speaker:

Niagara Rockbridge and Angel Hicks - NNYAC Youth Speakers

Session Description:

In April of 2017 the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council was designated as an advisory for all three branches of the Navajo Nation government. The youth council provides a platform for youth to express and voice their concerns, to call awareness to issues impacting youth, and to engage with leaders and decision-makers of the Navajo Nation. This session will highlight perspectives from the NNYAC. Members of the NNYAC will be sharing their views on their leadership efforts to combat violence, substance abuse, suicide and strengthening community through personal and civic responsibility.

Track C- Treatment:
Re-awakening our Tribal Aunt and Uncle Societies

Room: Palm Canyon A/B

Speakers:

- Amy Modig - Elder Instructor
- Doug Modig - Director of the Wellness Program at the Aleut Community of St Paul Island

Session Description:

Our historical self-care systems has been supplanted by Western practices and influences, which were once accepted as being more effective and meaningful to helping



cont. our communities live successfully in the modern world. Western practices and influences were provided through churches, schools, social services and law enforcement and were assumed to be better than our own practices. Not only were our systems dismissed, the assimilation process taught many that those ways were ineffective. As a people, we were discouraged from using our Aunt and Uncle societies, along with many other things. We have suffered so many social ills and loss, that we need to re-strengthen our tribal ways, one of which is the effective and powerful Aunt and Uncle Society.

Session will include story-teaching, historical perspective and discussion of re-valuing and utilizing the principles of being a good Aunt and Uncle in today's world.

“Orientation to OJJDP Tribal Grants Management”

Room: Plaza A/B

Speakers:

OJJDP Program Managers

Session Description:

This grant management workshop will serve as a refresher course for OJJDP Tribal Grantees. If you are a new staff managing an OJJDP grant, this course will provide an orientation to the basics of managing your tribe's award. Participants will be provided an overview of available grant management tools, resources, processes for the submission of reports, and be provided an opportunity to engage with OJJDP Program Specialists.

BREAK

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Afternoon Break

Afternoon Plenary

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm

Reclaiming the Sacred Circle: Focus on Tribal Youth

Room: Horizon I

Speakers:

Dolores Subia Bigfoot, Ph.D.

Session Description:

The wellbeing of tribal youth has always been of concern. One of the earlier reports outlining concerns was the Meriam Report of 1928 while a more recent effort underway is the 2017 legislative Commission on Native Children. There is major concern regarding our tribal youth due to rates of suicide, substance abuse, and other social indicators of harm, violence, and incarceration. This presentation will provide an overview of the diligent efforts to bring attention to the health and wellbeing of tribal youth in Indian Country by highlighting the recent activities of federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and other advocates that support the Sacred Circle which focus on youth prevention, intervention, and treatment. This presentation will share the youth driven undertakings such as the Friend2Friend for suicide prevention, progress made by tribal programs for youth and federal efforts to better address youth trauma, decrease violence, and improve youth services overall.

Closing

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Closing:

The conference will end with an opportunity for participants to share their reflections on the event and their hopes for the future of their youth programs.




