

TRIBAL COURT—STATE COURT FORUM

An Advisory Committee of the Judicial Council of California

Forum E-Update

June 2023

TRIBAL COURT—STATE
COURT FORUM

An Advisory Committee of the
Judicial Council of California

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FORUM NEWS

Former Forum member Sunshine Sykes sworn in: [History Made as First Navajo Appointed U.S. Federal Judge in California](#)

Native News Online – May 31, 2023

Judge Sunshine Suzanne Sykes (Navajo Nation) made history on Friday, May 26, when she was sworn in as a federal district judge for the Central District of California in Riverside, Calif., with her family, friends, and colleagues supporting her from beside the stage.

Sykes' appointment marks the first time a citizen of the Navajo Nation has been appointed to serve as an Article III judge anywhere in the country. Article III judges are appointed for life as jurists on federal district and circuit courts and the Supreme Court.

IN THE NEWS

[Native children - 2% of Wisconsin's child population - account for almost 11% of kids removed from homes](#) (Includes video) (May require subscription)

Appleton Post-Crescent - June 01, 2023

When child welfare officials decide a child is unsafe in their home, most people would agree they should be protected and removed from that environment. In some parts of northeastern Wisconsin, however, those rates of removal are higher than the state average, and the numbers are even more skewed when taking a child's racial identity into account. Brown and Outagamie counties have the second- and third-highest rates of children removed from their parents or guardians in the state, which can partially be explained by the region's larger population - they are the fourth and sixth-most populous counties, respectively. But one of the most shocking statistics surrounds the disproportionate number of Native American children removed in this fashion.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

COURT OPERATIONS & PROGRAMS

DIVISION

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

455 Golden Gate Avenue

San Francisco, California 94102

[Advocates for Native American health work to build program through trust & policy](#) (Includes video)

KGUN - June 02, 2023

A team of southern Arizona advocates uses its deep knowledge of public health policy and law to research ways local native tribes can enjoy a healthier quality of life. In her first week leading the Wassaja Carlos Montezuma Center for Native American Health, the staff's new executive director said she is counting on her team to adopt a holistic approach; one that helps all members in a family unit. Christina C. Bell Andrews brings her experience as a professor, law school and Masters of Public Health graduate, and a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Andrews, in her career, also helped establish Pima County's Juvenile Indian Child Welfare court.

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Tribal/State Programs Link:
<http://www.courts.ca.gov/programs-tribal>

[Wyden, Merkley reintroduce bill seeking healing for stolen Native children and their communities](#) (Includes video)

KTVZ - June 02, 2023

Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., said Friday they and Senate colleagues have reintroduced legislation that seeks healing for stolen Native children and their communities. "The Indian Boarding School was a shameful human rights violation perpetrated by the federal government," Wyden said. "Attempts to terminate Native cultures, assimilation practices, and other horrendous actions by the federal government have caused Indigenous communities to suffer unimaginable pain and intergenerational trauma. The federal government must acknowledge its past injustices towards Indigenous communities and develop paths towards healing. That's why I'm working with my Senate colleagues to pass the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act."

Also: [Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the U.S. Act, U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren \(D-Mass.\)](#)

Also: [The ongoing trauma of Native boarding schools](#) (Opinion)

[Tribal organizations voice support for boarding school bill co-sponsored by Oregon U.S. Senators Wyden and Merkley](#) (Includes audio)

KLCC - June 06, 2023

The bill - named the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act - would form a commission to investigate, document, and acknowledge past injustices by the federal government in its boarding school system. Groups supporting the bill besides the NCAI and ATNI are the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition, National Indian Education Association, National Indian Health Board, National Council of Urban Indian Health, National Indian Child Welfare Association, American Indian Higher Education Consortium, National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, Seattle Indian Health Board, Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States, Friends Committee on National Legislation, and United South and the Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund.

FORUM LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Visit forum's home page

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/3065.htm>

These programs are supported with funds from the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice that are administered through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Court Improvement Program, and the California Department of Social Services.

[Impending Supreme Court decision in Indian child welfare case has tribal leaders on edge](#)

Star Tribune - June 07, 2023

Facing what they consider to be the biggest threat to tribal sovereignty in a generation, Native leaders at a national conference in Prior Lake this week reactivated a task force to defend tribal independence. An impending Supreme Court ruling challenging the federal Indian Child Welfare Act loomed over this year's annual National Congress of American Indians' (NCAI) Mid Year Convention & Marketplace. Tribal and U.S. leaders at the conference spoke of the uncertainty and anxiety in Indian Country since the nation's high court took up the Haaland v. Brackeen case last November. The case is a challenge to the 45-year-old Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, a federal law that many credit with better outcomes for Native youth.

[Canada dispatch: Indigenous women and girls still suffering disproportionate violence four years after government report](#)

Jurist - June 07, 2023

Last Saturday, June 3, marked four years since the final report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls ("National Inquiry") was released in Canada. The federal government acknowledged the landmark by releasing a progress report on its efforts to address the final report's calls for justice, as well as its plans to continue doing so in the coming year. In the years following the publication of the final report, the Canadian federal government has attempted to follow the calls for justice by creating the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People ("Federal Pathway"). The 2022-2023 progress report of the Federal Pathway details various initiatives meant to promote Indigenous rights and well-being in Canada, such as increased funding to Indigenous-led community safety projects, the continuation of a national shelter and transitional housing strategy, and funding for Indigenous language programs.

[Two-Spirit Indigenous Social Media Influencer Enlightens SMC](#)

Corsair - June 11, 2023

On May 4, Santa Monica College hosted Kairyn Potts, a Two-Spirit indigenous social media influencer from the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation, located near Edmonton, Canada. Potts uses his platform of over 200,000 followers on TikTok and over 90,000 on Instagram to educate and spread awareness on the Two-Spirit identity and queer youth in indigenous communities. He also advocates for Indigenous children that are forcibly taken away from their families and put into foster care. According to Potts, a person who identifies as a Two-Spirit individual identifies as having both masculine and feminine spirits. The term was coined at the Third Annual Inter-tribal Native American, First Nations, Gay and Lesbian American Conference in 1990. Potts said that after individuals expressed feeling like the acronym LGBTQ didn't connect with the culture, community, and ethnicity of indigenous people, Elder Myra Laramie from Winnipeg went into a ceremony for four days and prayed for a name that their people could identify with.

[Heart work: Training social workers to keep Native children home](#) (Commentary)

Minnesota Public Radio - June 12, 2023

ICWA was designed to counteract decades of policies and systems that uprooted Native American children from their families and culture - from boarding schools, to the Indian Adoption Project, to the disproportionate removal of Native American children by child welfare agencies. Minnesota even has its own version of the law, called the Minnesota Indian Family Protection Act, or MIFPA, that lawmakers strengthened this year in case ICWA is struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in a case scheduled to be decided later this month. But while experts insist ICWA has helped, Native American children living in Minnesota remain 16 times more likely than white children to be removed from their homes and placed in foster care.

[The Indian Child Welfare Act has been in place for nearly 45 years. Why is it being questioned now?](#)

KOSU - June 13, 2023

The U. S. Supreme Court will decide on a pivotal case involving the Indian Child Welfare Act in the coming weeks. The case is called Haaland v. Brackeen and centers on a Texas couple who successfully adopted a Navajo child but are now arguing before the court that the 45-year-old law is unconstitutional because it prevents non-Native families from adopting Native children. They say the law is race-based, and their lawyers are arguing that tribes aren't political entities as laid out in the US Constitutions, but rather a racial classification.

[Native Americans react to Supreme Court decision on ICWA](#) (Includes video)

KGET - June 16, 2023

The Supreme Court reached a decision on Haaland v. Brackeen on Thursday, June 15 seven months after the case was argued, and many Native Americans have followed the trial since its beginning. Kenneth Hansen, a

full professor of political science and American Indian studies at California State University, Fresno and a Native American of Shawnee, Tsalagi and Lakota descent, feels relieved about the decision.

Also: [Indian Child Welfare Act is still law, but Minnesota tribal leaders say more work ahead](#)

Also: [Indigenous Coloradans overwhelmed with relief at Supreme Court ruling on child welfare](#) (Includes video)

Also: [Alaska Natives celebrate U.S. Supreme Court's decision to uphold the Indian Child Welfare Act](#) (Includes audio)

[Colorado justices weigh need for tribal engagement in potential 'Indian child' cases](#) (May require subscription)

Denver Gazette - June 21, 2023

Members of the Colorado Supreme Court on Wednesday considered whether state law requires tribal nations to be contacted when a child in a welfare case potentially falls under the longstanding protections afforded to American Indian children, but the evidence of tribal lineage is still minimal. Congress enacted the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (ICWA) to prevent the further breakup of tribal nations and families. The law allows for tribal involvement in custody proceedings by requiring states to notify affected tribes when one of their members - an "Indian child" - is involved. However, tribal nations are solely responsible for determining membership. The question the Supreme Court has agreed to resolve is whether, and how, counties must contact tribal nations that may have a stake in welfare cases, even if it is far from clear that a child actually has American Indian heritage.

['A Place of Calm:' Indian Child Welfare Expert Unpacks the Historic Brackeen v. Haaland Decision](#)

Imprint - June 21, 2023

Shannon Smith has been an attorney handling Indian Child Welfare Act cases for decades, fighting for the rights of Indigenous children, their families and tribes. But last week, the longtime executive director of the Minneapolis-based ICWA Law Center received court news unparalleled in her career. Against all apparent odds - including a powerhouse legal team backing the plaintiffs and the most conservative U.S. Supreme Court in almost a century - the justices beat back constitutional challenges to the Indian Child Welfare Act. The 7-2 ruling fully upheld the 45-year law designed to keep Native children who can't remain in their homes close to kin and tribal communities.

Also: [Tribal leaders celebrate victorious ICWA ruling](#)

Also: [The Supreme Court Kept Children's and Tribal Rights Top of Mind](#) (Includes audio) (Commentary)

Also: [Montana tribal leaders: Native Americans must remain vigilant despite ICWA decision](#)

Also: [Takeaways From Tribes' High Court Adoption Case Victory](#) (Requires free registration)

[To Heal Generational Native Trauma, Start By Listening](#) (Opinion) (Includes video)

Elle - June 23, 2023

Tribal Nations existed long before the United States, and throughout this country's formation, our ancestors have persevered through inconceivable violence and oppression designed to eradicate us. The Native peoples alive today are here because our grandparents survived. Their strength and resilience have been passed down in our DNA, generation after generation, but like a double-edged sword, so too has their pain and trauma. Hearing the powerful testimonies from the survivors of Native boarding schools at Secretary Deb Haaland's Road to Healing listening tour is shedding a light on one of the darkest histories of this country and in doing so, has also created space for healing. For many of these elders, this is the first time they're talking about their experiences. I had the privilege of speaking with some of these survivors for IllumiNative's new podcast, American Genocide: The Crimes of Native American Boarding Schools, and their courage in sharing their stories is bringing mainstream attention to this issue for the first time. They're also helping generations of Native people heal from the hurt and violence of these boarding schools and from having family members who refused to speak about it, like my grandfather. This is unmetabolized trauma that, for many, is now being processed for the first time.

Also: IllumiNative's new podcast, [American Genocide: The Crimes of Native American Boarding Schools](#)

[Upholding ICWA: A Deeper Look at SCOTUS's Important Ruling](#) (Opinion)

First Nations Development Institute - June 23, 2023

You could hear the victory cries throughout Indian Country last Thursday, as the U.S. Supreme Court (SCOTUS) ruled to uphold the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). In a huge victory for tribal sovereignty, a 7-2 decision by the court rejected all the challenges to the act and the claims that the law violates the U.S. Constitution by discriminating on the basis of race. This reaffirming decision by SCOTUS makes clear the inherent rights of Indian people and their ability to choose who their tribal citizens are.

Also: The Unexpected SCOTUS Decision That Upheld Native Sovereignty (Includes video):

<https://www.yesmagazine.org/social-justice/2023/06/23/tribal-sovereignty-indian-child-welfare-act>

[Analyzing Justice Gorsuch's ICWA concurrence](#)

SDPB Radio – June 25, 2023

The conversation surrounding ICWA is deep. Last week ICWA was upheld in the U.S. Supreme Court. A South Dakota Professor's legal writing was cited in Justice Gorsuch's concurrence. Professor Frank Pommersheim joins In the Moment to explain the concurrence in detail. Pommersheim taught at the University of South Dakota School of Law. He has written extensively in the field of Indian law and served on several tribal appellate courts.

[Does It Matter That Neil Gorsuch Is Committed to Native American Rights?](#)

The New Yorker – June 26, 2023

The Justice doesn't just join with the liberals on the bench when it comes to tribal rights; he often seems to lead them.

[Tribal advocates relieved after SCOTUS ruling](#)

Minot Daily News - June 26, 2023

Tribal advocates are cheering a U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision that allows a landmark law dealing with child welfare cases to stand. It follows a tense period of worry and planning in states like North Dakota. Rep. Jayme Davis, D-Rolette, led the recent push for North Dakota to adopt its own protections in case the federal law was overturned. "It's just really great to see, you know, something so positive come out of the Supreme Court regarding our Indian children," Davis observed. "It's the Indian Child Welfare Act, but the big underlying issue on this was our sovereignty as well."

[South Dakota needs specific child welfare laws for Native Americans, officials say](#) (Includes video)

Mitchell Republic - June 27, 2023

Thirteen states have adopted their own versions of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act. If ever there was a time for a South Dakota Indian child welfare act, it's now. That was the common sentiment at the South Dakota State-Tribal Relations Committee meeting on Monday, June 26, at Agency Village. Committee members met to discuss the implications of the Supreme Court's decision to uphold the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, and what that decision would mean for South Dakota Native children and tribes.

[A Win For Tribal Sovereignty](#) (Podcast)

Episode 109 Broken Law (Presented by the American Constitution Society) – June 27, 2023

This week, Lindsay Langholz speaks with Professor Wenona T. Singel to debrief the Supreme Court's decision in *Haaland v. Brackeen* about the constitutionality of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), long considered the "gold standard" of child welfare policies. The episode delves into the statute's history, the details of the case, and the sweeping impact of the Supreme Court upholding ICWA, for now.

[Tribal Relations Committee hears case for state ICWA legislation](#)

South Dakota Public Broadcasting - June 29, 2023

The State Tribal-Relations Committee heard points on the application of the Indian Child Welfare Act at their third interim meeting on June 26. The meeting comes after early June's Supreme Court ruling upholding the constitutionality of the act. The act, commonly called ICWA, aims to keep more Native children with their tribes and communities in adoptions and fostering situations. Chief Judge for Sisseton-Wahpeton, B.J. Jones, told committee members there are several ways legislations could be applied at the state level.

[Stanford's Greg Ablavsky on the Brackeen Indian Child Welfare Act Decision](#) (Opinion)

Stanford Law School (SLS) Blogs - June 30, 2023

On June 15, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), in *Haaland v. Brackeen*. Here, Professor Gregory Ablavsky, a legal historian whose scholarship and amicus brief were cited by justices on both sides of the decision-by Justices Gorsuch in his concurring opinion and Justice Thomas in dissent-discusses key points of the decision.

PUBLICATIONS**[Jails in Indian Country, 2022](#)**, Todd D. Minton, National Archive of Criminal Justice Data, May 2023

This report provides statistics on the demographic characteristics, most serious offense, and conviction status of persons held in Indian country jails. It also describes facility characteristics, including capacity and staffing. The report supports the mandate established by the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 that requires BJS to establish and implement a tribal data collection system, to support tribal participation in national records and information systems, and to annually report to Congress the data collected and

analyzed in accordance with the act. **Publication Link** [Press Release \(PDF 211K\)](#) | [Full Report \(PDF 574K\)](#) | [Data Tables \(PDF 15K\)](#)

[Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta, Jurisdictional Overlap, Competitive Sovereign Erosion, and The Fundamental Freedom of Native Nations](#), Michael D. O. Rusco, 106 Marq. L. Rev. 889 (2023)

In addition to its stunning internal flaws, the United States Supreme Court's opinion in *Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta* exemplifies Indian law's broader flaws as a jurisprudence. *Castro-Huerta* holds that states have concurrent criminal jurisdiction with federal and tribal governments over crimes by non-Indians against Indians on reservation lands. Justice Gorsuch deftly addresses many of the glaring internal flaws in Kavanaugh's majority opinion, but not all. He does not dissect the hollow assertion that reservations are part of the surrounding state both geographically and politically. This cannot go unaddressed, particularly given its weak analysis, misguided use of precedent, and broader consequences.

[Issues in Implementing Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction in Alaska's Tribal Courts](#), Danika Watson, 40 Alaska Law Review 1-27 (2023)

Until 2022, all but one of the 229 Alaska tribes were barred from special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction (SDVCJ): Congress's jurisdictional tool for tribal courts to address domestic violence and hold perpetrators of violence against Alaska Native women criminally accountable. The reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) in 2022 brought SDVCJ to Alaska's rural Native communities. This landmark achievement was made possible by decades of advocacy from Alaska's tribal, state, and federal leadership. In the wake of VAWA 2022, Alaska tribes and tribal justice systems face several significant legal, political, and cultural challenges.

[Intergovernmental Collaboration Newsletter Issue 1](#), Tribal Law and Policy Institute June 2023.

Intergovernmental collaboration is a key that can open the door to leveraging resources for increased public safety in Indian country and surrounding communities. This newsletter brings together stories, resources, and information on tribal-state collaboration, with a focus on court and law enforcement collaboration. Our hope is to inspire and encourage collaborations by highlighting the innovative work that is happening in many jurisdictions. We welcome feedback, suggestions, and any information to be included in future newsletters.

[Programs That Support Tribes](#), Bureau of Justice Assistance (2023)

This document provides a series of brief descriptions of Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) programs that have the purpose of supporting initiatives for tribes through funding, training and technical assistance (TTA), and other methods. Each program listed includes a brief scope note and links to relevant websites. **Publication Link:** [PDF](#)

[2022 Missing American Indian and Alaska Native Persons: Age 21 and Under](#), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (2023)

This data sheet provides information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI's) National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Missing Person File, for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) ages 21 and under. The data included in this document cover incidents of a person going missing, not the number of people who went missing, so if a person went missing more than once in one year, that person may be entered into the NCIC multiple times. **Publication Link** [PDF](#)

[Culture Sustains Us: NICWA 2022 Annual Report](#), National Indian Child Welfare Association. 2023

[Tribal Sovereignty Preempted](#), Michael Doran, [Brooklyn Law Review](#), Vol. 89, No. 2, 2023

In June of 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court held in *Oklahoma vs. Castro-Huerta* that a state may prosecute a non-Indian for a crime committed against an Indian within Indian country. That decision effectively overruled *Worcester vs. Georgia*, an 1832 landmark case in which Chief Justice Marshall said that state law "can have no force" in Indian country. Although the conventional wisdom sees *Castro-Huerta* as a radical departure from first principles of federal Indian law, I argue that it is the natural – although deeply deplorable – next step in a long line of Supreme Court decisions expanding state governmental authority within Indian country.

[The Constitutionality of VAWA 2022’s Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction and the Native Origins of Restorative Justice in Combatting Gender-Based Violence](#), Tamar Prince, Rutgers University Law Review, Volume 75, Issue 1.

This Note argues that the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2022’s STCJ provisions are constitutional despite the conspicuous omission of VAWA 2013’s original substantial ties requirement and that Congress does not exceed the scope of its powers in legislating VAWA 2022. Correspondingly, VAWA 2022’s constitutionality is strongly supported by the Supreme Court’s federal Indian law jurisprudence, Congress’s unwavering plenary power over Native affairs, and the trend of modern federal courts to validate inherent tribal sovereignty through federal common law.

Secondly, this Note advocates that VAWA 2022’s recognition of tribal jurisdiction offers a chance to integrate restorative justice practices that have a long history in tribal justice matters, but much less so in American legal history, as an effective solution to the epidemic of violence against women. The restorative practices provisions offer a jurisprudentially necessary perspective to the federal response to gender-based violence and honor indigenous concepts of tribal justice.

[Legislative Constitutionalism and Federal Indian Law](#), Maggie Blackhawk, Yale Law Journal Volume 132 No. 7.

The United States has reached a moment in its constitutional history when the Supreme Court has asserted itself as not only one of, but the exclusive, audience to ask and answer questions of constitutional meaning and constitutional law. This “juricentric” or court-centered constitutionalism has relegated the other, so-called political branches to a second-class status with respect to the Constitution. Not only has the dominance of the Court dampened our constitutional culture writ large, it has also occluded the ways that Congress and the executive branch play distinctive and vital roles within constitutional lawmaking.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Justice Department Opens Application Period for Program to Enhance Tribal Access to National Crime Information Databases](#) (June 29, 2023)

The Justice Department is pleased to announce the opening of the application period for federally recognized Tribes and intertribal consortia to participate in the Tribal Access Program (TAP) for National Crime Information, which improves public safety by providing federally recognized Tribes the ability to access and exchange data with national crime information databases for authorized criminal justice and non-criminal justice purposes, such as the FBI’s National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

ONLINE RESOURCES

[Grassroots Advocacy](#)

The [Tribal Law and Policy Institute](#), in collaboration with the [Native Alliance Against Violence](#) and the [National Criminal Justice Training Center](#), is pleased to announce a new video resource, [Grassroots Advocacy](#). This video is designed to assist tribal victim service providers in understanding and applying tenets of grassroots advocacy in their work.

[Tribal Child Welfare Trauma-Informed Supervision Webinar Series Recordings](#)

Capacity Building Center for Tribes

Part 1 of 2 - [Trauma-Informed Supervision in Tribal Child Welfare: Roles and Expectations](#)

Part 2 of 2 - [Trauma-Informed Supervision in Tribal Child Welfare: Adaptive Leadership & Reflective Practice](#)

[Tribal Customary Adoption](#)

Capacity Building Center for Tribes

In Indian Country, customary adoption is an alternative to standard adoption practice. Since customary adoption is more closely aligned with tribal customs, it is a more appropriate permanency placement for native children. Customary adoptions allow children to be adopted without requiring termination of parental rights, an exercise in tribal sovereignty that retains some parental responsibilities and maintains family connections.

[Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQ+ Resources Webpage Launch!](#)

Tribal Youth Resource Center

The TYRC is working to bring acceptance, inclusiveness, empathy, compassion, support, and equity to our youth who identify as Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQ+ relatives. As a Training and Technical Assistance Center, it is our commitment to serve Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQ+ youth, and we hope the resources and information included on this webpage are helpful for your work with young people in your community.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WEBINARS AND TRAININGS

[22nd Annual NTCSA Training Conference - Champions of Child Support](#)

National Tribal Child Support Association (NTCSA)

July 9-13, 2023

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center Green Bay

The annual National Tribal Child Support Association (NTCSA) training conference provides an opportunity to engage with other professionals and learn the most recent initiatives in tribal and state child support.

[86th Annual Conference](#)

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)

July 16-19, 2023

Baltimore, Maryland

The program includes topic-specific training tracks on family law, juvenile justice, child welfare, family violence, and emerging issues, as well as general sessions led by thought leaders. Designed for a wide range of disciplines, the conference is open to all professionals who strive to improve the lives of children, families, and survivors in the court system. The conference is a venue to ask questions, trade ideas, confer with colleagues, and develop practical solutions to difficult issues while embracing the NCJFCJ's values of Compassion, Leadership, Education, and Community.

[AMBER Alert in Indian Country Update 2023 \(Webinar\)](#)

National Criminal Justice Training Center

July 20, 2023

8:00 am-9:00 am

Learn about the mission of the Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018 and the ongoing efforts of the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program (AATTAP) to support this Act.

[5th Annual Nooimo'iwewin: The Violence Against Women Act and Indian Child Welfare Act Training](#)

Bay Mills Indian Community

August 2-4, 2023 (Hybrid In Person and Online Event)

Each session provides tools to support community healing. Engaging, expert faculty facilitate each session which has been designed to help advocates, providers, and legal professionals implement effective service strategies.

[2023 Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement Training](#)

Tribal Law & Policy Institute

September 12-14, 2023

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Reservation in Palm Springs, California

The Wellness Court Training is a tribal-specific national training for tribal problem-solving courts that features Wellness Court best practices and innovative strategies in the field of Healing to Wellness Courts. Conference curriculum will revolve around the theme: *Celebrating 25 Years of Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts*. For any questions or comments, please contact Wellness@TLPI.org

[23rd Annual California Indian Law Conference](#)

California Indian Law Association

October 1-3, 2023

Graton Resort and Casino

Join us for CILA's Annual Conference. This year's theme is "Protecting Tribal Resources."

COVID-19 SPECIFIC GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

[NCAI Financial Relief for Tribal Nations Affected by COVID-19](#)

With the continued spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), NCAI is committed to supporting Indian Country and lifting up our communities as we continue to combat this global pandemic. Keeping in mind the needs of our tribal nations. NCAI is awarding \$5,000 to various tribal nations that have been affected by this pandemic through NCAI's **[COVID-19 Response Fund](#)** for Indian Country.

Applications guidelines are located [here](#). NCAI Contact: Christian Weaver, *Vice President of Development*, cweaver@ncai.org

Coronavirus (COVID-19): FEMA Assistance for Tribal Nations

On March 13, 2020, the President announced a nationwide emergency declaration in response to coronavirus (COVID-19). As a result, tribal nations have two options to receive funding under the Presidential declaration.

- FEMA assistance for tribal nations related to COVID-19, click [here](#).
- What expenses qualify as Eligible Emergency Protective Measures, click [here](#).
- An example of a Tribal Public Assistance Administrative plan, click [here](#).
- FEMA regional tribal liaison and FEMA headquarters contact information, click [here](#).
- FEMA resources located on NCAI's COVID-19 microsite, click [here](#).

[GOLDEN STATE GRANT PROGRAM](#)

Attention CalWORKs families with an approved case status as of March 27 will receive a one-time Golden State Grant payment of \$600. The payment is to help families who may have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This payment is not a CalWORKs grant payment and not subject to hearing rights.

[FEMA COVID-19 FUNERAL ASSISTANCE](#)

If you've have lost someone to COVID-19, FEMA may be able to help with funeral expenses starting in April 2021.

NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

[Juvenile Justice Emergency Planning Demonstration Program for Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities](#)

**U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
O-OJJDP-2023-171783**

**Grants.gov Deadline: July 24, 2023
JustGrants Deadline: August 07, 2023**

OJJDP seeks to support emergency planning for state, local, and Tribal juvenile justice residential facilities. For youth that reside in residential facilities it is crucial that applicants plan for and facilitate continued meaningful engagement with family and other supportive members of their community. Applicants are encouraged to ensure that these activities and strategies are prioritized in any emergency planning Page 7 of 27 O-OJJDP-2023-171783 effort.

[State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Information Sharing Technical Assistance Program](#)

**U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance
O-BJA-2023-171802**

**Grants.gov Deadline: August 07, 2023
JustGrants Deadline: August 14, 2023**

The BJA State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Information Sharing Technical Assistance Program seeks applications to support the standardization of information-sharing practices and the identification and sharing of state, local, Tribal, and territorial information-sharing exchange promising practices and lessons learned.

[Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance Program](#)

**U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance**

O-BJA-2023-171804

Grants.gov Deadline: August 07, 2023

JustGrants Deadline: August 14, 2023

BJA seeks applications for funding to strengthen and improve the representation of indigent defendants in criminal cases and indigent respondents in civil causes of action under the jurisdiction of Indian tribes, with the ultimate goals of enhancing the operations of tribal justice systems and improving access to those systems by tribal citizens.

[Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant \(JAG\) Program](#)

Department of Justice

Bureau of Justice Assistance

O-BJA-2023-171790

Grants.gov Deadline: August 24, 2023

JustGrants Deadline: August 31, 2023

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. With this solicitation, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks to award Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program funds to eligible units of local government.

[Behavioral Health Bridge Housing \(BHBH\) Program-Tribal](#)

California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

Behavioral Health Bridge Housing

Deadline: September 15, 2023

BHBH Program funding will make available up to \$50,000,000 total to California Tribal entities for use in the planning and implementation of bridge housing services for individuals in Tribal communities experiencing homelessness who have serious behavioral health conditions (serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder).

[2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Renewal or Replacement of Youth Homeless](#)

Demonstration Program Grants

Department of Housing and Urban Development

FR-6700-N-25

Deadline: September 28, 2023

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program [24 CFR part 578] is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, Indian Tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities [as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)], and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families, and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

[Providing Support Through a National Hotline for Child Safety and Family Well-Being Concerns](#)

Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children and Families - ACYF/CB

HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-CA-0077

Deadline: July 11, 2023

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), Children's Bureau (CB) will award one grant for up to 5 years to support a national hotline that provides essential information, referrals, and support through call, text, and chat-based technology to youth and adults who are concerned about child safety and/or family well-being.

[Training and Technical Assistance Initiative Solicitation](#)

Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

O-OVW-2023-171530

Grants.gov Deadline: July 11, 2023

JustGrants Deadline: July 13, 2023

OVW's TA Initiative is designed to strengthen and build the capacity of civil and criminal justice system professionals and victim service providers across the nation to respond effectively to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and foster partnerships among organizations that have not traditionally worked together to address these crimes.

[Tribal Long-Term Service and Support National Resource Center](#)

Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Community Living

HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-IELT-0046

Deadline: July 17, 2023

The national resource center will address the unmet needs of tribal-specific and culturally appropriate LTSS information and guidance to tribes. The outcomes of the FOA will be to; 1) to create a network of navigators through recruitment and training that will assist tribes in the development of appropriate LTSS in response to identified, tribe-specific needs; and 2) based on documented best practices, the resource center will develop a practical and hands on toolkit for tribes to assist in implementing LTSS in their individual tribal communities.

[Runaway and Homeless Youth-Prevention Demonstration Program \(RHY-PDP\)](#)

Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children & Families - ACYF/FYSB

HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-CY-0070

Deadline: July 29, 2023

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Prevention Demonstration Program (RHY-PDP) program supports the design and delivery of community-based demonstration initiatives to prevent youth and young adults from experiencing homelessness. Through development and coordination of partnerships with youth and young adult services providers, community organizations and private and public agencies the RHY-PDP will: 1) Identify young people at risk of experiencing homelessness; 2) Design and develop a comprehensive community prevention plan to prevent youth homeless; 3) Implement the robust, holistic services plan to respond to the diverse needs of youth who may be at risk of homelessness and their families.

[Runaway and Homeless Youth-Prevention Demonstration Program \(RHY-PDP\)](#)

Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children & Families - ACYF/FYSB

HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-CY-0070

Deadline: July 31, 2023

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Prevention Demonstration Program (RHY-PDP) program supports the design and delivery of community-based demonstration initiatives to prevent youth and young adults from experiencing homelessness.

[Initiation of a Mental Health Family Navigator Model to Promote Early Access, Engagement and Coordination of Needed Mental Health Services for Children and Adolescents](#)

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

PAR-23-094

Applications accepted now

Deadline: July 5, 2024

Applicants are required to develop and test the navigator model's ability to promote early access, engagement, coordination and optimization of mental health treatment and services for children and adolescents as soon as symptoms are detected. Applicants are also required to identify and test components of navigator models that drive improvements in mental health care; detect and interrogate tailoring variables that optimize the 'personalized match' between the unique mental health needs of youth to the appropriate level of intensity and frequency of mental health services; and utilize emerging novel technologies to track and monitor the trajectory of clinical, functional and behavioral progress toward achieving intended services outcomes.

[NIDA Research Center of Excellence Grant Program](#)

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

PAR-23-076

Open Date (Earliest Submission Date): August 25, 2023

Deadline: November 18, 2025

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to provide support for research Centers that (1) conduct substance use and addiction research in any area of NIDA's mission, including the intersection of substance use/addiction and HIV, (2) foster outstanding innovative science, (3) are multidisciplinary, thematically integrated, and synergistic, and (4) serve as national resource(s) to provide educational and outreach activities to relevant research communities, educational organizations, the general public, and policy makers.