



FIRST THINGS FIRST



## Tribal Notes E-Bulletin October 2011

### FTF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (FTF news related to tribes and tribal communities)

#### *GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE*

Funding plan season is upon us and many regional partnership councils are working hard to develop comprehensive funding plans that address the needs of the children in their communities. For many Indian tribes and nations the spectrum of early childhood development and health services includes partnerships with tribal, state and federal entities. To include all levels of service, the Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council has conducted many planning activities to become fully informed of existing assets, needs and alignment to the First Things First indicators.



These approaches include joint meetings with the Gila River Indian Community Tribal Council Standing Committees on Education, Health and Social Services. The intent of these meetings is to engage tribal government in the funding plan development and to share information with tribal council members as they work on the tribal budget and policies for young children in the Community. The regional council also convened state, tribal, federal and other community partners to discuss and prioritize early childhood needs in the Gila River Indian Community. These are a few examples of how the Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council is working to coordinate and collaborate with all partners to formulate a comprehensive funding plan for 2013.

**ARTICLES OF INTEREST (local and national information/articles relating to early childhood development in tribal communities)**

***ACF ANNOUNCES \$2 MILLION IN GRANT AWARDS FOR TRIBAL TANF – CHILD WELFARE COORDINATION***

HHS' Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance (OFA) today announced the award of \$2 million in Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – Child Welfare Coordination grants to 14 tribes and tribal organizations. "The better our programs work together, the better we serve families," said George Sheldon, HHS acting assistant secretary for children and families. "These grants support innovative tribal community efforts to use every way possible to protect and care for children." The grant awards, which are administered by OFA and authorized by the Claims Resolution Act of 2010 (CRA), will demonstrate models of effective coordination of Tribal TANF and child welfare services provided to tribal families at risk of child abuse or neglect. The Tribal TANF-Child Welfare coordination grants must also be used for activities including case management and supportive services; assistance to tribal children in out-of-home placements and the tribal families caring for such children, including adoptive families; and prevention services and assistance to tribal families at risk of child abuse and neglect.

The Tribal TANF – Child Welfare coordination grantees are:

- Association of Village Council Presidents – Alaska
- Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes – Alaska
- Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation – Montana
- Coeur d'Alene Tribe – Idaho
- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes – Montana
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians – Oregon
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council – Alaska
- Forest County Potawatomi Community – Wisconsin
- Hoopa Valley Tribe – California
- Nooksack Tribe – Washington
- Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe – Washington
- Quileute Tribe – Washington
- South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency – Washington
- Tanana Chiefs Conference – Alaska

For more information on the Office of Family Assistance visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/>. For more information on Tribal TANF – Child Welfare grants visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/dts/index.html>.

***TRIBES GET \$500,000 GRANT*** by *SHELBY KING H&N Staff Reporter Herald and News*

The Klamath Tribes learned on Monday that it will receive \$500,000 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the organization's Indian Community Development Block Grant program. The money is earmarked to help fund the construction of an early childhood development center in Chiloquin, said Roberta Sexton, housing director for the Tribes.

"We've only been verbally informed of the grant so far," Sexton said. "But we should be getting the money pretty soon." Sexton said they're still in the research and planning stages for the center, and will not begin construction until they've raised all the funds needed. "We've got a preliminary construction estimate of \$1.2 million," Sexton said. "We'll raise the rest of the money through grants."

*Note: The Klamath Tribes are located in Oregon.*

**BREASTFEEDING REDUCES CHILDHOOD OBESITY**  
**Native News Network Staff in Native Health**  
**Summer2011**

SHIPROCK, NEW MEXICO - Breastfeeding reduces childhood obesity, according to studies. This message was taken to the Northern Navajo Medical Center by Yvette Roubideaux, Director of the Indian Health Services, as part of First Lady's "Let's Move! in Indian Country" initiative

Miss Navajo Nation, Winifred Bessie Jumbo speaking at Launch of Let's Move in Indian Country's Baby Friendly Hospital initiative.



The goal of "Let's Move! in Indian Country" is to reduce childhood obesity in Indian Country within the next generation. Indian Health Services is beginning young - at infancy. Studies have found that the likelihood of obesity is 22 percent lower among children who were breastfed. The strongest effects were observed among adolescents, meaning that obesity-reducing benefits of breastfeeding extend many years into a child in Indian Country's life.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) visited the Northern Navajo Medical Center in Shiprock, to launch the IHS Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative. A baby-friendly hospital is one that supports mothers who choose to breastfeed by providing them with the information and skills needed to start and continue breastfeeding their babies. By supporting mothers who choose to breastfeed, the IHS will reduce current and future medical problems and decrease health care costs. This initiative will use quality improvement processes to improve breastfeeding rates through new maternity care and infant feeding practices.

The goal for the IHS Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative is to certify 14 federal IHS obstetric facilities as baby-friendly hospitals by 2012 and to encourage 12 Tribal obstetric facilities to adopt this initiative. The Northern Navajo Medical Center was chosen as the site of the IHS launch of this initiative because the Center has been a leader in Indian Country, working closely with the Navajo Nation Breastfeeding Coalition to support this traditional practice.

The IHS initiative is based on the Baby-Friendly® Hospital Initiative, which is a series of maternity care practices that were created in 1991 by the United Nations Children's Fund and World Health Organization as the gold standard for significantly increasing breastfeeding initiation and duration rates. In the 20 years since the initiative started, more than 200,000 hospitals in 156 countries have joined the program. The program offers ten steps to successful breastfeeding that enable facilities and communities to support women who choose to breastfeed.

The IHS Baby-Friendly Initiative's work to certify IHS obstetric facilities as baby-friendly and encourage Tribal obstetric facilities to adopt this initiative fulfills one of the important recommendations found in the White House Task Force on Childhood Obesity Report.



**THE BERENSTAIN BEARS NOW SPEAK LAKOTA by Richard Brooks**  
**September 23, 2011**

Just about everyone under the age of 50 have fond childhood memories of the Berenstain Bears. For decades, they have dominated children's story hours in schools, libraries and homes. Over 260 of the books have been published in 20 different languages, and the Bear family has also made the leap from print to TV multiple times.

Now, the Bears are adding yet another language to their repertoire: the Native American dialect of Lakota. Spoken by the Lakota Sioux Nation, there are about 6,000 native speakers. While it's stronger than many Native American languages, [UNESCO still lists the Sioux language](#) as a whole as "vulnerable." As with other Native American groups, there is a generation of Lakota who were forcibly discouraged from speaking their own language as children. As tribe member Kenny Little Thunder told the [Associated Press](#), "You couldn't speak your language \_ you were hit.

They beat the language out of you.” When it comes to protecting a language, children really are the future. Per [Wikipedia](#), a language can have tens of thousands of speakers, but if children aren’t speaking it now, it’s classified as “moribund.” Lakota elders hope that “Matho Waunsila Thiwahe,” the Lakota version of the Berenstain Bear’s cartoon series, will encourage Lakota children to take the language to heart. Lakota Language Consortium executive director Wilhelm Meya told the AP that “The bears are doing their part to save a language. Kids love cartoons. This is a great way to reach them to engage them in the language in a fun and yet educational way.” So far, reaction from the tribe’s children seems to be positive; Chad Morsette Jr, age 10, said “It’s pretty good. Awesome, really I think a lot of kids are going to like it.” The Lakota dialogue was voiced by Lakota tribe members familiar with the language and dubbed over the existing animated series. Naomi Last Horse, who did the voice-over for Brother Bear, [noted](#) that the way the Lakota language is structured made playing a boy quite challenging: “I thought it was funny at first but then I also know that Bart Simpson is played by a girl so that kind of gave me motivation at first. I was like, `no, boys and girls they have different endings. ` So I had to say yello instead of ya like a female would so it was fun translating over.” A story in Time Magazine notes that Jan Berenstain, who still writes new books for the series, has waived the normal licensing fees for the tribe. *You can view the episodes online at: <http://lakotabears.com/about/index.html>*

## **ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS ATTEND INSTITUTE GEARED TOWARD TEACHING NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS**

**By Indian Country Today Media Network Staff September 15, 2011**

A group of eight woman early childhood educators spent a week in June learning how to teach based on culture, specifically rural Native American and Hispanic cultures. Their first course—Curriculum Building through Cultural Literacy—had them developing early childhood education curriculum that focused on enhancing bilingual instruction and honoring the diverse cultures of Arizona.

The Helios Summer Institute is part of the Prescott College Early Childhood Teacher Education Programs for Arizona’s rural areas and is supported by a four-year grant of \$608,000 from the Helios Education Foundation. The foundation’s goal is to recruit Native American, Hispanic or other underrepresented minorities who are working with children in Arizona’s rural and reservation communities.

“The grant gives Prescott College the opportunity to redouble its commitment to serving individuals who are teaching or interested in teaching on the reservations and in rural Arizona,” said Vicky Young, Prescott College’s coordinator for Native American Students, in a release. Other workshops focused on children and nature, nutrition and cooking with local foods, and community traditions. A limited number of Helios scholarships of \$4,000 for full-time students per year are still available through fall 2012. Applicants must be Native American, Hispanic, or from another underrepresented group who work with young children in Arizona.

For more information contact Wendy Watson at [wwatson@prescott.edu](mailto:wwatson@prescott.edu), (928) 350- 1013 or (877) 350-2100, ext. 1013, or Vicky Young at [vyoung@prescott.edu](mailto:vyoung@prescott.edu), (800) 628-6343 or (928) 350-3200

## **UPCOMING EVENTS (meetings, events, conferences etc. related to tribal affairs)**

### **NIEA ANNUAL CONVENTION AND TRADESHOW**

**October 26 – 30, 2011**

**Albuquerque Convention Center**

**Albuquerque, NM**

The NIEA Annual Convention and Tradeshow brings together Native leaders, congressional representatives, educators, students and school administrators together to teach best practices, connect with others who are passionate about educating Native students, and pursue solutions to education issues that affect Native communities. Each year, the convention teaches attendees about the local tribal culture and language through various evening events. NIEA’s board of directors and resolutions for yearly legislative priorities are also determined at this event.



## 8TH ANNUAL NATIONAL "FATHERHOOD IS LEADERSHIP" CONFERENCE November 2-4, 2011



*Presented by:* Native American Fatherhood & Families Association  
Phoenix Marriott Mesa Hotel

Phoenix Marriott Mesa Hotel Rate \$109+ tax per night

Special rate deadline: October 21, 2011

Phone 800-835-9873 ask for "NAFFA Conference Rates"

Phone (480) 833-5007 : Fax (480) 833-5009

You may register here by submitting the form below or download the form and mail in [Register form](#)

SPECIAL TRACK: Head Start/Early Childhood

### ***INTER TRIBAL COUNCIL OF ARIZONA, INC. ANNUAL INDIAN CHILD AND FAMILY CONFERENCE***

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. is pleased to announce its 27th Annual Indian Child and Family Conference to be held December 7-9, 2011 at the NEW Casino Del Sol Resort & Conference Center located on the Pascua Yaqui reservation in beautiful southern Arizona.

Hotel Reservation deadline is November 6, 2011. Call 1-800-SOL-STAY and mention the "Inter Tribal Council of Arizona" to receive the group rate. Or register on-line at [www.casinodelsol.com](http://www.casinodelsol.com) and use Attendee Code: 11862. The Conference's Early Registration (\$100.00) ends on November 18, 2011; thereafter, registration will be \$125.00. Conference on-line Registration will be available this week at [www.itcaonline.com](http://www.itcaonline.com).

### ***RESOURCES (funding opportunities for Tribes and tribal interests)***

#### ***TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES***

##### **ACF, OCC Name four new National Child Care Technical Assistance Centers**

The federal Office of Child Care (OCC) today announced four new national centers that will provide child care technical assistance to states, territories and tribes to improve the quality of school-age care and early care and education. More than 12 million American children regularly rely on child care. Of these, over 1.6 million children receive a child care subsidy from the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program each month. The Child Care Technical Assistance Network redesign is aimed at furthering OCC's goal to ensure all children have access to high-quality child care.

In coordination with OCC's new State Child Care Systems Specialist Network, the following new OCC technical assistance centers will help CCDF grantees reach CCDF plan goals:

- The **National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement**, contract award to ICF International, Inc., in partnership with the BUILD Initiative, will provide targeted technical assistance to states as they help more child care programs reach for higher standards of quality tied to school readiness and academic excellence.

- The **National Center on Child Care Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives**, jointly funded by the Office of Head Start and awarded to Zero to Three, in partnership with Child Trends, the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the National Alliance Registry contract award will build State capacity to support the estimated 1.2 million early childhood educators and afterschool teachers in child care centers and family child care homes by creating pathways for career advancement, and developing strategies for higher qualification and improved compensation.
- The **National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability**, contract award to Walter R. McDonald and Associates, Inc., will support CCDF administrators as they develop and maintain strong subsidy systems that are child-focused, family-friendly, and fair to child care providers and increase accountability and integrity of programs to ensure that funds are used appropriately and efficiently.
- The **National Center on Tribal Child Care Implementation and Innovation**, contract award to the Community Development Institute, will focus on the unique needs of tribes to ensure that tribal communities have access to the technical assistance they need to provide high-quality child care and share tribal-state innovations.

## **FUNDING OPPORUNTIES**

### **AmeriCorps State and National and Indian Tribes Planning Grants**

Grants directly to Tribes and Tribal organizations to assist them in developing an AmeriCorps program  
 Geographic Coverage: Nationwide  
 Letter of Intent (Optional): Dec 15, 2011  
 Application Deadline: Jan 18, 2012  
 Sponsor: Corporation for National and Community Service

### **Center for American Indian Health Training & Scholarship Program**

Training and scholarship program to support current and future American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) health professionals in their educational development.  
 Geographic Coverage: Nationwide  
 Application Deadline: Nov 1, 2011  
 Sponsor: Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health

### **Dr. Alan J. Allery Health Research Award**

Award to promising American Indian student health researchers.  
 Geographic Coverage: Nationwide  
 Application Deadline: Oct 1, 2011  
 Sponsor: University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health

### **Indian Health Service Loan Repayment Program for Repayment of Health Professions Educational Loans**

Loan repayment program for health professions educational loans (undergraduate and graduate) in return for full-time clinical service in Indian health programs.  
 Geographic Coverage: Nationwide  
 Application Deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis  
 Sponsor: Indian Health Service

### **Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance**

Grants to assist Native Americans in assuring the survival and continuing vitality of their languages  
 Geographic Coverage: Nationwide  
 Application Deadline: Jan 31, 2012  
 Sponsor: Administration for Native Americans

### **Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance - Esther Martinez Initiative**

Funding for projects to support Native Language Nests and Survival Schools providing education and instruction using native languages

Geographic Coverage: Nationwide

Application Deadline: Jan 31, 2012

Sponsor: Administration for Native Americans

### **Partnerships in Implementing Patient Safety II (R18)**

Funding to support Research Demonstration and Dissemination (R18) grant applications to implement safe practice interventions.

Geographic Coverage: Nationwide

Application Deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

Sponsor: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

### **Social and Economic Development Strategies Program (SEDS)**

Grants are focused on strengthening children, families, and communities through community-based organizations, Tribes, and Village governments.

Geographic Coverage: Nationwide

Application Deadline: Apr 2, 2012

Sponsor: Administration for Native Americans

### **DID YOU KNOW? (Tribal Facts)**

#### ***AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY***

Ak-Chin is an O'odham word translated to mean "mouth of the wash" or "place where the wash loses itself in the sand or ground." The term refers to a type of farming that relies on *washes* – seasonal food-plains created by winter snows and summer rains. In May 1912, President Taft signed for a 47,600 acre reservation. However, the acreage was reduced to just less than 22,000 acres the following year. The tribe's government was formally organized in 1961, under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. The Ak-Chin Indian Community is governed by a 5 member Tribal Council; which oversees the governmental operations and departments that service the community of Ak-Chin. Ak-Chin has an enrollment of over 770 tribal members. *Source: <http://www.ak-chin.nsn.us/index.php>*

**To submit information for inclusion into this bulletin please send the content to me no later the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks! Beverly**