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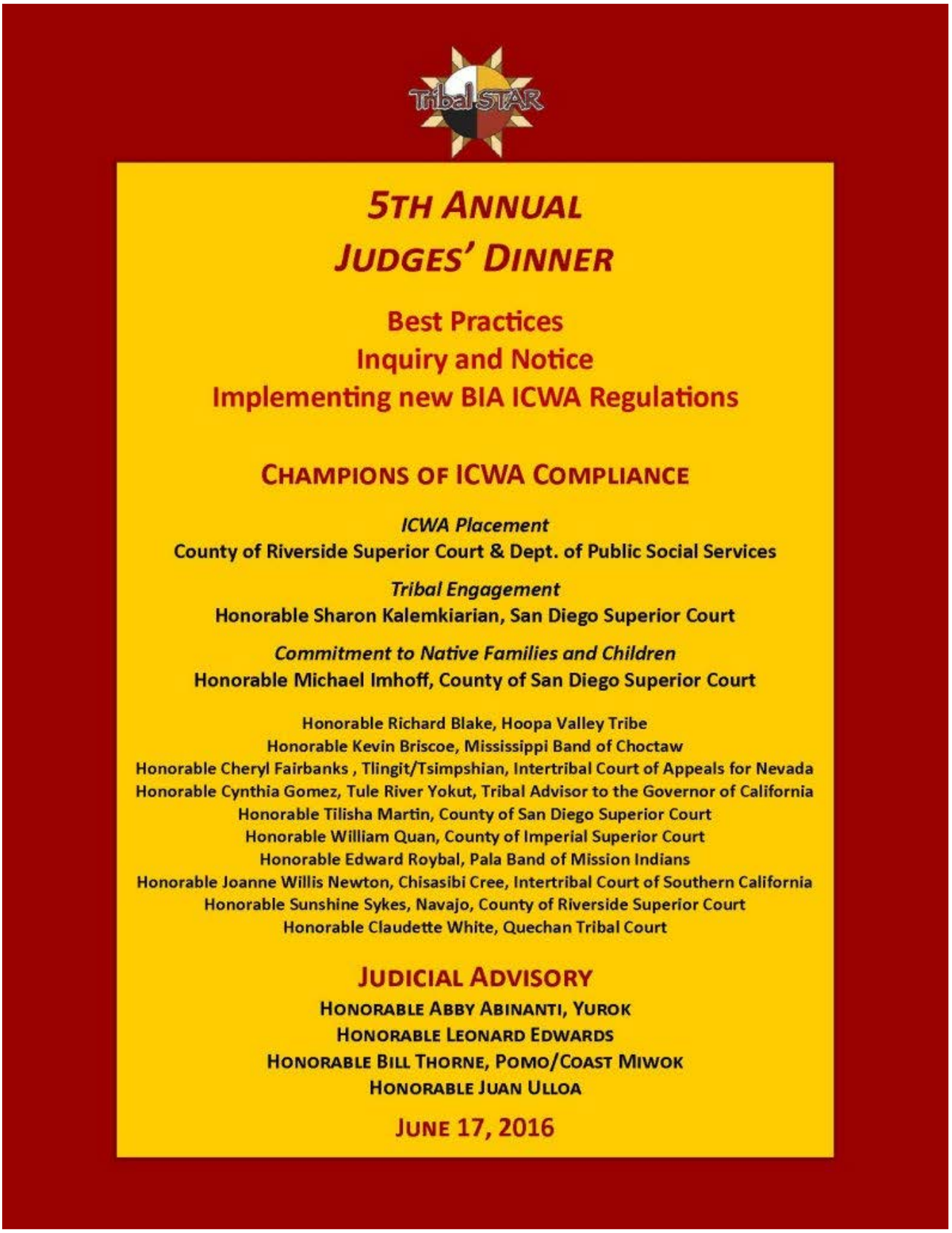
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tribal STAR Congratulates Nancy Currie on her retirement. A champion for many years as the Director of Tribal Social Services for the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, she was instrumental in passing the SB 1325 for California that supports Tribal Customary Adoption (2010).

Championed SB 1325
Tribal Customary Adoption
Legislation

Tribal STAR's 5th Annual Judges' Dinner

This year's Judges' Dinner included an update of the recent legal challenges against ICWA; and best practice updates in the areas of Inquiry & Notice, and the implementation of the new BIA ICWA Regulations.



Judges Dinner Champions 2016

The Tribal STAR Family of Partners honored Judge Timothy Freer, County of Riverside Superior Court for ensuring proper placement; Judge Sharon Kalemkiarian, County of San Diego Superior Court for engagement, and Judge Michael Imhoff, County of San Diego Superior Court for his record of Commitment to Native Families and Children.

Photo Credit: Karen Vigneault

Department of the Interior Issues Final Regulations to Strengthen Implementation of ICWA

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. Department of the Interior www.doi.gov

News Release

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

CONTACT: Nedra Darling
202-219-4152

June 8, 2016

Acting Assistant Secretary Roberts Issues Final Regulations to Strengthen Implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act, Focusing on Family Unification

Final rule will ensure consistent implementation of ICWA to promote greater stability for Indian children, their families and tribal communities

WASHINGTON– Acting Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Lawrence S. Roberts today announced final, updated measures to protect the rights of Indian children, their parents and their tribes in state child welfare proceedings. The measures, comprised in a final rule announced today, will support the stability and security of Indian families and tribes by providing a more consistent interpretation of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (ICWA), regardless of the child welfare worker, judge or state involved.

"The final rule builds upon the work of tribes and states by clarifying the Indian Child Welfare Act's requirements, promoting consistency in Indian child-placement proceedings, and ensuring that regardless of the state court forum, children and their parents receive the active efforts envisioned by Congress to maintain family and community," said Acting Assistant Secretary Roberts. "Child welfare workers, state court judges and state agencies deserve clear rules as they work with Native families and tribes to implement the protections of the law. This rule promotes family and community by ensuring that if a Native child has been removed from their home previously, they will have a pathway for reunification with their family."

Vice News Network, VICELAND Draws Attention to Native Issues in Two New Series

Vice World of Sports: Seven Generations

How basketball is shaping the Lakota youth on Pine Ridge.

Woman: The Missing First Nations

Michelle Obama Acknowledges Boarding School History

On May 26th, First Lady Michelle Obama gave the Commencement speech to the graduating class at the Santa Fe Indian School. Alongside her messages of hope and aspiration, she also acknowledged the dark history behind the Santa Fe Indian School.

Stories of Success:

Amy's Story

Pierce and Olive's Story

"Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect."
~ Chief Seattle

RESEARCH DATA AND STATISTICS

Children's Bureau Express covers news, issues, and trends of interest to professionals and policymakers in the interrelated fields of child abuse and neglect, child welfare, and adoption.

Children's Bureau
1250 Maryland Avenue,
SW, Eighth Floor
Washington, DC 20024
Email: cb_express@childwelfare.gov

Study of Coordination of Tribal TANF and Child Welfare Services: Final Report
Published: June 2016
Information: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families' Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation issued a report detailing 14 tribes and tribal organizations' implementation of service coordination efforts across Tribal TANF and child welfare services. It describes the tribes and tribal organizations, explores their journeys to strengthen tribal families, identifies project facilitators and challenges, and shares lessons learned.

Title IV-E Program Final Report
Author: California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC)
Published: 2016
Information: The Title IV-E Program is the nation's largest consortium of schools of social work and public service agencies providing support for the delivery of a specialized public child welfare curriculum and support for students committed to service in in public child welfare. Academic year 2014–2015 marked the graduation of the 22nd cohort from CalSWEC's Title IV-E Stipend Program.

Shameful Neglect: Indigenous Child Poverty in Canada
Author: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Published: May 2016
Information: This report includes poverty rates on reserves and in the territories, something never before examined using the 2011 National Household Survey data. The most recently available data show that child poverty rates for status First Nations children living on-reserve rose to a staggering 60% in 2010. By contrast, poverty rates among Indigenous children living off reserve have improved somewhat, while non-Indigenous children have seen little change to their circumstances since 2005.
Further Reading: Living Arrangements of Aboriginal Children Aged 14 and Under

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POLICY LEGISLATION AND LAW

Bureau of Indian Affairs Releases New ICWA Regulations
Author: Department of the Interior
Published: June 2016
Information: This final rule adds a new sub-part to the Department of the Interior's regulations implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), in order to futher improve ICWA implementation. The final rule addresses requirements for State courts in ensuring implementation of ICWA in Indian child-welfare proceedings and requirements for States to maintain records under ICWA.

NICWA Child and Family Policy Update

Author: National Indian Child Welfare Association
Published: June 2016

President Obama Signs the Native American Children's Safety Act into Law

Passed: June 3, 2016
Information: The Native American Children's Safety Act (S.184) amends the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to prohibit the final approval of any foster care placement or a foster care license from being issued until the tribal social services agency: (1) completes a criminal records check of each covered individual who resides in the household or is employed at the institution in which the foster care placement will be made, and (2) concludes that each of those individuals meets the tribe's standards established pursuant to this Act. Defines a "covered individual" as an adult and any other individual the tribe determines is subject to a criminal records check.

California Independent Living Program (ILP) Services Available for Tribal Youth

Published: April 28, 2016
Information: The purpose of this All County Letter is to inform federally recognized tribes, including federally recognized tribal organizations, of their entitlement, under federal law, to Independent Living Program (ILP) benefits and services for their eligible youth. It is also intended to advise counties of their obligation to provide these benefits and services to eligible tribal youth. Indian youth must be provided access to independent living programs on the same basis as other youth in the state (SSA section 477(b)(3)(G)) codified as 42 USC section 677(b)(3)(G)). County ILP coordinators are required to ensure that benefits, services, and treatment are fair and equitable to all eligible youth. Core services should be provided as identified in MPP section 31-525 based on individual needs and goals as documented in the youth's Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) (MPP 30-506.9).

Senate Passes Bill Removing the Words "Indian" and "Eskimo" from Federal Law

Passed: May, 20, 2016
Information: Bill H.R. 4238 is amended by striking "Negroes, Spanish-speaking, Orientals, Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts" and inserting "Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, African American, Hispanic, Native American, or Alaska Natives".
Although President Obama signed this bill and it has passed it is currently directed toward the Department of Energy. As such it must still become law in order to be enacted. Our contact at the White House and the National Center for Tribes are in agreement with this point. Therefore the term ICWA (acronym for the Indian Child Welfare Act) will not be turning into NAANCWA (Native American Alaska Native Child Welfare Act) in the near future.

PROMISING PRACTICES

Updated Bureau of Indian Affairs Guidelines in Indian Child Custody Proceedings

Author: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Summary: These updated guidelines provide guidance to State courts and child welfare agencies implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act's (ICWA) provisions in light of written and oral comments received during a review of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Guidelines for State Courts in Indian Child Custody Proceedings published in 1979. They also reflect recommendations made by the Attorney General's Advisory Committee on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence and significant developments in jurisprudence since ICWA's inception. The updated BIA Guidelines for State Courts and Agencies in Indian Child Custody Proceedings promote compliance with ICWA's stated goals and provisions by providing a framework for State courts and child welfare agencies to follow, as well as best practices for ICWA compliance. Effective immediately, these guidelines supersede and replace the guidelines published in 1979.

Using Strengths to Address Alcohol Abuse and Suicide Among American Indian and Alaska Native Youth

Author: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Summary: This information brief introduces prevention practitioners to the positive youth development framework as an effective approach to preventing alcohol use and suicide among American Indian and Alaska Native youth. Prevention practitioners working in Indian Country can use this resource to inform their prevention planning and guide their selection of effective prevention interventions.

Adoption Bill gets Hearing in Senate

Author: James Brooks, Juneau Empire
Summary: Alaska Governor Bill Walker's House Bill 200 will move to Senate. The bill is seen as particularly important for adoptions of Alaska Native children; it streamlines the process of adoption for adoption within the same Native tribe, and it consolidates adoption and Child in Need of Aid cases under a single judge.

PROVIDER RESOURCES

2016 ICWA Designated Tribal Agents

Enhanced Resource Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases

Author: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Published: 2016
Information: The Enhanced Resource Guidelines was developed by a steering committee of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) comprised of judicial officers, content experts, and the NCJFCJ staff dedicated to improving the lives of children and families involved in the child welfare system. This publication is recommended for use by judges and court professionals as a tool to enhance court practice in child abuse and neglect cases.

Final Rule: Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Proceedings: Frequently Asked Questions

Bureau of Indian Affairs
Published: June 17, 2016

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Interagency Collaboration Regarding the Indian Child Welfare Act

Author: U.S. Department of Justice. U.S. Department of the Interior. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Published: 2016
Information: This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into and by and between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of the Interior, and the Department of Justice. Through this MOU, HHS, DOI, and the DOJ will work together in order to promote implementation of and compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Center for Native American Youth

Here you may find resources and links to funding and aid available to tribes.

Affordable Care Act Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program for Teen Pregnancy Prevention HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-AT-1130

Deadline: July 8, 2016
Information: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) announces the availability of funding in the form of discretionary, competitive grants to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations to support the development and implementation of comprehensive, teen pregnancy prevention programs.

Foster/Adoptive Parent Preparation, Training and Development Project HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-CO-1122

Deadline: July 11, 2016
Description:The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to award one cooperative agreement to an organization to develop a state-of-the-art foster/adoptive parent training program to include intensive preparation and development components that reflect the capacities required of successful foster/adoptive parents….

Grants to Address Trafficking within the Child Welfare Population HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-CA-1179

Deadline: July 11, 2016
Information: The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to solicit proposals for projects that will address human trafficking within the child welfare population. This is a 60-month project with five 12-month budget periods.

Standing Announcement for Tribal Title IV-E Plan Development Grants HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-CS-1176

Deadline: July 28, 2016
Information: The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to solicit proposals for one-time grants to tribes, tribal organizations, or tribal consortia that are seeking to develop and, within 24 months of grant receipt, submit to the Department of Health and Human Services a plan to implement a title IV-E foster care, adoption assistance, and, at tribal option, guardianship assistance program…

American Psychological Foundation Seeks Applications for Lizette Peterson-Homer Injury

Prevention Award
Deadline: October 1, 2016
Description: A single grant will be awarded for research related to the prevention of injuries in children and adolescents through accidents, violence, abuse, or suicide….

Rasmuson Foundation Accepting Applications for Nonprofit Leader Sabbatical Program
Deadline: October 1, 2016
Description: Awards are available to executives from Alaska tribes and nonprofits for sabbaticals of two to six months….

Karma for Cara Foundation
Deadline: Open
Applications for Youth Microgrants
Information:Grants will be awarded to kids 18 and under for service projects in their communities….

Public Welfare Foundation Accepting LOIs for Social Justice Programs
Deadline: Ongoing Information: Grants will be awarded in support of efforts to advance justice and opportunity for people in need through criminal justice, juvenile justice, and workers' rights programs….

Start a Snowball
Applications for Youth Philanthropy Projects
Deadline: Rolling
Information:Grants will be awarded in support of philanthropic projects led by youth between the ages of 5 and 18….

Aiden's Red Envelope Foundation Supports Families of Children With Special Needs
Deadline: Rolling
Information:Grants of up to $5,000 will be awarded to Southern California families that have children with disabilities for special equipment, therapy, summer camps, or treatments…

Craft Emergency Relief Fund Accepting Applications From Craftspeople in Need
Deadline: Open
Information:Grants and loans of up to $8,000 will be awarded to professional craftspeople experiencing career-threatening illness, accident, fire, theft, or natural disaster….

More grants: Grants.gov

Health and Human Services Grant Forecast

EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

The Calendar contains local events and conferences both local and national that will be of interest to those who work in or with the Tribal community.

July 9 to 10, 2016
Napa, CA
Suscol Intertribal Council
PO Box 5386
Napa, CA

September 23, 2016
Tribal STAR's Annual Celebration
Sycuan Golf Resort

October 3-6, 2016
Anaheim, CA
National Tribal Transportation Conference (NTTC) 2016

October 20-22, 2016
San Diego, CA
California Indian Conference 2016

November 2-4, 2016
New Orleans, LA
ICWA:Impact of BIA Guidelines and Regulations

TRIBAL STAR TRAINING

Approximately 800 Tribal and non-Tribal professionals, leaders, public Human Service agency staff, regional training academy staff and university students have received training throughout the project. The training package provides up-to-date, research-based information in a variety of areas, including: the youth development philosophy, methods for collaboration, effective ways to work with rural populations, effective ways to work with Tribal rural foster youth and their communities, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Act.

For more information regarding trainings in your area please contact technical assistance.
To register for one of the trainings below please contact:
Tom Lidot, Program Manager
Academy for Professional Excellence SDSU School of Social Work
Phone: (619) 594-3158 Fax: (619) 594-1118
Email: tlidot@mail.sdsu.edu

ICWA
The revised ICWA training "ICWA: In The Best Interest of the Child: Where The Spirit Leads" is intended to provide today's social workers with a foundation of knowledge of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

All ICWA Trainings –
Registration 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Training 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Continental Breakfast and working lunch included

July 7, 2016
Riverside Training Center
3600 Lime Street, Building 4, Suite 416
Riverside, CA 92501

July 12, 2016
San Diego Training Academy
6505 Alvarado Road, Suite 205
San Diego, CA 92120

September 8, 2016
Riverside DPSS
22690 Cactus Ave – Room TBD
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

September 21, 2016
Riverside Training Center
3600 Lime Street, Building 4, Suite 416
Riverside, CA 92501

October 26, 2016
Riverside Training Center
3600 Lime Street, Building 4, Suite 416
Riverside, CA 92501

ICWA Curriculum for California Ready for Stakeholder Review

Tribal STAR is pleased to announce that the statewide Core 3.0 ICWA curriculum has been completed and is currently being vetted by tribal and state stakeholders. This is a dynamic curriculum that builds on the "Let the Spirit Lead…" ICWA training that is currently being used by Tribal STAR. The new "ICWA: Working with Native American Families and Tribes" is a curriculum suite featuring a 100 level 60 minute eLearning, a 6-hour (full-day) classroom learning, and a 60 minute field activity. The new curriculum includes learning objectives that were reviewed and enhanced by the Statewide ICWA Workgroup. Additionally, a segment on tribal sovereignty, a 500 Nations video on California Indians and a scripted trainer's guide is also included.

Pilot:
July 2016
Los Angeles

Training:
January 2017

SUMMIT

The Summit provides an overview of Native American culture, history, and distrust of government systems and services. The training include first-hand accounts of Tribal youth experiences receiving CWS services. Participants engage in collaborative brainstorming to support goals and objectives.The training allows organizations to focus on specific challenges and identify solutions.

Next trainings: **TBA**

The Other Side of ICWA

The Other Side of ICWA is intended to address “the spirit of the law” and those concerns missing in traditional training that are essential for successful implementation of ICWA.

Next Training: **TBA**

GATHERING

The Gathering provides an overview of Native American culture, history, and distrust of government systems and services. The training reviews the unique issues that affect adolescent development of Tribal youth. Participants engage in collaborative brainstorming. The Gathering provides first hand accounts of Tribal youth who have experienced receiving CWS services and basic communication techniques that support more trusting relations with Tribal youth and families.The training allows organizations to focus on specific challenges and identify solutions.

Next training: **TBA**

COLLABORATIVE

The Collaborative is an adapted half-day training designed to introduce Tribal and non-tribal child welfare workers to the challenges of serving Tribal foster youth. It covers a brief historical overview and concludes with recommendations that support increased communication and collaboration among providers that strive to achieve positive outcomes for Tribal youth.

Next training: **TBA**

T4T

Training for Trainers focus on skill building to lead cross-cultural discussions that result in positive outcomes. The training also helps participants learn how to conduct Tribal STAR training in their area. Topics covered in the training include cross-cultural communication, cultivating and maintaining trust-based relationships, and understanding how history affects today's relationships between CWS and Tribal programs.

Next training:

August 23, 24, 25, 2016
Casey Family Programs
3878 Old Town Avenue
San Diego, CA 92110

NEXT ISSUE

TribalSTAR

General information, pertinent articles and resources related to Native American Foster Youth can be sent to tstar@mail.sdsu.edu by June 1, 2016. The newsletter will be distributed during the last week of June. Please see the distribution schedule for other dates.

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Note: documents in Portable Document Format (PDF) require Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.0 or higher to view, download Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Note: documents in Word format (DOC) require Microsoft Viewer, download word.

Note: documents in Excel format (XLS) require Microsoft Viewer, download Excel.

Note: documents in Powerpoint format (PPT) require Microsoft Viewer, download PowerPoint.

Note: documents in Quicktime Movie format [MOV] require Apple Quicktime, download Quicktime.

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