In partnership with Tribal STAR and in order to have a better understanding of the history, purpose and provisions of ICWA, PCWTA Practice Consultants* (Coaches) attended ICWA training in February.

All coaches were significantly impacted and moved by this training and we wanted to share some of our observations and takeaways:

"History was one of my least favorite subjects in school and continues to be so. However, after learning about some of the historical devastations (The Removal Act, The Relocation Act, The Indian Adoption Project, the boarding school experience) faced by Native American people, something was so moved in me that I want to research and read as much as I can about the history and historical trauma to Native Americans. I’ve already ordered a copy of ‘500 Nations’ DVD!

Although I absolutely believe in the remedial efforts of ICWA to the Native American people, I couldn’t help feel that the content and spirit of ICWA should be afforded to ALL children and families, regardless of race. It occurred to me that if workers are doing Safety Organized Practice (SOP), they are doing ICWA; and if workers are doing ICWA, they are doing SOP. It all symbolizes 'quality' practice.

The compassionate activity was particularly moving: think of a time that you felt you didn’t fit in/belong. What surfaced was that we ALL felt disenfranchised at some point in our lives. Although our experiences are different, our feelings are the same (sadness, lonely, confused, scared, lost, self-doubt, ashamed, etc.) We are all the same people!" - Laurie Fortin

"I was inspired to continue to deepen my knowledge and understanding, and to challenge myself as a coach to ensure I interweave this knowledge into the transfer of learning experiences in my day-to-day interactions within Child Welfare." - Kate Bedwell

"I had many exceptional takeaways from the ICWA training I attended. It was clear that for myself, my lack of knowledge of the history of the American Indian was a barrier to my understanding of the trauma that so many endured. With that came the realization that it was not that long ago, which means that many people today had a direct experience of the..."
and the deeply rooted effects that it has on so many generations. This training gives us the ability to look at the tribes’ and their families’ many traditions of the Indian culture and better understand how they are so connected to Mother Earth. This training gave me great insight to the spirit of ICWA and how we as an agency have a direct impact on connecting the children who come into our care with their tribes and the great benefits that doing so has for them, and their people.” - Nichole Diggs

“I was struck by the depth of historical trauma that still is present today and the way that Indian families are still stereotyped and discriminated against.” - Wayne Rutledge

“Viewing the world through your own cultural lens can cause lasting impact and historical trauma. The Native American experience with Child Welfare has torn families apart and cause many children to lack a sense of belonging. ICWA is not a paperwork process or a cumbersome process; it is a way to undo some of the mistakes from the past by keeping families together through the use of active efforts and cultural liaisons. In order to ensure that a family is identified as ICWA eligible, we must continue to inquire about tribal affiliations until we are certain that ICWA eligibility has been ruled out so that no more families are torn apart unnecessarily.” - Nicole Heesen

“Having had already participated in a few ICWA trainings, my most significant takeaway from this particular training is the unbreakable spirit and resiliency of Native American/Alaskan Native people. They are still standing strong in spite of all the devastations they have endured and are still enduring. I find this so inspiring! I am committed to keeping the tenants of ICWA alive and in the forefront of my coaching practice as a way to celebrate and honor our Native American/Alaskan Native children and families.” - Lilli Miles

Our goal is to improve our efforts to coach more thoroughly to ICWA issues with child welfare workers and leadership. We believe that when we work together, we can accomplish more.

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**PCWTA**: Public Child Welfare Training Academy is the child welfare training division of Academy for Professional Excellence / Southern Training Academy of California. For more information visit [https://theacademy.sdsu.edu/programs/pcwta](https://theacademy.sdsu.edu/programs/pcwta).

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**Reaching the Heart Through Training - Tribal STAR T4T 2018**

This year’s T4T was directly informed by statewide ICWA trainers from throughout California. As we move into the 2nd year of implementation of the new Core 3.0 full day ICWA classroom training for social workers we were pleased to have returning T4T participants add value to the event. Challenges that trainers are experiencing include bias and disdain toward ICWA cases and how to cover all the material in the specified time. Techniques for mitigating conflict and facilitating challenging discussions were shared by both trainers and participants. The participants also received encouragement by the Community Leadership Team, Judicial Advisors and senior partners.

Our statewide ICWA training model is also spreading to Minnesota. This year a group of trainers attended from the University of Duluth, including tribal representatives and the ICWA Law Center, with plans to implement statewide ICWA
Gratitude to all the participants, trainers, and sponsors of the 3-day event. Special thanks to our partners: Casey Family Programs and Judicial Council of California. Respectful gratitude to our Judicial Advisors who took the time to encourage our new generation of trainers.

**Training Tip:** When training ICWA in your county - remember to mention that active efforts start at the beginning of the case and are meant to keep families together. Collaboration with tribal social services strengthen active efforts.

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**New Products from the Capacity Building Center for Tribes**

**Child Welfare Virtual Expo**

Please save the date for the 2018 Child Welfare Virtual Expo. Mark your calendars for July 12, 2018, and join us for this year’s Child Welfare Virtual Expo, focused on fostering healthy work environments for child welfare professionals.

**Why Attend?**
You and your colleagues can experience all the benefits of an in-person conference without ever leaving your desk through this no-cost, online expo. This year’s Child Welfare Virtual Expo features workshops and skills seminars that cover strategies for:
- Creating a healthy organizational culture and climate
- Collaborating to conduct a workforce needs assessment
- Coaching the workforce
- Supporting the workforce through technology and innovation

If you have not attended a Child Welfare Virtual Expo, this year you do not want to miss the chance to:
- Hear dynamic presentations from national experts, program directors, frontline workers, family leaders, and youth
- Learn best practices for strengthening and supporting a healthy and safe child welfare workforce
- Build knowledge and skills during breakout sessions of your choice

**What is the Child Welfare Virtual Expo?**
Each year, the Children’s Bureau and the Capacity Building Center for States bring together child welfare professionals for the Child Welfare Virtual Expo to engage in activities focusing on important child welfare issues and to build child welfare professionals’ knowledge and skills. Last year, more than 800 staff from 50 federal, state, and local organizations attended the Child Welfare Virtual Expo.

The Child Welfare Virtual Expo provides real-time learning opportunities for public child welfare agencies, tribes, and courts to increase knowledge of emerging practices and forge connections with peers across the country—all from your own computer, tablet, or smartphone.
Get a sneak peek of the 2018 Child Welfare Virtual Expo by reviewing the schedule at a glance and checking out the "Getting Ready" video.

Registration information is coming soon! Stay tuned!

Questions? Contact the Capacity Building Center for States.

**Adverse Childhood Experiences Resource List**
Targeted Resources for Tribal Child Welfare Professionals

The Center for Tribes is pleased to share a new resource list focused on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) defines ACEs as “…stressful or traumatic events, including abuse and neglect. They may also include household dysfunction such as witnessing domestic violence or growing up with family members who have substance use disorders.” ACEs are known to have lifelong detrimental impacts on a person’s well-being. While many ACEs materials exist, few focus specifically on American Indian and Alaska Native children. We’ve compiled those here along with other websites and tools that may be helpful in your work to support tribal children, youth, and families.

**Center for Tribes Resource List Series:**
1. Adverse Childhood Experiences
2. Intergenerational/Historical Trauma
3. Resources for Healthy Generations
4. Research and Evaluation in Native Communities
5. Resources for Grandparents
6. Engaging and Supporting Native Fathers
7. Sex Trafficking
8. Customary Adoption
9. Title IV-E

**Indigenous Healing**
Sharing and Learning Together
Registration Reminder

The Capacity Building Center for Tribes is pleased to present an opportunity to learn more about indigenous healing. Creating sustainable, strong, and healthy organizations, communities, families, and individuals includes building the capacity of all to restore balance and wellness.

Facilitated by Center staff and consultants Elsie Boudreau, Richard Two Dogs, Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs, and Jackie Crow Shoe, this series of three webinars will address healing at all levels: the individual, family, community, and organizational.

The Center for Tribes shares their invitation to connect:

"It is important that we recognize and identify for ourselves what healing from trauma, grief and loss looks like and then what it would look like for our Tribal and Alaska Native communities. Let us take this time to learn and explore with one other. No particular or specific programs, strategies, or paths to healing are endorsed nor promoted, given the sensitive and personal nature of individual, community, and organizational healing. The balance in creation and the universe is acknowledged, and that there are challenges or disruptions to that balance. Restoring balance and wellness through our Indigenous healing lifeways is the focus of this webinar series. We’re not here to tell you what healing is – we’re here to talk about it, hear from you on what it feels like to heal, and to explore with you the gift that comes with knowing we’re not alone in the world.

We invite participants beforehand to share examples and images of healing for possible inclusion in the webinar series that capture the spirit that we’re all connected, that we’re all related. Creating an image of healing together can reflect our uniqueness, our diversity and our commonalities. What images represent healing for you? If you are willing to share your words or images to potentially be
highlighted as part of this webinar series, feel free to send them to:
Lau, laura.dyer@maine.edu by Tuesday, February 21, 2018.

We look forward to visiting with you about this.
- Elsie, Rick, Ethleen, and Jackie

Registration

Each webinar will last for approximately 90 minutes and begin at 10:00 AK, 11:00 PST, 12:00 MST, 1:00 CST, 2:00 EST.

1. We Are All Connected
Date: March 20, 2018
Healing for Indigenous people is a powerful journey that can be collectively shared and/or can be a very personal path. Join us as we explore and share healing strategies from various Indigenous cultures as examples that we are all connected.

2. Individual and Family Healing
Date: April 25, 2018
Healing for individuals and families can be a lifelong process that is unique for each person and/or family. It can be a stop and go process and can include searching and exploring different paths. Healing journeys are often joyful yet painful, we acknowledge that it is not always a smooth process and can sometimes be lonely. We look forward to sharing healing strategies that impact individuals and families.

3. Community and Organizational Healing
Date: May 30, 2018
As communities and organizations endeavor to reach their goals, they are often impacted by what individuals in that community and/or organization brings to the workplace. Individuals bring gifts, strengths and talents to community and organizational work and conversely can bring past hurts and experiences of trauma that impact the overall dynamics of a community or organization. Join our discussion on how communities and organizations can engage in the healing process to increase their productivity, reach their goals and create a healing environment.

Best regards,
Kathy

Kathy Deserly, Co-Project Director
Capacity Building Center for Tribes
Capacity Building Collaborative
(406) 437-2939 – Fax: (406) 545-2227
Email: Kathy@CBC4Tribes.org
Websites: https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/tribes/
Tribal Information Exchange
RESEARCH AND RESOURCES
Up-to-date research applicable to those who work with Tribal foster youth

POLICY, LEGISLATION, LAW AND PROMISING PRACTICES
Newly published articles foundational for those who work with Tribal foster youth

FUNDING AND EVENTS
Current Pow Wows, trainings and conferences

TRIBAL STAR TRAINING
Tribal STAR trainings in a variety of areas relevant to Tribal foster youth and their communities

We live, we die, ..., and like the grass and trees, renew ourselves from the soft earth of the grave. Stones crumble and decay, faiths grow old and they are forgotten, but new beliefs are born. The faith of the villages is dust now... but it will grow again... like the trees.

- Chief Joseph, Nez Perce (1840-1904)

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,
Past Issues

RSS

activitites were submitted by local Strengthening Families sites. Each day of the week corresponds to one of the protective factors. The activity calendars include daily tips to help put protective factors into action with families. Each day of the week corresponds to one of the protective factors. The activities were submitted by local Strengthening Families sites.

2018 Prevention Resource Guide
Author: Child Welfare Information Gateway
Published: 2018
Information: The guide gives service providers strategies to strengthen families by promoting key protective factors that prevent child abuse and neglect.

Children's Bureau
Lists and links to new comprehensive Child Welfare information.

Highlighting a Rural Community Partnership: All Dads Matter Fatherhood Program and Child Support Services of Merced County
Published: 2018
Information: Overview of the partnership and available resources.

Tip Sheets for Parents and Caregivers (from 2018 Prevention Resource Guide)
Published: 2018
Information: This set includes 21 tip sheets written to help service providers offer guidance to parents and caregivers on specific issues.

Trauma-Informed Approaches and Awareness for Programs Working with Fathers
Published: 2018
Information: Tips for Using a Trauma-informed Approach When Working with Fathers Who Have Experienced Trauma.

POLICY, LEGISLATION AND LAW

Family First Prevention Services Act Discussion
Information: This act was recently passed and signed into law February 8th, 2018. Michael Huesca and Corey Best, BPNN Co-Facilitators, welcome Lauren Behaudi, Public Policy Advisor, with Casey Family Programs to discuss this new groundbreaking legislation and how it can have an impact on children, parents and their families. Register Now!
Birth Parent National Network (BPNN) webinar is scheduled on Thursday April 5 at 9 - 10 AM PT/ 10 - 11 AM MT/ 11 AM - 12 PM CT/ 12 - 1 PM ET. If you would like more information and a 3-page summary report regarding this law that will change Child welfare as we know it, please register or visit our website: Register: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com

Paternal Opportunities Programs & Services

Federal Financing for the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), 2018
Author(s): Mitchell, Alison.
Published: 2018
Information: This report provides an overview of State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) financing, beginning with an explanation of the federal matching rate. It describes various aspects of federal CHIP funding, such as the federal appropriation, State allotments, the Child Enrollment Contingency Fund, redistribution funds, and outreach and enrollment grants.

Indian Child Welfare Act attacks are a threat to tribes [Commentary]
Author: High Country News
Published: March 09, 2018
Information: Placing Native children in foster homes outside of their tribe was the natural progression of assimilation efforts following the closure of Indian boarding schools. Groups like the Goldwater Institute that push for the elimination of ICWA are, intentionally or not, contributing to the continued attack on Native existence. Such groups have attempted to capitalize on misinformation and stereotypes as a way to undermine ICWA.

Nacional de la Prevención del Abuso de Menores [Spanish Calendars]
Published: 2018
Information: These activity calendars include daily tips to help put protective factors into action with families. Each day of the week corresponds to one of the protective factors. The activities were submitted by local Strengthening Families sites.
Judicial Update

Published: 2018
Information: Enacted as Division E, Title VII of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, this act amended and reauthorized through fiscal year 2021 titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act, with the purpose of enabling states to use federal IV-B and IV-E funds to provide enhanced support to children and families and prevent foster care placements through the provision of mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services, in-home parent skill-based programs, and kinship navigator services.

Promising Practices

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5th, Annual POPS/ RIOSS (Riverside, Imperial Valley, Orange County, San Diego, San Bernardino) Fatherhood Summit
Date: April 9th, 2018
8:30 am to 3:00 pm
San Diego Foundation
“Hoffman Room”
2508 Historic Decatur Road #200
San Diego CA 92026.
Information: This summit is focused on providing participants knowledge of best practices and techniques to getting fathers engaged and involved in services. This year’s topic of discussion is “Engaging fathers and substance abuse.” Our guest speaker is Scott Silverman who is a catalyst for change. Scott is a consultant, Author, CEO and founder of several organizations including Second Change Inc.

Preserving connections
Author: Casey Family Programs
Published: February 2018
Information: Explore best strategies for recruiting and retaining tribal foster families to help American Indian and Alaska Native children thrive in their culture.

Providing Adoption Support and Preservation Services
Author: Child Welfare Information Gateway
Published: 2018
Information: Draws from available literature and practice knowledge to summarize key issues related to providing effective services to support the stability and permanency of adoptions.

Rural Child Welfare Practice
Author: Casey Family Programs
Published: 2018
Information: Highlights the importance of understanding the concerns and needs of children and families in rural communities, their strengths and resources, and the cultural sensitivity required...

The Community Opportunity Map
Author: Casey Family Programs
Published: February 2018
Information: This interactive tool highlights the aspects of communities associated with safe children and strong families. Learn more about yours.

CURRENT GRANTS AND FUNDING

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Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance
Deadline: April 9, 2018
Information: The Native Language Preservation and Maintenance program provides funding for projects to support assessments of the status of the native languages in an established community, as well as...

Intervention Research to Improve Native American Health (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
Deadline: May 14, 2020
Information: The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to encourage exploratory-developmental research to improve Native American (NA) health.
Deadline: May 20, 2018
Information: The US Department of Justice (DOJ) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding to improve public safety and victim services in tribal communities.

Evaluation of Policies for the Primary Prevention of Multiple Forms of Violence
Deadline: May 21, 2018
Information: NCIPC is seeking research proposals focused on rigorously evaluating previously or currently implemented federal, state, local, tribal or organizational policies for impacts on multiple forms of violence, including child abuse and neglect, youth violence, intimate partner violence, sexual violence and/or suicide.

Indian Housing Block Grant Program
Deadline: Rolling
Information: The Indian Housing Block Grant Program (IHBG) is a formula grant that provides a range of affordable housing activities on Indian reservations and Indian areas. The block grant approach to housing for Native Americans was enabled by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA). Eligible IHBG recipients are Federally recognized Indian tribes or their tribally designated housing entity (TDHE), and a limited number of state recognized tribes who were funded under the Indian Housing Program authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937 (USHA).

Indian Community Development Block Grant
Deadline: Rolling
Information: The ICDBG Program provides eligible grantees with direct grants for use in developing viable Indian and Alaska Native Communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities, primarily for low and moderate income persons.

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 craftspersons experiencing career-threatening illness, accident, fire, theft, or natural disaster.

Grants.gov Calendar

Native American Scholarship Resources:
American Indian Graduate Center
CollegeScholarships.Org
The Gates Millennium Scholars Program

EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

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This 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.

April 5, 2018
7th Generation Workgroup
10-2pm
Orange County Office of Social Services
301 The City Drive
Orange, CA 92868
Facilitator: Sandra Flores
Host: Orange County ICWA Unit
Contact: tlidot@sdus.edu

April 14, 2018
The Powwow Planning Committee and the Cross Cultural Center would like to warmly invite you.

April 15, 2018 - April 18, 2018
**NICWA 36th Annual Conference**
Anchorage, AK

April 23, 2018 - April 24, 2018
**Understanding Jurisdiction on Tribal Lands**
Conference Room of the Riverside Sheriff's Association
21810 Cactus Avenue
Riverside, CA 92518

April 24-25, 2018
**National Conference on Coaching in Human Services**
Center for Human Services at the University of California, Davis
Davis, CA

April 26-29, 2018
**Child Welfare League of America 2018 National Conference**
Child Welfare League of America
Washington, DC

June 4, 2018 - June 6, 2018
25th Annual Statewide ICWA Conference
Graton Rancheria resort and Casino
Rohnert Park, CA.
Registration opens on Feb. 28, 2018.
Contact: Kevin Neidich, Analyst, Office of Tribal Affairs
California Department of Social Services
744 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814
Office: 916.654.1217

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**TRIBAL STAR TRAINING**

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Approximately 8000 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: tldot@mail.sdsu.edu

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**INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT (ICWA): WORKING WITH NATIVE AMERICAN FAMILIES AND TRIBES**

ICWA: Working with Native American Families and Tribes is intended to provide social workers with foundational knowledge of the Indian Child Welfare Act and best practices.

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
*Note the pre-requisite to attend these trainings is a 60-90 minute eLearning on ICWA Introduction. For registration please contact:
Sunni Dominguez - sadominguez@sdsu.edu or call 619-594-6107.
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 training: 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 improved 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: TBA

The training will be from 8am – 5pm. Working lunch provided.

Participants will need to complete the pre-requisite ICWA eLearning before March 13. Preference is given to individuals who plan to train ICWA in 2018-2019, and county child welfare staff who serve as ICWA liaisons, coordinators, or specialists.

Location TBD.

For more information contact Sunni Dominguez sadominguez@sdsu.edu.

E-LEARNING

ICWA Bias, Media and Historical Context eLearning: This eLearning course will explore how media and propaganda have affected our perceptions resulting in a bias toward American Indians. During this course you will be asked to identify three events
For more information contact Tom Lidot at tldot@mail.sdsu.edu or call 619-594-3158.

TribalSTAR

NEXT ISSUE
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General information, pertinent articles and resources related to Native American Foster Youth can be sent to us at tsstar@mail.sdsu.edu for inclusion in the next edition of the Tribal STAR eNewsletter. Whenever possible please make submissions 3 weeks prior to publication of the next newsletter. The next issue will be published the first week of May. All submissions will be reviewed and are published at the sole discretion of the Tribal STAR editorial staff.

For current news, thoughts and events follow us on Twitter
@TribalSTARNews

Tribal STAR is a program of Academy for Professional Excellence, a project of San Diego State University School of Social Work.

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