January was a busy month for Tribal STAR. Our post-holiday quiet time let us catch up on paperwork and finish scheduling our ICWA trainings for the fiscal year. We also had our first Seventh Generation Workgroup Meeting of 2019, graciously hosted by Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians in their beautiful brand new tribal government building. We always appreciate the opportunity to come together with everyone in this collaborative, and to be a part of the ongoing efforts by county agencies and tribal and community organizations to support our youth. We also mourned the passing of Karen Vigneault, a member of the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel and an expert genealogist and a prominent LGBTQ activist. Tribal STAR, with the help of its collaborative partners, remains committed in its effort to connect youth, families caregivers, and child welfare professionals with support and services resources. This month, our resource is for foster youth who have concerns about a placement, who need additional support or have other questions and concerns:

Foster & Adoptive Resource Family Services, KIDSLine: (877) 792-KIDS (5437) for assistance. If you have a resource that you would like us to share, please contact LaPrincess Greene at Tribal STAR.

Wishing you a February filled with love and blessings.

Kim Mettler, Program Coordinator

Remembering Karen Vigneault

The Tribal STAR family is deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Karen Vigneault, member of the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel. Karen was a prominent LGBTQ activist and educated people about Kumeyaay culture and traditions, especially those relating to the role of two-spirit people within the community. Karen was also an expert genealogist who extensively researched ancestral histories and connected people with their families, tribes and culture. Helping people connect with their Native heritage was something Karen took pride in, and frequently provided her services for little to no cost. In 2008 she was inducted into the San Diego Women’s Hall of Fame. Karen’s smile, laugh, and no-nonsense demeanor brought love and friendship to many. She will be greatly missed. We extend our sincerest condolences to her loved ones.


Joint Press Release from National Native Organizations on the Overwhelming Support for the Indian Child Welfare Act

(Portland, Ore., January 18, 2019)—On Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 325 tribal nations, 57 Native organizations, 21 states, 31 child welfare organizations, Indian and constitutional law scholars, and seven members of Congress joined the United States and four intervenor tribes in filing briefs to urge the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit to uphold the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), the long-standing federal law protecting the well-being of Native children by upholding family integrity and stability.

Read More NICWA

National Native Organizations Unite and Urge the President and Congress to Re-Open the Government

(Portland, Ore., January 10, 2019)—On the 20th day of the government shutdown, eight national Native organizations are jointly urging the President and Congress to immediately end the partial government shutdown, which breaks the treaty and trust obligations the federal government owes to tribal nations.

Read More NICWA
Greetings Colleagues,

The United States Department of Justice and Department of Agriculture hosted the first Rural and Tribal Elder Justice Summit in Des Moines, Iowa, on Wednesday, November 14, 2018. The Summit brought together elder justice professionals from across the country with the purpose of supporting efforts to combat elder abuse and financial exploitation in rural and tribal communities.

We encourage you to review the issued press release and the brand new Rural and Tribal Elder Justice Resource Guide and for you to disseminate this information through your networks.

Thank you for all that you do. Have a wonderful Friday!

Sincerely,
The NCEA Team

The trainings provide up-to-date, research-based information in a variety of areas for those that work with Tribal foster youth and their communities.

February 21, 2019: Orange County
Orange County TCD
1035 South Grand Avenue
Room A110
Santa Ana, CA 92705
8:00am-5:00pm

February 28, 2019: San Diego
Academy for Professional Excellence
6367 Alvarado Court, Room 105
San Diego, CA 92120
8:00am-5:00pm

March 7, 2019: San Bernardino
County of San Bernardino DCFS
1094 South E Street
Conference Room A
San Bernardino, CA
8:00am-5:00pm

March 20, 21, 22, 2019: San Diego T4T
Casey Family Program
3878 Old Town Ave
San Diego, CA 92110
8:00am – 5:00pm

For more information contact LaPrincess Greene, lngreene@sdsu.edu.

CalSWEC

SERVE: Indigenous Community Social Workers for Change (formerly the American Indian Recruitment Program) supports the Title IV-E schools of social work in CalSWEC’s consortium. Its goal is to support the Title IV-E graduate and undergraduate social work programs currently operating within the CalSWEC consortium by assisting with capacity and relationship building with Tribal entities and organizations within each region. Eligible American Indian students can receive financial support as full- or part-time social work students with an emphasis on children and families in the SDSU Title IV-E Stipend Program.

County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency

The Quality Parenting Initiative, a strategy of the Youth Law Center, is an approach to strengthening foster care, refocusing on excellent parenting for all children in the child welfare system. Please see below for our quarterly meetings as well as local meetings in North County.

Norma Rincon, Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services
Margo Fudge, Foster & Adoptive Resource Family Services
County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency

2019 STEERING COMMITTEE QUARTERLY MEETINGS:
April 17, 2019
July 17, 2019
October 16, 2019
Time: 10:00am–Room
Location: 6911 Balboa Ave., Magnolia Room
Southern Indian Health Council, Inc.

Southern Indian Health Council, Inc. is hiring a Social Worker for their Indian Social Services department.

Tribal STAR Resource Gateway

Here are some resource links you can use in your practice:

- CAREGIVER & PROVIDER RESOURCES
- CULTURAL EVENTS, CONFERENCES & TRAINING
- PROMISING PRACTICES
- LAW & POLICY
- CURRENT GRANTS & FUNDING
- RESEARCH, DATA & STATISTICS

Live your life that the fear of death can never enter your heart.

When your time comes to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with fear of death, so that when their time comes they weep and pray for a little more time to live their lives over again in a different way.

Sing your death song, and die like a hero going home.

- Tecumseh, Shawnee (1768-1813)

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEXT ISSUE

General information, pertinent articles and resources related to Native American Foster Youth can be sent to us at tstar@mail.sdsu.edu for inclusion in the 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 March. 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 at #TribalSTARNews

If you are interested in employment opportunities at the Academy, click the button below and enter Academy for Professional Excellence into the search field.

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