

California State Department of Social Services (CDSS)
ICWA WORKGROUP
July 12, 2016 • 1:00pm to 3:30pm
(Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yokut Tribe)

Meeting Notes

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS
1. The workgroup requested input regarding the Resource Family Approval ACL posted July 11, 2016.

Welcome/Introductions:

Review Agenda and Minutes: Liz De Rouen chaired this meeting. Participants and callers introduced themselves to the group. Participants reviewed the minutes from May's meeting and requested SB1460 and RFA/CCR as a reoccurring item.

Tribal News/Amendments to Agenda: Kelly Winston reported that a position for Tribal Affairs will be created within CDSS. The duty statement is being created and is hoped to be posted soon.

A Women's Wellness Conference hosted by Soboba Tribe will be this Saturday, July 16, 2016 9am - 4pm. The Yurok State Plan Agreement agenda item was removed and the ICWA Core 3.0 was tabled for the next workgroup meeting in September.

Follow-up on May Action Items: The workgroup members requested an update regarding the State and Tribal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Implementation Partnership Grant application which was submitted on June 22, 2016. Vida Castaneda provided a brief overview of what was requested in the grant application such as Tribal Consultation Policy, data collection and outcomes and the grant status is currently unknown.

CDSS Updates:

Tribal Consultation Policy: Kelly Winston reported that CDSS is hoping to finalize the Department's Tribal Consultation Policy (TCP) in sync with the California Health and Human Services (CHHS) Agency policy. Jim Suennen, CHHS, reported that the TCP is moving forward and a TCP meeting will be held with tribal chairs on August 11, 2016 at 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in Annex Building 1st Floor in Sacramento CA. The purpose of this meeting is to receive feedback from tribal leaders and finalize the TCP. CDSS' policy is expected to be released shortly afterward.

Judicial Council (JCC) Updates: Vita Castaneda reported the JCC tribal court/state court forum will be held in October and they will be discussing rules, forms, policies changes and recommendations regarding the task force report. Workgroup members requested continuous ICWA training for judges.

County/Tribe Updates:

Tribal Representation at CWDA: Kelly Winston reported that tribal representation at the CWDA Operations Committee Meeting has been approved by CWDA and interested volunteers can send their names to Jennie Pettet or Sylvia Deporto. The CWDA meeting consists of an overview of hot topics and updates.

Oregon MOU: Liz De Reoun reported on the Oregon MOU, which is a government to government document, and is encouraging members to review the MOU. She encourages CDSS to use the MOU as an example for California TCP.

State ICWA Conference Debrief: Liz De Reoun reported that the State ICWA Conference was successful, specifically the Healing the Healers session was beneficial and healing which is very important to workers involved in child welfare. In addition, the DOJ Task Force Report was presented at the conference.

DOJ Task Force Report: Mark Radoff reported that the next step is to review implementation of the recommendations. Elizabeth, California Indian Legal Services – Eureka Office, reported a conference call will be held on July 28, 2016 at 10 am – 12:00 pm and written feedback will be accepted by July 28, 2016. Please contact Elizabeth at 707-443-8397 if you have questions.

Appointment of Northern/Central/Southern Reps: Liz De Reoun is requesting volunteers to co-chair the ICWA workgroup meetings. Nominees for appointment are: Season Brown (south), Ambar Castillo (central) and Polly Hawthorne (north). Nominees will be checking for approval from their tribal council before accepting nominations.

Next ICWA Workgroup Meeting Discussion:

Topics for Next Agenda: ICWA Core 3.0 (Tom Lidot), SB1460 (Vevilla Hussey), RFA/CCR (Kim Wrigley), DOJ Task Force Report (Delia Par).

2016 ICWA Workgroup Meetings: September 13, 2016 hosted by CDSS, 744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Adjournment

This meeting adjourned at 2:16 pm.