

California State Department of Social Services  
**ICWA WORKGROUP**

*Hosted by the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians*  
The Country Club at Soboba Springs  
1020 Soboba Road  
San Jacinto, CA 92583

March 13, 2012

**Minutes**

***[Please Note: If there are details that are missing, it was due to the inability to hear comments via the conference line. For those of you wishing to make edits or to add missing details, please send that information to Diana Orcino at CDSS so that she can make the updates. Thank you for your patience.]***

**Welcome/Introductions.** Participants were introduced, and the previous meeting's minutes and current meeting's agenda were reviewed.

Cheryl Treadwell mentioned that CDSS Office of Child Abuse Prevention has released a Request for Application (RFA) to develop Parent Leadership Academies. *[This information was email to the workgroup by Diana Orcino on March 7, 2012.]*

**Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Report and Discussion.** Ann Gilmour of the AOC gave this report. In cases where a tribe, for whatever reason, might decide (or has decided) to not pursue TCA, the AOC is concerned that the needed information will not be captured in CWS/CMS.

**California Partnership for Permanency (CAPP).** Aprille Flint, CAPP's recently-hired Community Engagement Liaison, introduced herself to the group and gave a brief update about CAPP and is committed to staying connected to the ICWA Workgroup.

**CDSS Updates.**

Cheryl Treadwell introduced Edwin Vinson as the new manager for the Child Safety Unit, which now includes the ICWA program. She also clarified that the ICWA program remains intact; nothing has changed with regard to that role. Edwin is supervised by Diane Brown. The group requested that the CDSS share with the workgroup the descriptions of the duties of the manager and the ICWA Specialist.

*State Budget Update/Realignment.* Cheryl Treadwell provided this update. The outcome of realignment impacts the adoption district offices in that counties need to announce to CDSS which ones will be doing their own adoptions. As of this meeting, so far seven or eight counties have expressed interest to take on adoptions: Napa, Lake, Trinity, Calaveras, Humboldt, Madera, and Tehama. Kings County has already taken over the adoptions functions.

*CWS/CMS Data Discussion and the Release 6.5.* Colin Kelley, from the OSI office quickly went over some of the details about the new Tribal Customary Adoptions functionality in the 6.5 release. The functionality went live in February. Release notes are out to counties and a future ACIN will be developed to explain how to enter data. The function will allow for a better view of TCA trends.

Discussion came up regarding the noticing list and how it is updated. There was a question about new federally recognized tribes and ensuring that they are in the CMS/CWS list. CDSS has the most up-to-date list compared to the BIA listing.

Comments were directed to CDSS to have the regional training academies to invite tribes to training. [?]

*AB 212/12 Implementation.* With regard to AB 212, CDSS is still making changes related to TCA and other technical clean-ups. With regard to AB 12, the program should be referred to as "Extended Foster Care" and not AB 12. The youth participated in the launch of a new campaign to increase awareness about the resources available and eligibility information. The new campaign is called the *After 18 Media Campaign*. DVDs and related material have been produced and will be distributed to counties and other interested parties. The DVD can be viewed on the Classes website. CDSS is continuing to visit tribes to increase awareness about extended foster care. The next scheduled meeting is at the Big Sandy Rancheria on March 22, 2012. CDSS still needs to arrange a third site. Cheryl Treadwell asked that Diana Orcino send out the link of CalSWEC's AB 12 resources to the workgroup. *[This was done on 3-14-12]*

*ICWA Training Curriculum Feedback.* None.

*Resources.* None.

**19<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide ICWA Conference.** Stephanie Weldon, Tribal Social Services Director of the Yurok Tribe, gave this report. This year's State ICWA Conference will be hosted by the Yurok Tribe and is scheduled for June 19-21, 2012 in Humboldt County. The specific venue has not yet been confirmed as of this meeting, but information will go out once it is. Stephanie is still seeking requests for workshops, so please contact her if interested in presenting or a specific topic of discussion is requested. Diana Orcino was requested to email Stephanie's contact information to the workgroup. *[This was completed on 3-14-12.]*

An issue came up regarding probate guardianship and the use of the self- help clerks not being so helpful. No action was suggested.

**Next ICWA Workgroup Meeting Discussion.** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2012, at CDSS Headquarters in Sacramento.