

California State Department of Social Services (CDSS)
ICWA WORKGROUP
September 13, 2016 • 1:00pm to 3:30pm
(CDSS)

Meeting Notes

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

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| 1. CDSS will provide updates regarding the TA Coordinator position. |
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Welcome/Introductions:

Review Agenda and Minutes: Liz De Rouen chaired this meeting. Participants and callers introduced themselves to the group. Participants reviewed and approved the minutes from July's meeting.

Tribal News/Amendments to Agenda: The workgroup moved and prioritized the agenda items. The agenda item "BIA Regulations Update" was included with the Task Force Recommendation for Delia Parr to discuss.

Poll group regarding date/time of workgroup: Liz De Rouen requested input from the workgroup regarding the date/time of the workgroup because a member suggested the workgroup be held on a Monday/Friday due to travel. No present members had comments on changing the day/time.

CDSS Updates:

Tribal Consultation Policy: Mary Risling reported on the Tribal Consultation Subcommittee which is developing CDSS' Tribal Consultation Policy (TCP). The policy focuses on government to government interaction and was refocused to include not only children and family services. Kelly Winston is the staff lead for CDSS' TCP and the Departments' TCP is still pending. The California Health and Human Services (CHHS) Agency held a meeting with Tribal Representatives for the finalization of its TCP on August 11, 2016 and comments were due August 26, 2016.

Tribal Affairs Coordinator Position: Lori Fuller reported that the duty statement for the Tribal Affairs (TA) Coordinator position is complete and is pending, Deputy Director, Greg Rose's approval prior to posting. Workgroup members, Delia Parr and Maureen O'Geary specifically requested to review the duty statement to ensure that the CDSS TA Coordinator has a tribal advocacy and consultation background. In addition, those members requested to be included in the hiring process for this position, along with tribal members. Maureen O'Geary requested that Will Lightbourne attend the workgroup meetings as the TCP Tribal Liaison. Maureen O'Geary reported that one of the recommendations of the Task Force Report included an Office of Native Affairs within CDSS. Lori Fuller reported that the TA Coordinator will have two to three staff under the coordinator which will be filled by that person in the future. Maureen O'Geary requested the TA Coordinator office be titled the "Bureau of Tribal Affairs."

Task Force - Recommendations: Maureen O'Geary reported that the 2016 Annual ICWA Conference included Tribal co-chairs representatives from the Task Force which included an overview of the report. The report includes a total of 40 recommendations (25 recommendations are listed at the end of the report) for ICWA compliance in California. It was reported that the current version of the report is a draft and there may still be some changes and additions. The co-chairs will submit a final draft to the Bureau of Children's Justice by November 1, 2016. Michelle Ben-Hur reported that CDSS met with the Bureau of Children's Justice and Judicial Council of California (JCC) to identify the responsibilities of the recommendations in the report.

Revised MPP Division 31 Update: The "Release of Revised California Manual of Policies and Procedures, Division 31 Regulations" All County Letter and attachments were sent to the ICWA workgroup for comment and are due September 16, 2016. The workgroup requested that ICWA guidance and legislation be prioritized for consistent application throughout the state. Delia Parr requested the ICWA workgroup members receive notification of draft ACL/ACIN, pertaining only to ICWA issues when the document is sent out for stakeholder review.

Tribal Customary Adoptions Workgroup Update: The workgroup requested in-person subcommittee meetings instead of conference calls to view materials and maximize collaboration.

SB 1460 Updates: Lori Fuller reported that the All County Letter is pending program and legal review.

AB 490: Lori Fuller requested members to email their interest to be included on the Children Foster Youth Education Task Force distribution list to the icwaworkgroup@dss.ca.gov inbox.

RFA: Kendra Elmendorf reported Written Directives version 3 will be effective on September 30. The Written Directives have been revised to include a definition of Tribally Approved Home. Technical assistance has been provided to clarify that TAHs are not required to adhere to the RFA standards. The Directives can be found here: <http://www.childsworld.ca.gov/res/RFA/pdf/WrittenDirectiveVersion3.pdf>. RFA will be implemented statewide 1/1/17 and 5 early implementing Foster Family Agencies have begun implementation of RFA.

CCR: Theresa Thurmond reported that a letter is drafted for the workgroup to review regarding tribal participation in the CCR workgroups. The workgroup reviewed and went through the CCR CDSS Update September 2016 Newsletter and members were requested to email her at Theresa.thurmond@dss.ca.gov to be included in any of the workgroups. Cheryl Treadwell reported that she will host a webinar for rates and is requesting members to participate. In addition, a webinar for rate protocol tool for level of care will be held on September 16, 2016 at 10 am and members were encouraged to participate.

Common Core Curriculum: Susan Brooks reported that Common Core 3.0 has six contents blocks which include ICWA Introduction and Working with Native American Families and Tribes classes. Susan requested members to contact their local Training Academy to apply for training positions.

Judicial Council (JCC) Updates: Liz De Rouen provided the JCC Update document to the workgroup in Vida Castaneda's absence which included information on ICWA Trainings, Collaborations, Upcoming Roundtables, and the Tribal Court-State Court Forum.

County/Tribe Updates:

CWDA Updates: Jennie Pettet reported that she will bring CWDA Ops meeting information to the next November ICWA Workgroup meeting.

Appointment of Northern/Central/Southern Reps: Liz De Rouen reported that an appointment has been made and work has been delegated to other members to assist the workgroup.

Next ICWA Workgroup Meeting Discussion:

Topics for Next Agenda:

Please be prepared to discuss case scenarios
Improving county/tribe communication

Next Workgroup Meeting: November 8, 2016, Tribal Host, Location TBD.

Adjournment

This meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.