

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY  
TRIBAL CONSULTATION REPORT  
JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016

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**INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE:**

The mission of the Department of Economic Security (DES) is to make Arizona stronger by helping Arizonans reach their potential through temporary assistance for those in need and care for the vulnerable. Opportunity, assistance, and care for Arizonans in need is the vision for DES. There are five core values that form the basis for the work DES accomplishes in the fulfillment of its mission: Teamwork, Respect, Integrity, Accountability, and Diversity. The goals are to:

- Serve Arizonans with integrity, humility, and kindness.
- Support Arizonans to reach their potential through social services that train, rehabilitate, and connect them with job creators.
- Provide temporary assistance to Arizonans in need while they work toward greater self-sufficiency.
- Provide children with food, health care, and parental financial support; provide services to individuals with disabilities; and protect the vulnerable by investigating allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

The purpose of the Office of Tribal Relations is to abide by the mission, vision, and goals. Concurrently, we promote collaboration with the 22 Tribal Governments in Arizona. DES continues to respect the tribal sovereignty and self-determination of the 22 Tribes and continues to work with them through Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs), collaborations, and partnerships, both formally and informally. This report provides an overview of the accomplishments and tribal consultations to demonstrate the strong commitment of DES to continue working with all of Arizona's Tribes. Any questions related to the information provided in this document should be addressed to:

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The DES Office of Tribal Relations is led by Mary Huyser. Each of the six DES program divisions is assigned a tribal liaison serving in part-time capacity, but holding full-time positions. These liaisons are experts in their fields to better serve the Tribal communities. The following are accomplishments within the DES Office of the Director, through the Office of Tribal Relations, and includes the participation of the division liaisons at events:

- Completed eight Tribal consultations on 12/3/15, 1/7/16 (two held on this day), 03/23/16, 04/21/16, 05/17/16, 05/19/16, and 06/16/16.
- Completed an internal Native American Cultural Presentation on 11/19/15.
- Enhanced communications and strengthened partnerships with the tribes through attendance by the division liaisons at the Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day on 01/19/16.
- Participated in the Six Tribes/Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) quarterly conferences, with the division liaisons from Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility (DBME) and Division of Employment and Rehabilitative Services (DERS), to better coordinate service delivery, provide technical assistance, and communicate on issues that related to DES systems and customer services with the six tribes operating their own Tribal TANF programs. Other division liaisons attended upon invitation i.e. Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzeIP), Division of Child Support Services (DCSS), and Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD).
- Continued quarterly forums with various tribes and DBME, Family Assistance Administration (FAA).
- The DES Tribal Relations Liaison personally met with the leadership of the 22 Tribes on their tribal lands during the fiscal year to introduce the new DES Tribal Government Consultation Policy; and discussed the efforts made to improve and build better state/tribal partnerships and working relationships. A visit with Havasupai Tribe was significant because DES services will have itinerant services in the future by the development of an IGA.

- Attended meetings and conference with board members and directors of the Nineteen Tribal Nations Workforce Development Board (NTNWDB) to provide technical assistance as needed.
- As a result of Tribal Consultations this year, DES created a new position for a Tribal Nations Instructor Liaison. The Tribes of Arizona may request training on DES services available both on and off tribal lands; and DES programs may request the Cultural Awareness training.

GOAL 1: Establish effective communication channels and to discuss potential changes to policy that will have a significant impact on the Arizona Tribes.

OBJECTIVE: Make every effort to solicit feedback and recommendations regarding department issues whenever possible.

Activities and Measures	DATE	List Activities and Performance Measures	DES Program Division
Activities are emails, feedback from tribes and their designated leaders and to seek dialog with Tribal Officials and their appointed leadership. Keep record of tribes who dialog with DES.	06/16/16	Initial introduction made to Hopi Tribe Social Services representative to provide information on services available.	AzEIP
	01/19/16 03/15/16 04/01/16	Provided assistance to Fort Mojave Indian Tribe with Request for Application and Congregate Meals contract; and provided assistance to Navajo Nation Area Agency on Aging with their contract.	Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS)
	05/26/16 02/11/16 04/12/16	Attended Guadalupe Coalition meeting (held on 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month). Attended Arizona Fatherhood Collaborative Meeting at Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Life Enhancement and Resource Network (LEaRN) in February, and provided child support services information at the San Carlos Wellness Center in April. DCSS continues to have a strong partnering relationship with the Navajo Nation who has their own Tribal IV-D Program.	DCSS
	06/08/15 09/30/15 02/24/16 02/25/16 02/26/16 06/28/16	Began working in 2015 with Navajo Nation on a new IGA for ongoing Support Coordination, collaboration and contract extensions. Visited tribal leaders at Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Ak-Chin Indian Community, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Tohono O'odham Nation, Cocopah Indian Tribe, Quechan Tribe and Navajo Nation Social Services.	DDD
	05/19/16 06/15/16	Employer Engagement Administration (EEA) Unemployment Insurance (UI) Tax section met with Navajo Nation and Tohono O'odham Nation Human Resource (HR) staff.	DERS

GOAL 2: Establish and maintain trust, with ongoing consultation.

OBJECTIVE: Build meaningful relationships with state and federally recognized tribes in Arizona by engaging in open, continuous, and relevant consultation.

Activities and Measures	DATE	List Activities and Performance Measures	DES Program Division
Dates of Tribes consultations, visiting dates and feedback provided. Provide consultation and official tribal visits with dates to gather feedback for any legislative proposal, new rule adoption, or a policy change that affects AZ tribes.	04/21/16 05/17/16	DDD Tribal Consultations held in Phoenix and Flagstaff regarding possible integration of behavioral health and medical services	DDD
	12/02/14 12/14/14 05/19/16 06/16/16	Telephone conferences with tribal leadership in December to consult and prepare attestation sent to Food and Nutrition Services regarding availability for tribes to begin their own Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training (E&T) programs with assistance from	DERS

		Food and Nutrition Services (FNS). Per telephone conferences with tribal leadership in May and June, verbiage will be included in Arizona's 2017 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNA) E&T State Plan.	
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GOAL 3: Promote and maintain cultural competency and cultural awareness among department division liaisons.

OBJECTIVE: Cultivate working relationships with key persons in tribal governments and acknowledge the unique relationship between the state government and tribes.

Activities and Measures	DATE	List Activities and Performance Measures	DES Program Division
Schedule open training sessions. Cultivate working relationships with key persons in tribal governments and acknowledge the unique relationship between the state government and tribes. Ensure consistency with the principles of tribal sovereignty as described by federal law.	03/28/16	Various trainings provided to tribes to inform them of services available.	AzeIP
	04/20/16 06/15/16 06/16/16		
	02/27/16 04/20/16	Various trainings provided to tribes to inform them of eligibility criteria and services available.	DDD
	02/12/16 05/06/16	Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Executive Leadership hosted quarterly Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) meeting at DES Central Office with seven tribal nations to discuss ongoing MOUs to facilitate the provision of services to mutual clients through Tribal 121 Programs (VR services offered to prepare and engage American Indians residing on/near reservations for gainful employment).	DERS

GOAL 4: Enhance the consultation process by gathering individuals with extensive knowledge of particular policy, practice, issues or concerns to work collaboratively and offer recommendations for consideration.

OBJECTIVE: Establish or participate in work groups, task forces, or other groups or committees with tribes to address issues affecting the AZ tribes.

Activities and Measures	DATE	List Activities and Performance Measures	DES Program Division
Participating on workgroups or conducting workgroups, task forces to address issues.	10/05-10/06/15 11/09/15 02/08/16 06/09/16	Technical assistance and information provided to Social Services of San Carlos Apache Tribe. Presentations regarding services available provided to San Carlos Apache Tribe Social Services Department and Fort Mojave Indian Tribe.	AzeIP
	03/25/16	Worked with Colorado River Indian Tribe (CRIT) regarding issues on Adult Protective Services (APS). APS workers were not allowed on Tribal land to do interviews with vulnerable adults. CRIT Attorney General and DAAS/APS met to discuss an intergovernmental agreement.	DAAS
	03/07/16 06/22/16	As a member on the planning committee for Annual American Indian Disability Summit, attending ongoing meetings to arrange for Summit in March 2017. Ongoing participation as member of Tohono O'odham Nation Division of Special Needs Transition Group.	DDD

	03/16/16 Multiple Dates	Policy, Systems, Region and Management staff assisted the San Carlos Apache Tribe throughout 2015 to 03/2016 to develop procedures and systems for the transition of Tribal TANF from DBME to their new Tribal Assistance System (TAS). Regional quarterly meetings to discuss issues, concerns, and changes. Regional Management contact information was provided to expedite responses to questions and issues within the respective service areas.	DBME
	12/07- 12/10/2015 05/11-5/12/15 03/23/16 05/05 & 05/15/16	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and RSA representatives, who are members of the Nineteen Tribal Nations Workforce Development Board (NTNWDB), attended quarterly meetings and yearly conference; provided technical assistance to Fort Mojave Indian Tribe to ensure compliance with Section 188 of Workforce Investment Act (WIA)/WIOA. DERS Tribal Liaison met with the Tohono O’odham Nation, FNS and community partners in March and May regarding employment and training opportunities available to tribal members on reservations. As the result of a presentation in April by the Child Care Administration (CCA) Tribal Liaison at the Tribal TANF Quarterly Conference, the DES Home Certification Workgroup was created. The first meeting held in June included staff from the Hopi and White Mountain Apache Tribal TANF programs, CCA staff and Tribal Liaison, and the DERS Tribal Liaison.	DERS