



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

*Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona*

Janice K. Brewer  
Governor

Clarence H. Carter  
Director

SEP 05 2014

The Honorable Janice K. Brewer  
Governor of Arizona  
1700 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Brewer:

I am pleased to provide you with the Department of Economic Security's (DES) Tribal Consultation Report for State Fiscal Year 2014. This report is submitted pursuant to Executive Order 2006-14, which requires all Executive Branch agencies to produce an annual report of all action undertaken as a result of the implementation of its tribal consultation policy. The report is submitted to the Governor and Legislature and a copy is provided to the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (602) 542-5757.

Sincerely,

Clarence H. Carter  
Director

Enclosure

cc: President Andy Biggs, Arizona State Senate  
Speaker Andy Tobin, Arizona State House of Representatives  
Members of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee  
Kristine FireThunder, Executive Director, Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs  
Joan Clark, State Librarian, Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY  
TRIBAL CONSULTATION REPORT  
JULY 1, 2013 – JUNE 30, 2014

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**INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE:**

The mission of the Department of Economic Security (DES) is to promote the safety, well-being, and self-sufficiency of children, adults, and families. The purpose of the Office of Tribal Relations is to abide by that mission and to 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 the tribes through Inter-Governmental Agreements (IGAs), collaborations and partnerships both formally and informally. This report provides an overview of DES accomplishments and tribal consultations to show the strong commitment to work with all of Arizona's Tribes. Any questions related to the information provided in this document should be addressed to Mary Huyser, DES Tribal Relations Liaison at (602) 542-1290 or via email at [DESTribalRelations@azdes.gov](mailto:DESTribalRelations@azdes.gov).

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

DES includes an Office of Tribal Relations led by Mary Huyser. Each of the six DES program divisions has a tribal liaison serving in part-time capacity, but holding full-time positions within their divisions, who are experts in their field to better serve the Tribal communities. The following are accomplishments within the DES Office of the Director through the Office of Tribal Relations:

- Completed two Tribal consultations on October 2, 2013 and June 19, 2014, with the focus being on the introduction of the division programs and the division tribal liaisons.
- Developed the Office of Tribal Relations website which includes the documents discussed during the Tribal Consultations meetings.
- Held monthly DES internal tribal liaison meetings to strategize collaboration of services for tribes.
- Updated and inaugurated the DES Tribal Government Consultation Policy, which is currently undergoing DES internal review.
- The divisions participated, attended and enhanced communications to the tribes through involvement of tribal events, seminars, and trainings to strengthen partnerships.

**DIVISION OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES (DAAS):**

- DAAS is in the process of developing a new reporting system entitled "Division of Aging and Adult Reporting System (DAARS)". The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) and Navajo Nation Area Agency on Aging (AAA) staff have assisted with input throughout the year in this development.
- DAAS administers the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) contracts with 20 tribes through IGAs and provides technical assistance to these tribes.
- DAAS contracts with 18 tribes in the "Independent Living Support Services" and implements a comprehensive case managed system of care that offers an array of services. Due to the unique aspect of these services, each participating tribe determines which services will be offered to its members, allowing tribes the flexibility in addressing unique cultural and service needs of their members.
- The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) Coordinators provided technical assistance and training to designated staff from the Navajo Nation AAA and ITCA AAA.
- DAAS Contract Management provided on-site monitoring to 12 Tribes.

### **DIVISION OF BENEFITS AND MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY (DBME):**

- With the enactment of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the systems within DBME were improved to support changes in the Arizona Health Cost Containment Care System (AHCCCS). As a result, DBME revised Cash Assistance Program policies and procedures for the implementation of HEAplus.
- IGAs exist with six tribes who operate their own respective Tribal TANF Programs. DBME provided the tribes with technical assistance, coordination of operations, collaboration on participation rate data, and assistance with the completion of federal TANF reports. DBME also helped resolve tribal TANF concerns such as program pre-compliance, lifetime benefits limits, work program referral, and approval process. Consultation was provided on TANF policies and procedures and the Tribes' TANF plans.

### **DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES (DCSS):**

- Initiated quarterly Executive Leadership meetings between DES, DCSS and the Navajo Nation Department of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE).
- Continued to vitalize the Arizona Fatherhood Network, a consortium of entities assisting fathers (and father figures), a valuable community resource that aids fathers and families. Members include the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Department of Social Services, Native Health, and Native American Connections.
- The DCSS Assistant Director provided the opening remarks at the 2014 National Tribal Child Support Association Conference held June 8-12, 2014 at the Wild Horse Pass Resort in Chandler. Some management team members also held workshops and several staff members attended the conference and DCSS also staffed an information table.
- Implementation of a major Customer Engagement initiative is continuing; education is underway with those interested in or impacted by the Arizona Child Support Program.
  - To aid in improving customer engagement with tribal-related cases, DCSS is exploring the feasibility of establishing a single point case worker for tribal cases requiring special attention, which would not only resolve case issues, but also be a central point to aid in identifying tribal-related trends and/or potential programmatic issues.
- DCSS Voluntary Paternity Program is available at all birthing facilities statewide, including birthing facilities on tribal lands. These facilities participate at DCSS quarterly sponsored workshops and occasionally sponsor a workshop in their area.

### **DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (DDD):**

- DDD maintains an IGA with the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services through which case management services are provided to their tribal members who are eligible for Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS). Tribal members choose between a State or Navajo Nation case manager to coordinate the provision of home- and community-based services. DDD and Navajo Nation case managers are co-located in offices throughout Navajo Nation. DDD contracts with a network of vendors who provide a range of services and supports.
- American Indians enrolled in the DDD/ALTCS Program may select to receive medical services through a division-contracted acute health plan. Individuals who choose American Indian Health Program (AIHP) receive the majority of their medical care through AIHP, with the division responsible for any medical services provided outside an AIHP facility.

### **DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES (DERS):**

- Within the Employment Administration, IGAs exist with two of six tribes operating their own TANF programs allowing them to use the state's Jobs Automated System (JAS). JAS is a case management system that tracks services and activities provided to participants of both state and tribal TANF Work Programs. These two tribes met their Work Participation Rates (WPR).
- Tribal liaison provided technical assistance to four tribes and assisted with processing a data sharing agreement for continued access to JAS.
- Provided technical assistance in a variety of forms (i.e. facilitation of information with newsletters, news releases and webinars, letter of support, WPR findings or grant information).

- Fourteen tribes are members of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title 1B Programs administered through Employment Administration and Nineteen Tribal Nations Workforce Investment Area, the Employment Administration Deputy Administrator serves as a board member.
- The Child Care Administration (CCA) through a contract with ITCA took part in the Tribal Early Childhood Working Group.
- CCA provides technical assistance and training to five tribes and has IGAs with the tribes that provide childcare to their members.
- Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) provides for vocational rehabilitation services to American Indians with disabilities who reside on or near federal or state reservations to prepare for and engage in gainful employment; these are referred to as “121 Programs”. RSA has six cooperative agreements to provide employment-related vocational services and provides technical assistance to these tribes.
- RSA collaborated and participated with five tribes in activities, meetings, orientations or provided technical assistance

### **DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY (DCS):**

The Division of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) was abolished and the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) was established by legislative action signed by Governor Janice K. Brewer on May 29, 2014.

The Department Restructured Communication and Collaboration with Tribes

- DCS Director Flanagan and staff provided an introduction and updates on department changes and highlights of the Child Advocate Response Examination Report (CARE) at the Native American Caucus, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Tribal/State ICWA work group and Arizona Tribal Social Service workgroup.

Indian Child Welfare Services (ICWA)

- A component of the Indian Child Welfare Specialist’s role is to meet regularly with tribal affiliates designated to consult and review ICWA compliance and Indian Child Welfare Services. The Department staff and Tribal participants re-established a Tribal/ State ICWA work group.

Outreach and partnership with Urban Indian Organizations

- The Department and the Phoenix Indian Center (PIC) engaged the Urban Indian Coalition of Arizona and requested a sub-committee to focus on an American Indian Foster Care Recruitment Initiative. As of this date fifteen Foster Care licensing agencies have requested cultural competency training and three trainings have been completed.
- The Department has a total of fifteen contracts with tribes including a variation of IGA’s. There are seven contracts for Family Support, Preservation, and Reunification Services, one contract for Comprehensive Service Development, four contracts for Specialized Substance Abuse Treatment, one Title IV E Agreement, one Consultation Contract and an Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) IGA with an expected revision completion by the end of 2014.

### **ARIZONA EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (AzEIP):**

- The discontinuation of Family Cost Participation on July 1, 2014 may result in more involvement of tribal families and their children.
- The DES/AzEIP Office is currently renewing their IGA with the Navajo Nation for the provision of Early Intervention Services.
- Several outreach education seminars were conducted between the DES/AzEIP Office staff and local Tribal Early Childhood Program partners.