

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRIBAL ALLIANCE (RCTA)
FOR INDIAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Minimize Court and County intervention and increase Tribal participation and control by developing culturally appropriate services for Native American children and families. To create and sustain partnerships founded upon understanding, communication, and cultural awareness among the sovereign tribal nations and community and governmental agencies.

Friday June 3, 2016, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Hosted by Spotlight 29
Spotlight 29 Casino, Medjool Banquet Room
46-200 Harrison Place, Coachella, CA 92236

MEETING MINUTES

OPENING REMARKS

The Invocation was given by Annette Chihhauhua

Judge Cho welcomed and greeted guests. Meeting participants introduced themselves and indicated their organization, department, or tribal affiliation.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes

On the motion of Cameron Galford and seconded by Judge Sykes, and carried, the minutes of January 22, 2016 were approved as submitted.

DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS

ITEM 2: Domestic Violence Subcommittee Workgroup Update

Julie Andrews provided the committee with an update from the Domestic Violence Subcommittee.

Julie welcomed new member Janet Egan. She is the Supervising Social Services Practitioner who oversees a unit comprised of Domestic Violence Counselors, who assist social workers with families who are experiencing domestic violence issues. Julia also introduced Matt Drew who is a Tribal Law Enforcement Officer under Chief Levine.

Julie shared that CILS continues to provide clinics and legal assistance. She reminded the committee that CILS can answer questions on law as well as DV issues. CILS are

not mandatory reporters so everything is confidential. In addition, they are mobile and can travel to your location.

In addition the following announcements were made:

FEMA/EMI and Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians are hosting two classes:

- Emergency Operations for Tribal Governments course – July 19 -22 at the Agua Caliente Casino. (Free Training)
- L552 Continuity of Operations for Tribal Governments court training class– July 25 -26 at Agua Caliente Casino

Ms. Kristen Butcher won the Native Love Ambassador award.

Native Love Verizon has partnered with NIWRC to raise awareness and help end violence against Native youth by empowering them to redefine Native Love. Those in native communities often hear jokes about “Indian loving” as waking up with a hickey and black eye. That’s not love but rather that is dating violence. The Native Love project encourages Native youth to think about what Native Love really is, to create change in thinking and restore safety to communities by restoring traditional ways of loving, characterized by respect, honor, kindness, family and compassion.

The Native Love project includes a youth video/photo challenge, posters, social media campaigns, teen resources, toolkits and frequently asked questions. These resources are offered to support and inform youth and educators about healthy relationships and to encourage dialogue in native communities.

Contact information for Native Love project is:

National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center
PO Box 99
Lame Deer, MT 59043
(406) 740-1793
nativelove@niwrc.org

ITEM 3: California Indian Nation College

Theresa Mike introduced the Mike Family.

After more than five years of research and planning among tribal, education, and business leaders, the California Tribal College (CTC) is becoming a reality. The CTC will prepare Native students for professions and tribal leadership. The curricula will focus on the needs of the tribal communities with disciplines in professional fields as well as Federal Indian law, cultural and resource protection, and tribal governance.

Education is vital to the future of Native American people and nations. The ability to sustain their cultures, strengthen their sovereign governments, and build thriving businesses depends on educated leaders.

The Mission of CTC is to provide quality higher education grounded in respect, accountability, integrity, and responsibility to prepare students for positions of leadership in their communities and their careers.

ITEM 4: Elder Abuse - DPSS

Geri Crippen-Richardson, C.A.R.E. Program Coordinator for Department of Social Services (DPSS) presented information regarding their C.A.R.E. Program.

The Mission of the Adult Services Division is to promote safety, well-being and independence for elder and dependent adults through accurate and timely assessments and linkage to services.

The program serves adults that are 65 years or older and dependent adults that are 18 – 64 years of age that are unable to perform activities of daily living.

1 in 10 Americans 60 years of age or older admit to experiencing abuse. The types of abuse include:

- Physical
- Financial (includes consumer fraud & family theft)
- Isolation
- Mental suffering
- Neglect
- Self-neglect
- Sexual

Not all abuse is reported for the following reasons:

- Denial
- Afraid abuse will escalate if reported
- Pride – don't want to admit vulnerability
- Shame
- Fear of dependency and poor care
- Cultural boundaries
- Being "paid back" for their earlier behavior in life
- Wanting to protect relatives or friends from prosecution

Geri gave an overview of all the divisions within the DPSS Department:

Adult Protective Services (APS)

- Preventive social work activities (connect client to services/resources)
- Assessments
- Investigations
- Intervention in cases of abuse or neglect

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

- Helps pay for services provided to the elderly and dependent adults so that they may remain safely in their own homes
- Alternative to out-of-home placement
- Eligibility requirements apply
- IHSS services provided include:
 - Laundry
 - House cleaning
 - Meal preparation
 - Grocery shopping
 - Personal care services
 - Transportation to medical appointments

Public Authority

- Registry of screened and trained home care providers
- List of screened home care providers for referral to In-home Supportive Services (IHSS) recipients
- How to interview candidates and be employers
- Trains caregivers

C.A.R.E. Program (Curtailling Abuse Related to the Elderly)

- Investigate incidents of consumer fraud
 - Elders 65 years and older
 - Dependent adults 18 – 64 years old
- Examples
 - Construction fraud
 - Identity theft
 - Fraud by business
 - Sweepstakes
- Assist victims in resolving their situations
- Provide direct consumer advocacy
- Empower victims to participate in resolution
- Conduct community anti-fraud presentations
- Provide Mandated Reporter Training
- Coordinate C.A.R.E Team (Multidisciplinary Team)

Consent is required. Any victim of Elder/Dependent adult abuse may refuse or withdraw consent at any time to an investigation or provision of services. APS shall act only with consent unless a violation of the Penal Code has been alleged. (WIC §15636(a) and (b))

Mandated Reporter – Any elder or dependent adult care custodian, including an administrator or an employee of any “protective, public, sectarian, mental health, or private assistance or advocacy agency or person providing health services or social services to elders or dependent adults.

Mandate Reporters cannot be held criminally or civilly liable for making referral, unless knowingly they made a false report.

ITEM 5: Elder Abuse – District Attorney

Deputy District Attorney, Homan Hosseinioun provided a presentation on the procedures of the District Attorney's office for Elder Abuse claims.

The District Attorney's Office has designated district attorneys that are assigned to the Elder Abuse cases.

ITEM 6: Active Shooting Training

Deputy Sheriff, Chris Waters presented Active Shooter training to the committee. Chris encouraged members of the committee to have meetings with staff yearly and put in place a communication system.

ITEM 7: Open Discussion

Keynote for ICWA Conference Historical Trauma scheduled for June 17, 2016, was distributed to the committee by email.

Kimberly Rogers from Childhelp.org introduced the Childhelp organization and encouraged the committee members to invite her to tribal events so that her organization can make connections to assist in finding foster families and keeping Native American children within their culture even when they can't stay in their original homes.

ITEM 8: Closing Comments

Judge Cho and Luke Madrigal thanked everyone for coming.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

The foregoing represents my understanding of the June 3, 2016 meeting of the Riverside County Tribal Alliance for Indian Children and Families. Approval of these minutes will be requested at the next meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah White
Division Manager for the Riverside Juvenile Court