

**Children's Administration Indian Policy Advisory Subcommittee
Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)
Citizen Review Panel
CAPTA Report for and Work Plan 2009**

July 16, 2010

Purpose

The purpose of the Citizen Review Panel (CRP) is to evaluate the extent to which the State is fulfilling its child protection responsibilities in accordance with its Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State plan. Children's Administration Indian Policy Advisory Committee (CA IPAC) is serving as a CRP; CY 2008 was the first year IPAC has done so. Established in 1977, IPAC was created to assist the collective needs of the Tribal governments and other American Indian organizations to assure quality and comprehensive service delivery from the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to all American Indians and Alaska Natives in Washington State. The IPAC is comprised of representatives from the 29 federally recognized tribes in Washington and from five Recognized American Indian Organizations. Each DSHS division has an IPAC subcommittee including CA. The CA Subcommittee meets monthly in either a State office or at a tribal location.

Acknowledgements

CA would like to thank the IPAC CRP co-chairs Liz Mueller, Vice Chair of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and Jim Sherrill, Social Services Director of the Cowlitz Tribe for their wisdom and leadership. CA would also like to thank Colette McCully, CA CPS Program Manager for inviting IPAC to become a CRP and for providing comprehensive information to support IPAC in its work.

Area of Focus Selected

- Continue to work on the development of the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act.
- Conduct the second ICW Case Review in September, 2009; ensure that the Case Review outcomes are communicated to all CA staff and that recommendations for the case review are clarified and that progress is reported out on a regular basis by RA's.
- Develop mechanism to allow for tribal access to the CA, DSHS data system.
- RA's will work with Tribes in their area to complete Local Tribal/State Agreements.
- RA's will set up ICW and Quality Assurance training with Local LICWAC's and CPS and CWS workers.
- Distribute copies of the most recent federal listing of designated tribal agents for ICWA notices. It is titled 'Federal Register, Tuesday, April 28, 2009, Part IV, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Child Welfare Act; Receipt of Designated Tribal Agents for Service of Notice.

Continue to work on the development of the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act

In CY 2008 a draft Washington State Indian Child Act was developed, and distributed to tribes, CA staff and community stakeholders. The CA IPAC CRP has agreed to facilitate a formal consultation process to ensure community stakeholders, CA staff and all Washington State tribes, have the opportunity to provide input into the final draft that will be submitted to the Washington State Legislators. The development of the WSICWA will continue to be a goal for the CA IPAC CRP through 2010. The goal for the upcoming year is to have it ready for submission for the 2011 Legislative session.

Conduct the second ICW Case Review in September, 2009

The second ICW Case Review was conducted from September 2009-December 2009. The results of the review will be used to develop an implementation improvement plan for each region with collaboration and involvement of tribes and recognized Indian organizations.

Develop mechanism to allow for tribal access to the CA, DSHS data system

Tribal Access to FamLink, SACWIS, is continuing. Some of the challenges that have been resolved were to create a system for external users to FamLink that is consistent and does not hold Tribes to a different standard from other state or external users. Training plans have been completed, data share agreements have been completed and sent out to tribes for approval, and user access codes are being developed. Tribes will have view access for FamLink by August 2010.

Regional Administrators' will work with Tribes in their area to complete Local Tribal/State Agreements

Regional Administrators continue to work with area tribes in the development of Local Agreements to help identify and facilitate delivery of services and enhance the government-to-government relationship as it applies to each tribe.

RA's will set up ICW and Quality Assurance training with Local LICWAC's and CPS and CWS workers

- ICW Training for LICWAC's and CASA's
Provided training for members of the Local Indian Child Welfare Committees' (LICWAC) and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs'). Training was developed and delivered collaboratively by Tribes and DSHS staff.
- ICW Training for DSHS staff and Community Partners
A grid has been developed by the CA Training Unit to track all ICW trainings delivered by CA. Areas of need will be assessed by CA and IPAC and plans will be developed to fill training gaps.

- **ICW Training CA Supervisors**
ICW training for all CA supervisors was developed and implemented statewide. CA entered into a contract with NICWA to assist in the curriculum development and provide the training

Distribute copies of the most recent federal listing of designated tribal agents for ICWA notices. It is titled 'Federal Register, Tuesday, April 28, 2009, Part IV, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Child Welfare Act; Receipt of Designated Tribal Agents for Service of Notice

This copy of the federal register replaced the past copy on CA Internet and Intranet site as a reference for Social Workers to contact Tribes relating to ICWA compliance. Notice to all CA workers was sent with the update. This list is also in FamLink.

Recommendations to the Agency:

- 1. Participate and track compliance Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and Disproportionality impacts in the implementation of SHB 2106.**
- 2. Children's Administration will engage with CA JRA IPAC sub-committee to continue to develop a plan for ICW Quality Assurance in every CA office statewide.**