



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
P.O. Box 45040, Olympia, Washington 98504-5040

March 15, 2010

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am pleased to share with you that the second statewide Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Case Review was completed in the fall of 2009. The purpose of the review is to measure the state's compliance with the requirements of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and the Children's Administration Indian Child Welfare policy manual to improve outcomes for Native American children and families served by Children's Administration.

These reviews are conducted in collaboration with Washington State Tribes, the Indian Policy Advisory Committee and Children's Administration. There were 15 Tribal and Recognized American Indian Organization representatives that joined with Children's Administration to complete the on-site review of 217 ICW cases records. The review occurred at the regional level and utilized the same methodology, questions and decision rules from the 2007 review.

The Statewide ICW report detailing the results is attached. Future collaboration between Tribes and Children's Administration on practice improvement activities will occur to develop recommendations and a practice improvement plan based on the practice trends identified in this review. We welcome your input and would ask that you contact the Indian Policy Advisory Committee and/or the individuals listed below to assist with us with this process:

- Liz Mueller, Washington Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC) Chair and Jamestown Tribal Council Vice Chair/Family Service Administrator-
(360) 681-4628, lmueller@jamestowntribe.org
- Nancy Dufraine, Children's Administration ICW Program Manager-
(360) 902-7578, nancy.dufraine@dshs.wa.gov

Respectfully,

Denise Revels Robinson, Assistant Secretary
Children's Administration

Attachment

cc: Tribal Social Services Directors
IPAC Tribal Delegates
Colleen Cawston, Director, Indian Policy Office