

Indian Policy Advisory Committee  
January 10, 2008

Present: see sign in sheet

Lawrence Hall led the invocation.

Rosemary Tureaud, Director of the DSHS Office of Government and Community Affairs, and Miriam Bearse, Correctional Policy Analyst for the Office of Planning, Performance and Accountability, were introduced. The delegates and attendees then introduced themselves.

Liz Mueller, IPAC Chairperson, welcomed the group.

The initial roll call found 16 delegates present; a later count achieved quorum with 22 delegates present.

Tribal Healing & Wellness Conference

Doug North spoke on behalf of Lisa Ray Thomas about the May 4-5, 2008, conference on culture and tradition in recovery, which will be held at Kiona Lodge at Suquamish. Delegates will receive information via email. Conference organizers are asking for more input in order to finish the agenda, and stipends for lodging may be available.

Economic Services Administration (ESA)

Sam Senn, Acting Assistant Secretary

Sam announced that Troy Hutson had been hired into the Assistant Secretary position and that he would return to his Deputy Assistant Secretary position after February 1<sup>st</sup>, when Troy's appointment begins.

Sam provided an update from the Division of Child Support (DCS). The DSHS Employment Security contract will now allow access to wage and unemployment information to tribal programs. ESA is on a fast track to merge the SEMS Web and ACES Data Share Agreements and add language to pass through Employment Security information.

DCS wants to engage tribes in strategic planning. David Johnson said the planning committee would address the mission, vision, and core values and wanted input from the Tribes about these goals. If there are comments regarding the draft vision, mission, values and goals (listed in the handout) please contact Brady Rossnagle at 360-664-5031 or email [rossnbx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:rossnbx@dshs.wa.gov). Some current priorities are to support tribal programs, negotiate cooperative agreements, and allow DCS tribal liaisons to have remote access to SEMS (the DCS computer system) when they provide outreach services at tribal locations.

The ACES system, which serves 900,000 clients monthly, is aging. ESA is seeking input from the public to update the system. Cristie Fredrickson is the project manager. During February and March, the vendor team will travel around the state to ask people who interact with the system, including the Tribes, what they need from it. Anyone interested in participating in the planning can contact Cristie at 360-664-4401 or [FredrCL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:FredrCL@dshs.wa.gov).

ESA is also working on the Tribal Eligibility Determination project. Bill Bergh, Policy Chief, explained they hope to define and include all the requirements for a July release, and are on target for implementation in August. Rebecca Henrie is working with Doug North to provide adequate services while operating within merit system rules, as the House version called for all eligibility work to be done by state employees.

MAA will allow tribes to do family and children's medical, and is ready to share the draft with CMS. A more complete update will be provided at the January 15<sup>th</sup> HRSA Subcommittee meeting.

Bill Bergh will share the existing DSHS Disaster Response Plan with those who are interested. Sam discussed ESA's response to the December flood; the Administration was able to rapidly deploy a great number of workers to the affected areas. However, there were problems getting help to tribal lands that extended outside designated zip codes or counties. ESA is considering remedies. Liz wondered if the ESA Subcommittee could review the plan and report their ideas to ESA. Sam supported the idea.

Discussion followed, including a regularly updated list of emergency shelters, the food stamp plan, and the state's emergency management plan, which the National Guard is responsible to implement. Phone services were affected at some offices after they reopened. Power generators and propane supplies were also discussed.

Sam thanked the ESA staff who attended the IPAC meeting, and then introduced new ESA staff Ted Thornton, from DCS Tribal Relations Team, and Rochelle Warner, from STRU.

June O'Brien related problems with intake staff asking about per capita and treaty-related income. Bill explained the information is necessary in order to determine what income affects eligibility. June suggested identifying and training individuals to serve as point people.

Sarah Colleen Sotomish spoke about how the administration provides education and training at the local level and said she wants to work together on eligibility and income status. Sarah Colleen asked to work with tribes to develop that training and asked delegates to contact her with their eligibility issues. Lawrence spoke about Individual Indian Money (IIM) and BIA Trust money, neither of which should be considered as income related to burial accounts.

There was discussion about tribal staff asking to be the point of contact when working with an applicant they know won't comply with certain requirements, but then the DSHS staff close the case for noncompliance rather than working with the tribal staff as requested.

Marie Ramirez said Region 4 has a liaison outreach office stationed at Snoqualmie, which they appreciate. The problem is the outreach worker is identified as a "troublemaker" at her own agency because of her advocacy for the tribe.

In a recent conversation with ESA's new Assistant Secretary Troy Hutson, Sarah Colleen committed to gather data and make sure ESA provides better services to the tribes.

Troy Hutson discussed some of his background. His official start date is February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Liz welcomed Troy, thanked Sam for all his work, and presented him with a gift. Rosie thanked Sam for his work, saying he helped get them through the TANF negotiations with his kindness. Sam thanked Rosi, Liz and IPAC.

#### IPAC Strategic Plan

Colleen Cawston, IPSS Director

The IPAC Executive Committee and IPSS staff meet annually to plan for the future. The IPAC meeting format changed a year ago and feedback is good. Colleen announced packets would now include a four-month calendar of meetings affecting IPAC and Indian Country.

At the strategic planning meeting, the group developed guidelines for Subcommittee meetings, which included providing necessary information prior to meetings, as well as timely turnaround for minutes, assignments and next steps. The guidelines include having conference call capability at subcommittee meetings whenever possible. Colleen has met with all Administrations and will finalize the guidelines to provide at the April IPAC meeting.

The Executive Committee has requested an annual report. The first draft will be available in April. Each IPSS Regional Manager will draft the opening paragraphs for the chapter covering their Region.

Holding monthly and quarterly subcommittee meetings has resulted in a number of issues to raise with the legislature. Budget issues will be addressed next year.

Liz thanked the IPAC Delegates, Alternates and IPSS staff for their hard work on the committees, roundtables and workgroups.

#### Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRSA)

Doug Porter, Assistant Secretary

Doug Allen, DASA Director, expressed his appreciation for the HRSA Subcommittee workgroups. The Mental Health Division is actively recruiting for a tribal liaison.

In October, HRSA received a letter from CMS directing them to change the way they provide their Medicaid Administrative Match (MAM). HRSA met with the tribes and came up with five alternatives. HRSA proposed an intergovernmental transaction with a separate account for each tribe, to be used only for match purposes, with a five day turnaround for the match to return to the tribe. For tribes without an electronic funds transfer mechanism, they will devise an alternative method. Helen asked the delegates to approve the proposal. Doug said HRSA would review and revise the plan in the spring.

Liz introduced Kris Locke from the American Indian Health Commission (AIHC). Kris reported on her meeting with CMS. She announced her meeting during the afternoon, while IPAC was still convened, to discuss MAM.

There was discussion about the MAM deferral and work to develop the process. HRSA hopes to have a plan in place by February 13<sup>th</sup>, which would be in effect until June 30, 2009.

Lawrence cautioned the group about using IHS and BIA census numbers, versus membership numbers, and he discussed the ICW funding distribution.

Doug Allen reported about the recent consultation about ADATSA funds, which created 14 different options for handling the funds. The options were mailed to tribes December 18<sup>th</sup> with response requested by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Doug went over some of the options, and will await tribal input.

Jim Sherrill thanked Doug for his increased proactive and consultative activities.

Doug Porter discussed CMS, saying the relationship with states has worsened over the years. He agreed the states and tribes need to be proactive with CMS.

Cheryl Strange, Assistant Director, Mental Health Division (MHD), provided updates from MHD. Tribal forums for HB1088 are February 25<sup>th</sup> at Puyallup and February 27<sup>th</sup> at the N.A.T.I.V.E. Project in Spokane. HRSA and MHD will review the state plan with the tribes, related to rehabilitative and waiver services, to prepare for the May Roundtable.

At the May 15<sup>th</sup> Tribal Mental Health meeting, the discussion will include the 1915B Waiver. The tribes, MHD and the RSNs are working to schedule a second meeting, tentatively April 8<sup>th</sup>. It will provide follow up to last May's meeting, status reports on assignments, local activities of RSNs with the tribes and a program spotlight. The group will discuss what works well and what doesn't, and will have a training component – probably how RSNs operate and how to access their services.

Jim Sherrill discussed having regular meetings for RSN, mental health hospital and tribal staff in western Washington, similar to those held in eastern Washington. He said their first meeting was last week. He discussed reminding RSN directors they are working with government entities and to send peer-level representatives. He suggested providing them the government-to-government training offered by the Governor's office.

Dr. Nancy Anderson, Office Chief of Community Services for HRSA, provided an update on the Patient Navigator Pilot Program. Patient Navigators are members of communities at higher risk of poor health outcomes, who advise individuals to ensure that those needing healthcare get what they need and have positive outcomes from working with the healthcare system. Dr. Anderson encouraged tribal involvement in this program, designed to eliminate health disparities. She provided RFP information, encouraging Tribes to apply. Charles Lassiter, a contracting specialist, is facilitating it. She asked IPAC to appoint a person to help review RFPs.

Dr. Anderson also discussed Native American health structures around maternal infant health. It's been nineteen years since the Maternity Care Access Act, which resulted in a group of interventions called First Steps. A recent review of the program revealed health disparities related to birth outcomes. Dr. Anderson asked for input from tribal health structures about this disparity. The goal is to develop specific interventions, done collaboratively with tribes and RAIOS.

Deb Sosa, HRSA Tribal Liaison, has put together a schedule and flyers for the next HRSA Subcommittee meeting. She also discussed an upcoming billing workgroup. The HRSA Tribal Gathering is scheduled for October 7-8, 2008; Deb has emailed save the date flyers.

Todd Sletvett explained DSHS has been working on the Tribal MAM plan since 2005. The process resulted in consultation January 18, 2008, in Seattle with CMS administrator Dennis Smith.

David Brennan provided a handout related to the Mental Health Transformation Grant (MHTG). Information is also available on the HRSA website. This grant is federally funded for 5 years, and provides training to help people with mental health issues to lead a more fulfilling life. The grant project offers \$150,000 for tribes to develop their own transformation projects, and must be spent by Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. It could be used to fund speakers for the Tribal Gathering, encumber cost for tribal representatives, or CEUs. Discussion followed and a vote was postponed until later in the day. When the discussion returned to the Mental Health Transformation Grant, Jennifer proposed creating a committee of three to five people who would receive all proposals and develop a plan.

**Helen moved to devote a portion of the funding to training and the rest John's proposal (I need help here, what was John's proposal?); the motion passed.**

Jeanette Barnes, Consumer Liaison, provided an overview of her outreach work, resulting from a federal grant. Jennifer LaPointe discussed the need for delegates on the MHTG. Of the four tribal seats (two technical and two tribal leaders) on the grant, none currently have tribal representation. She asked the delegates to consider getting more involved with that group. Discussion followed about who to recommend for the workgroup.

**The motion to appoint Steve Cutz, from Cowlitz, and Ed Fox, from Squaxin Island, to participate in the Mental Health Tribal Workgroup passed.**

#### Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA)

John Clayton, Assistant Secretary

JRA has an initiative in process related to overrepresentation of Native American and African American youth in the JRA population. In an attempt to involve the community to address the matter, JRA has issued two grants, one to Tacoma and one to Spokane. JRA is seeking proposals and people who are knowledgeable about the community and the process to sit on the evaluation committee. Names of participants should go to Colleen Cawston; Monica Reeves is the JRA contact.

Lisa McAllister briefly discussed the new Integrated Treatment Assessment (ITA) tool being developed. Lisa can be reached at 360-902-0774 or [mcalllm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:mcalllm@dshs.wa.gov).

JRA is finalizing an agreement with Colville Tribe. Other interested tribes can contact Monica Reeves at 360 902-8102 or [reevems@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:reevems@dshs.wa.gov).

JRA notifies law enforcement when returning Native American youth home, but would prefer to contact a tribal delegate instead; tribes can contact JRA Regional Administrator or Monica for more information. Discussion followed about effective ways to work with young men, and disproportionality in DSHS' silo approach to services. Community involvement and culturally relevant attention are two anecdotally proven approaches.

#### Aging and Disability Services Administration (ADSA)

Garnet Charles and Brent Apt

Brent introduced Kimberly Chabot, who will serve as Liaison for the State Unit on Aging. He reported on the many items the ADSA subcommittee has completed, including resolution of the issue with Port Gamble and Kitsap County, and Home Healthcare Agencies (transferred to the HRSA subcommittee). The October meeting between the AAA directors, tribal leaders and DSHS managers was well received and will be a regular meeting. Brent also said burial funds are governed by CMS regulations, and mentioned putting funds into trust. He stressed the need for tribal advocacy with CMS.

Garnet discussed the NICOA Elders' Conference September 5-9. She discussed lodging, donations from local tribes and scheduled events. There will be a potlatch at Chief

Leschi School, a Mariners game and the Puyallup Fair that weekend. She discussed the potential for some of the casinos to arrange transportation for elders staying at their hotels. There will be craft projects and excursions on Sunday.

Letters were mailed to Tribal Chairs in December asking for donations. NICOA needs to raise about \$350,000 to accomplish the conference. The planning committee has also approached Northwest Cable News to provide a room with videos about the local tribes. The local planning committee meets the fourth Thursday of each month; email Colleen ([cawstcf@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:cawstcf@dshs.wa.gov)) or Cindy ([trokecj@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:trokecj@dshs.wa.gov)) for telephone access to the meeting. There will also be a prayer breakfast and a fashion show, with vendor space available. Lawrence mentioned writing tribal code to use in place of WAC. Brent will pass Lawrence's information to Carol Sloan in Adult Protective Services.

Jeannie Johnson works with counties to provide supported employment for people with developmental disabilities. Jeannie and Doug North will meet January 16 with county representatives regarding 7.01 plans, protocol and to discuss supported employment with the tribes. Supported employment funding provides job coaches or technical assistance, but does not to pay wages.

#### Children's Administration

Nancy Dufraine, ICW Manager

Nancy introduced Deborah Purce, Executive Staff Director, who attended in place of Cheryl Stephani. Nancy discussed case review and recognition of individuals who participated in the process. Nancy and Deborah presented appreciation certificates to the following people:

Daryl Toulou, Colville, accepted by Andy Toulon  
Tara Regan, Puyallup, Director of Children's Services  
Terry Theresa Renik, Squaxin Island  
Marilee May, Tulalip  
Toni Innes, American Indian Community Center  
Helen Fenrich, Tulalip  
Elena Capoeman, Quinault  
Laura Bluehorse, Puyallup  
Linda Adkinson, Spokane  
Liz Mueller, Jamestown S'Klallam  
Bob Brisbois, IPSS

Liz commented she had discovered many children in care are from out of state, many from Alaska and surrounding states. Also, more of them live in rural than urban areas than was anticipated.

Comments included the need for ICW caseloads to be weighted, transportation issues, the need to increase funding, and the need for more Native American foster homes. Families

that do provide foster care need more training and funding because many of the children come from homes affected by drugs and alcohol.

The Ombudsman's annual report, issued in December, addressed ICW. Delegates can order their own copy from the Governor's Office of Children and Families website at [www.governor.wa.gov/ofco](http://www.governor.wa.gov/ofco).

Liz provided an update on the Disproportionality Committee and Jim Sherrill updated the group on the Children's Advisory committee he attends. At the two disproportionality meetings Liz has attended, there has been training related to different races and a workshop on Undoing Racism.

Lawrence mentioned the upcoming ICW Conference. He's been involved in ICW since 1974 and suggested honoring those who originally worked on ICW.

Nancy discussed a conversation at the January CA/JRA subcommittee meeting about tracking a variety of data and the ability to track barriers to foster recruitment and retention. One goal is to justify more legislative funding requests.

Jim Sherrill related a report from Chris Robertson about implementation of Structured Decision Making. CA is reviewing statewide data related to risk assessment levels; those at the highest risk level are being served. The moderately high risk group is very large; this is different than past assessments. They will assess later whether this tool makes any impact on disproportionality. The solution based casework model (how to work with clients of CPS) will be built into the New Employee Orientation. The structured decision making assessment tool has appendices A & B; appendix A is still in draft form.

Jim led a discussion about disproportionality, saying the federal law requires a minimum of three citizen review panels to review CA's work. Washington has met at least one by using the Children, Youth and Family Services Advisory Panel. He asked if IPAC was interested in serving as a citizen review panel.

Jim also reported on a group from the University of Washington called Partners for Children, which works with Children's Administration to research best practice and evidence based practice. They also look at specialized foster parents, a way to identify foster parents to take specific types of kids: teens, adolescents, etc. He asked for input on specialized non-native foster parents for Native American children with a requirement that they expose the children to Indian culture. The group discussed specialized foster homes and structured decision making.

The CA/JRA Subcommittee recommended that IPAC become a citizens' review panel. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

The ICW Summit will be March 24-26<sup>th</sup> at Little Creek Casino and Event Center. Registration will begin the evening of the 24<sup>th</sup>, with sessions all day the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Nancy discussed a variety of items related to the Summit. More information will be distributed in the coming weeks.

Liz stated the need to discuss how to get issues to the legislature. Marilyn Olson asked for the deadline to get information to DSHS for proposals for next year's legislature. May is the deadline for that fiscal year's input; this May will be the deadline for the 2009-11 biennium, so Tribes need to forward their needs to CA before the April 10<sup>th</sup> IPAC meeting. Proposals should include transportation, clothing, furniture, and other items needed to support a child in care. More discussion followed; Liz suggested discussing standardized reporting criteria at the February CA/JRA Subcommittee meeting.

Many delegates and others in the audience left the meeting to attend the AIHC meeting.

#### Washington Children's Trust

Colleen Chinn

Washington Children's Trust members include state employees, legislative staff and concerned citizens. The Trust provides money for grants or pass-through for agencies that aim to prevent child abuse and neglect. The funding is intended for research into evidence based programs for rural and tribal communities. The Trust works with the CA/JRA subcommittee. Colleen asked for input on making the Trust more culturally relevant. When a position on the committee is available, they will seek a tribal representative to fill it.

The Trust recently funded Tulalip and Quileute tribal schools with \$30,000 for startup, and will provide \$75,000 next year. Colleen would like more applicants from eastern Washington. Available grants and application information can be found at <http://www.childrenstrust.org/>, or people can contact Colleen at 206-455-1315 or [ccolleen@wcpca.wa.gov](mailto:ccolleen@wcpca.wa.gov).

Marc Brenman did not show up, but had planned to speak about human rights.

#### Diversity and Hiring

Frances Carr, Anita Jones, Norman Moorer

Anita Jones, Diversity Consultant, spoke about employment with DSHS. She provided information on the DSHS affirmative action plan and asked for help to recruit more NA/AI staff.

The DSHS Affirmative Action Plan 2007-09 was completed in September 2007 and submitted and approved by the Department of Personnel, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Governor's Office Affirmative Action Policy Committee. The Plan will be on the Diversity Affairs website after February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Executive Recruiter Norman Moorer spoke about recruiting. Liz suggested Norman write letter to the Tribal Chairs asking them to share recruiting and job information with Tribal personnel people. Norman attends job fairs and asked for information about additional venues and websites.

Lawrence commented that sometimes people falsely claim to be Native American/Alaskan Indian on job applications, and that hiring entities should try to verify their status.

Phil recommended gathering together tribal personnel staff for a training on the DSHS websites, how to navigate them, what types of appointments are available, to clarify the system. The group discussed various ideas to help Norman in his recruitment efforts.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Indian Policy Advisory Committee  
Resolution 2008-01

The Indian Policy Advisory Committee acting during their regular January meeting does hereby enact the following recommendation:

To delegate Steven Kutz, Cowlitz Tribal Leader to the Tribal Leader appointment for the Mental Health Transformation Workgroup and

To delegate Ed Fox, Squaxin Island Health Director to the Technical Advisory appointment for the Mental Health Transformation Workgroup.

Motion made by: Helen Fenrich, Tulalip

Second by: John Stephens, Swinomish

Motion Carried

Date: January 10, 2008

**IPSS ACTION**

Send notification to Ken Stark MHTG of these new appointments

Indian Policy Advisory Committee  
Resolution 2008-02

The Indian Policy Advisory Committee acting during their regular January meeting does hereby enact the following recommendation:

That the IPAC Children's Sub-Committee be a citizen review board

Motion by: Jim Sherrill, Cowlitz

Second by: Marie Ramirez, Snoqualmie

Motion carried.

Date: January 10, 2008

**IPSS ACTION**

Work with Nancy Dufraine to provide notification of this resolution.

Indian Policy Advisory Committee  
Resolution 2008-03

The Indian Policy Advisory Committee acting during their regular January meeting does hereby enact the following recommendation:

That the \$150,000 from the Mental Health Transformation Grant be utilized in the following three ways:

Establish Tribal Trainings statewide, with the tribes providing recommendations for the training. Establish a mechanism to have the training available for all to attend, pursue teleconferencing, coordinate to provide for Continuing Education Units and have the trainings set up regionally across the state.

Coordinate a statewide meeting

Have an analysis done of existing WAC and RCW to allow for direct Government to Government Mental Health funding. Identify contractual language for the Tribes to use as a template.

Motion by: Helen Fenrich, Tulalip

Second by: Andy Joseph, Colville

Motion carried.

Date: January 10, 2008

**IPSS ACTION**

This will be brought to the HRSA-Tribal workgroup for assignments, update provided at the April 2008 meeting.