

CALIFORNIA TRIBAL COURT-STATE COURT FORUM

Forum E-Update

August 2016

TRIBAL COURT-STATE COURT
FORUM

HON. ABBY ABINANTI

Cochair

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Cochair

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(ret., advisory)

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IN THE NEWS

[Walker Signs Two Bills into Law](#)

Juneau Empire

July 26, 2016

House Bill 200 sponsored by Governor Walker in collaboration with Alaskan Federation of Natives and Tribes. It is designed to correct and lessen the barriers that were made after the following U.S. Supreme Court Baby Girl Veronica decision.



Office of Gov. Bill Walker -

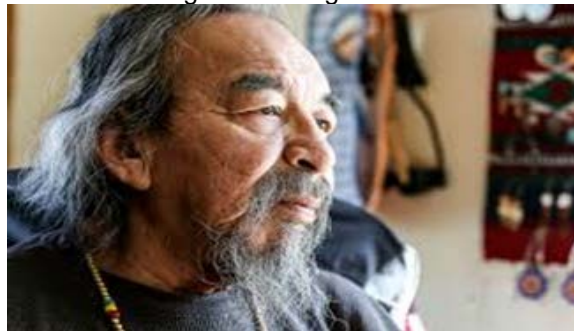
Gov. Bill Walker signed HB 200 on Tuesday morning at the offices of Bristol Bay Native Corporation in Anchorage.

[Ojibwe storyteller and writer Jim Northrup dies at age 73](#)

By Pat Pheifer, Star Tribune

August 2, 2016

Jim Northrup, was responsible for four books, three plays, six films and six anthologies, and a one man show. He embraced his Anishinaabe language and heritage and shared his love of Ojibwe language and traditions through his writing.



Jim Northrup, author, poet and Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa elder, reflects on his life during an interview at his home in Sawyer, Minn., on a recent afternoon. Northrup, 72, has kidney cancer. It's moved to his lungs, lymph nodes and brain. (Clint Austin / caustin@duluthnews.com)

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Tribal/State Programs Link:

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/programs-tribal.htm>

FORUM LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Visit forum's home page

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/3065.htm>

[Pascua Yaqui Tribe Announces Deployment of Tribal Access Program to Improve Exchange of National Crime Information](#)

Justice News-Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs

August 2, 2016

Today, the Department of Justice and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe announced the tribe has officially begun to access and exchange critical law enforcement data with national crime information databases, a step forward in joint federal-tribal efforts to strengthen community safety, solve crimes, protect law enforcement and provide efficient services to local governments, such as pre-employment background checks.

[Limit Government Intrusion in Indian Families' Lives](#)

By Matthew Fletcher, Cato Unbound-A Journal of Debate

August 5, 2016

The [Indian Child Welfare Act](#) (ICWA) restricts government intervention in Indian families' lives, imposes important obligations on the government that benefit both children and parents when it does interfere, and limits the ease by which private entities profit from government action.

[Indian Status Is Not Racial: Understanding ICWA as a Matter of Law and Practice](#)

By Kristen Carpenter, Cato Unbound-A Journal of Debate

August 9, 2016

On August 31, 2013, a little girl clad in a purple shawl, holding the hands of her father and stepmother, skipped into the grand entry of the Cherokee Nation's annual powwow. An honored participant, the little girl followed in the steps of the Nation's principal chief and first lady, and behind them a long line of Cherokees wearing U.S. military uniforms, tear dresses and ribbon shirts, buckskin, and jingle dresses fell into the circle. In brush arbors and bleachers, spectators visited with friends and relatives, and even deeper outside, the thick dark northeastern Oklahoma night, full and bright with crickets, stars, and spirits. At the very center of it all, the little girl smiled in the embrace of her Cherokee people. She danced in the heart of their landscape and in the landscape of their hearts.

FORUM NEWS

Tribal Court-State Court Forum Welcomes New Member

Judge Lawrence King, Chief Judge, Colorado River Indian Tribes Tribal Court

[Why Should Indian Children be Treated Differently?](#)

By Hon. Leonard Edwards (retired)

Survey on Tribal Court Civil Orders

The council's [Tribal Court-State Court Forum](#) asks state courts, tribal courts, and tribal practitioners to take an online to provide information on the recognition and enforcement of tribal court civil orders. Access surveys here: (1) [State Court Online Survey](#); (2) [Tribal Court Online Survey](#); and (3) [Tribal Practitioner Online Survey](#).

These programs are supported with funds from the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice that are administered through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Court Improvement Program, and the California Department of Social Services.

CASES

[In re Isaiah W.](#) (Filed 7/7/16)

The Supreme Court reversed the decision from the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 2nd Court of Appeals, holding (1) a parent may challenge a finding of ICWA’s inapplicability in the course of appealing from a subsequent order terminating parental rights, even if the parent did not raise such a challenge in an appeal from the initial order; and (2) in this case, the fact that Mother did not allege ICWA notice error in an appeal from the original dispositional order did not preclude her from raising the claim in this appeal.

[In re Abbigail A.](#) (Filed 7/14/16)

The California Supreme Court holds that rule 5.482(c) is invalid but upholds rule 5.484(c)(2) in this challenge to the validity of two Rules of Court that relate to the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). Rule 5.482(c) states that if a tribe indicates a child is eligible for membership the court must treat the child like an Indian child and the agency must take steps to secure the child’s enrollment in the tribe. Rule 5.484(c)(2), which requires the agency to take steps to enroll an Indian child in the tribe, the Court holds that it is valid because its provisions only apply to cases involving an Indian child as defined by law. As such, it is not inconsistent with state law implementing ICWA.

[Ninth Circuit Affirms Indian Country Conviction for Strangulation \(VAWA\)](#)

by Matthew L.M. Fletcher –Turtle Talk

Opinion in [United States v. Lamott](#)

EDUCATION

State Judicial Branch Online Resources

Newslinks

This is a service that the Judicial Council’s Communications Office puts together every day. If you would like to receive this service, please visit this [webpage](#).

Judicial Resources Network (JRN) and Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) Online

This website contains information relevant to all levels of judicial branch personnel and includes resources designed to meet education, facilities, financial, human resources, legal, special court projects, technology, and other informational needs. For more information, please contactCarolynn Bernabe at 415-865-7556 or carolynn.bernabe@jud.ca.gov.

California Dependency Online Guide (CaIDOG)

This website contains dependency-related case law, legal materials, articles and other resources relevant to California attorneys, judicial officers, social workers, tribal representatives, Court Appointed Special Advocates, and other child welfare professionals. Subscriptions are free and available to professionals working in the field of juvenile dependency. [Log in or subscribe here](#).

National Online Resources

[Tribal Access to Justice Innovation](#) is a new website highlighting innovative tribal justice programs from around the country. Developed by the Center for Court Innovation’s Tribal Justice Exchange, the website seeks to provide ideas and inspiration to reformers looking to address common challenges like substance use, domestic violence, gang involvement, and juvenile delinquency.

[SAMHSA’s Tribal Training and Technical Assistance Center](#) provides training and technical assistance (TTA) on mental and substance use disorders, suicide prevention, and the promotion of mental health. We offer Broad, Focused, and Intensive TTA to federally recognized tribes, other American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities, SAMHSA tribal grantees, and organizations serving Indian Country.

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National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) is inviting child abuse and neglect courts to apply to become new implementation sites within the NCJFCJ Implementation Sites Project. The NCJFCJ Implementation Sites Project is a three year project to provide child abuse and neglect courts with training, technical assistance, and support to guide court systems' improvement efforts, sustainability, and performance. As part of their involvement in this project, Implementation Sites are expected to implement meaningful change, evaluate progress, as well as share challenges and successes with other courts across the country.

NCJFCJ will be selecting four new sites to participate in the Implementation Sites Project. There is no direct funding available to participating sites. However, the four selected sites will receive targeted training, technical assistance, and support from NCJFCJ staff, which will include on-site visits, a trauma assessment, and training opportunities. More detailed information about the Implementation Sites Project and the application process can be found in the Implementation Sites Project Call for Applications. The application opens on Monday, August 15, 2016 and closes on Friday, September 30, 2016 at 6:00pm PST. If you have any questions regarding the Implementation Sites Project or the application process, please contact Zadora Bolin at zbolin@ncjfcj.org or (775) 507-4872. To apply, please visit: <http://www.ncjfcj.org/Implementation-Sites-2016-Applications>

Publications

[Killing the policy to save the child: Comparing the historical removal of Indigenous children in Australia to the United States and how the countries can learn from each other](#)

Author: Polam, Drew

Source: American Indian Law Journal Vol. 4, p256-296 (2016)

[American Indian children and U.S. policy](#)

Author: EagleWoman, Angleique; Rice, G. William

Source: University of New Mexico Tribal Law Journal Vol, 16, p. 1-29 (2016)

[Joint Jurisdiction Courts: A Manual for Developing Tribal, Local, State & Federal Justice Collaborations](#)

Center for Evidence Based Policy

May 2016

[In the name of the child: race, gender, and economics in Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl](#)

Author: Berger, Bethany R

Source: 67 Fla. L. Rev. 295 (2016)

[Report of the Tribal Issues Advisory Group](#)

(June 6, 2016) The Commission established the Tribal Issues Advisory Group (TIAG) as an ad hoc advisory group to the Commission under 28 U.S.C. § 995 and Rule 5.4 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. This report provides the TIAG's views on federal sentencing issues relating to American Indian defendants and victims, and offenses committed in Indian country.

Click to view the: [Public Hearing on the Tribal Issues Advisory Group Report and Recommendations](#)

Washington, DC, Thursday, July 21, 2016 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

[Youth Involvement in the Sex Trade: A National Study](#)

This report examines a multi-site study of youth involvement in the commercial sex trade across six sites: Atlantic City, NJ; Bay Area (San Francisco/Oakland), CA; Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Las Vegas, NV; and Miami, FL. The report presents findings from nearly 1,000 youth interviews, arrest patterns and prosecution and recidivism outcomes for these youth, and findings from interviews with service providers and police officers.

Webinars

[Restoration of Family Values and Healthy Community Characteristics](#)

Presented by Theda New Breast, MPH, Native Wellness Institute

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In honor of Family Heritage month, this webinar recording will be available all through the month of August.

In Native cultures, Native peoples had non-violent life ways based on an understanding of the natural world, viewing health through the traditional concepts of balance and sense of well-being. This webinar will discuss how restoring traditional family values can support positive social change and healthy community characteristics where Native families can exist in a web of relationships, each equal in importance and value.

[Neurobiology of Sexual Assault-2-Part Webinar Series](#) **[Dr. James Hopper](#)**

Clinical psychologist and independent consultant,
Teaching Associate in Psychology, Harvard Medical School,
and nationally recognized expert on psychological trauma.

Part 1: *Experience and Behavior*

Thursday, September 15, 2016

11:00am-12:30pm

Traumatic experiences have immediate, automatic and powerful effects on the human brain. This presentation explains how fear and trauma can alter brain functioning during sexual assault, resulting in experiences and behaviors that are, unfortunately, still commonly misunderstood by many who work with victims of sexual assault.

Participants will learn about the key brain circuitries impacted by fear and trauma, including the prefrontal cortex and the fear circuitry. Participants will come to understand brain-based responses to sexual assault, especially those associated with involuntary habits and reflexes. This presentation provides a critical foundation for learning and applying trauma-informed responses with people who have been sexually assaulted.

Part 2: *Experience and Memory*

Monday, September 19, 2016

11:00am-12:30pm

Traumatic experiences have immediate, powerful and potentially long-lasting effects on the human brain. This presentation explains how fear and trauma can alter brain functioning during sexual assault, and alter the encoding and storage of memories in ways that are, unfortunately, still commonly misunderstood by many who work with victims of sexual assault.

Participants will learn about the key brain circuitries impacted by fear and trauma, including the prefrontal cortex and the circuitries of fear and episodic memory. Participants will come to understand brain-based aspects of memory encoding, storage and retrieval that determine what can later be recalled and *not* recalled, including in investigative interviews and in court. This presentation provides a critical foundation for learning and applying trauma-informed responses with people who have been sexually assaulted.

Videos

[Video: The Seventh Fire](#)

When gang leader Rob Brown is sentenced to prison for a fifth time, he must confront his role in bringing violent drug culture into his beloved American Indian community in northern Minnesota. As Rob reckons with his past, his seventeen year old protégé, Kevin, dreams of the future: becoming the most powerful and feared Native gangster on the reservation. From executive producers Terrence Malick, Natalie Portman, and Chris Eyre comes this haunting and unflinching debut feature directed by Jack Pettibone Riccobono.

Upcoming Conferences

[Implementing VAWA in California: Navigating Interjurisdictional Waters](#)

November 17-18, 2016, Klamath, CA

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The Yurok Tribe is hosting this regional conference. Topics include: Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Public Law 280 in California, Engaging Men and Boys to Stop the Cycle of Violence, Recognition and Enforcement of Tribal Protection Orders, Batterer Intervention Programs - Best Practices for Offender Accountability, Creating a Coordinated Community Response in Tribal Communities. Included in registration admission is a special live presentation of the acclaimed play, *Mary Kathryn Nagle's Sliver of a Full Moon*, depicting the historic passage of VAWA. For more information, see the Northern California Tribal Court Coalition's website: <http://nctcc.org/> or facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/events/1739122973028450/>.

Juvenile Law Institute December 5 – 7, 2016, Orange County

Pre-Institute ICWA Roundtable December 5th a.m. (sponsored by the forum, NAICJA, and Casey Family Programs) For more information, contact Nikki Borchardt Campbell at nikki@naicja.org or Jenny Walter at jennifer.walter@jud.ca.gov.

15th National Indian Nations Conference December 8-10, 2016

December 8-10, 2016, Agua Caliente, CA

The conference theme is "Harnessing our Collective Wisdom: Strengthening the Circle of Safety, Justice and Healing." This year's conference is once again coordinated by the Tribal Law and Policy Institute under a grant from OVC.

Native American Indian Judges Association Annual Conference

October 18-21, 2016

Morongo, California

For more information, contact Nikki Borchardt Campbell at nikki@naicja.org

35th Annual Protecting Our Children National American Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

April 2-5 2017

San Diego, CA

ICWA Basics with Regulations Updates-Positive Indian Parenting

San Diego Ca, April 5-7, 2017

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

U.S. Department of Justice Access to Justice Grant Information

Criminal - [Grants](#) | [Training & Technical Assistance](#)

Juvenile - [Grants](#) | [Training & Technical Assistance](#)

Civil - [Grants](#) | [Training & Technical Assistance](#)

Violence Against Women - [Grants](#) | [Training & Technical Assistance](#)

Victims of Crime - [Grants](#) | [Training & Technical Assistance](#)

Tribal Justice- [Grants](#) | [Training & Technical Assistance](#)

American Indian and Alaska Native Early Head Start Expansion and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships

Deadline: August 24, 2016

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announces the availability of approximately \$3.5 million to be competitively awarded for the purpose of expanding access to high-quality, comprehensive services to low-income American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) infants and toddlers and their families through Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships, or through the expansion of Early Head Start services. ACF solicits applications from public entities, including states, or private non-profit organizations, including community-based or faith-based organizations, or for-profit agencies that meet eligibility for applying as stated in section 645A of the Head Start Act. Interested applicants may email EHS.CC Partnerships@acf.hhs.gov for additional information.

Detecting and Preventing Suicide Behavior, Ideation and Self-Harm in Youth in Contact with the Juvenile Justice System

Deadline: September 7, 2016

This initiative supports research to test the effectiveness of combined strategies to both detect and intervene to reduce the risk of suicide behavior, suicide ideation, and non-suicidal self-harm (NSSI) by youth in contact with the juvenile justice system. Opportunities for detection and prevention start at early points of contact (e.g., police interaction, the intake interview) and continue through many juvenile justice settings (e.g., pre-trial detention, juvenile or family court activities, court disposition, placement and on-going care in either residential or multiple community settings.) This FOA invites intervention strategies that are designed to be delivered in typical service settings using typically available personnel and resources, to enhance the implementation of interventions that prove effective, enhance their future uptake in diverse settings, and thereby reduce risk of suicide and self-harm in this population.

[FY 2016 Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations](#)**Deadline: September 30, 2016**

The Secretary of the Interior established the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (Buy-Back Program, Program) to implement the land consolidation provisions of the Cobell Settlement Agreement, which provided \$1.9 billion to consolidate fractional land interests across Indian country. The Buy-Back Program allows interested individual owners to sell their land for immediate transfer to the recognized tribe that exercises jurisdiction. This effort will strengthen tribal sovereignty and put decision-making in the hands of the tribal government, freeing up resources that have been locked-up as land interests that have fractionated over time. The Buy-Back Program has announced 42 locations where land consolidation activities such as planning, outreach, mapping, mineral evaluations, appraisals or acquisitions are scheduled to take place through the middle of 2017. The Buy-Back Program is interested in partnering with the eligible tribes that have jurisdiction over these 42 locations, as well as any locations that are added to the implementation schedule, to gain their direct participation in land consolidation efforts given tribes' unique qualifications to perform land consolidation activities for their reservations. Consequently, the Program intends to, whenever feasible and practical, enter into single source cooperative agreements with these eligible tribes to not only capitalize on their unique knowledge of their reservations but also to improve the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Program. Eligible tribes will be given the opportunity to apply for a cooperative agreement, whenever feasible and practical, prior to the implementation of the Buy-Back Program at the location under their jurisdiction. The Buy-Back Program will continue to expand to other reservations over the next several years, and tribes with jurisdiction over locations not yet scheduled for implementation will receive information about how they can participate once their reservations are scheduled.

[Public Engagement with Historical Records](#)**Deadline: October 6, 2016**

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission seeks projects that encourage public engagement with historical records, including the development of new tools that enable people to engage online. The NHPRC is looking for projects that create models and technologies that other institutions can freely adopt. In general, collaborations between archivists, documentary editors, historians, educators, and/or community-based individuals are more likely to create a competitive proposal. Projects might create and develop programs to engage people in the study and use of historical records for institutional, educational or personal reasons. For example, an applicant can: • Enlist volunteer "citizen archivists" in projects to accelerate access to historical records, especially those online. This may include, but is not limited to, efforts to identify, tag, transcribe, annotate, or otherwise enhance digitized historical records. • Develop educational programs for K-16 students or community members that encourage them to engage with historical records already in repositories or that are collected as part of the project. For a comprehensive list of the Commission's limitations on funding, please see "What we do and do not fund" (<http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/apply/eligibility.html>). Applications that consist entirely of ineligible activities will not be considered. Award Information A grant normally is for one to three years. The Commission expects to make up to three grants of between \$50,000 and \$150,000. The total amount allocated for this program is up to \$275,000.

[Exploratory Clinical Trials of Novel Interventions for Mental Disorders \(R61/R33\)](#)**Deadline: October 14, 2016**

The purpose of this grant is to support the efficient pilot testing of novel interventions for mental disorders in adults and children through an experimental therapeutics approach. Under this grant, trials must be designed so that results, whether positive or negative, will provide information of high scientific utility and will support go/no-go decisions about further development or testing of the intervention. Studies of novel interventions include, but are not limited to behavioral, pharmacological, biologics-based, cognitive, device-based, interpersonal, physiological, or combined approaches. Support will be provided for up to two years (R61 phase) for preliminary milestone-

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driven testing of the interventions engagement of the therapeutic target, possibly followed by up to 3 years of support (R33 phase) for studies to replicate target engagement and relate change in the intervention target to functional or clinical effects.

[Access to Historical Records – Major Initiatives Preliminary Proposals](#)

Deadline: January 19, 2017

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission seeks projects that will significantly improve public discovery and use of major historical records collections. All types of historical records are eligible, including documents, photographs, born-digital records, and analog audio and moving images. Projects may:• Digitize historical records collections, or related collections, held by a single institution and make them freely available online• Provide access to born-digital records• Create new freely-available virtual collections drawn from historical records held by multiple institutions• Create new tools and methods for users to access recordsThe NHPRC welcomes collaborative projects, particularly for bringing together related records from multiple institutions. Projects that address significant needs in the field and result in replicable and scalable approaches will be more competitive. We also encourage organizations to actively engage the public in the work of the project.Applicants should also consult Access to Historical Records: Archival Projects (include link) program, which has different requirements and award amounts. A grant is for one to three years and for up to \$350,000. We expect to make up to five grants in this category for a total of up to \$1,000,000Applicants may consult with the Director of the Access Program, Alex Lorch (alexander.lorch@nara.gov)

[General Section to HUD's Fiscal Year 2017 Notice\[s\] of Funding Availability for Discretionary Programs](#)

Deadline: January 31, 2017

HUD publishes a General Section each Fiscal Year (FY) that contains requirements for all of HUDs competitive grant programs. To be considered for funding, applications must meet all applicable requirements of the General Section and the requirements in the Program NOFA.

[Native American Research Centers for Health \(NARCH\) \(S06\)](#)

Deadline: July 27, 2017

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to encourage grant applications for new or continued Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH). The NARCH program supports opportunities for conducting research and career enhancement to meet the health needs of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities and the scientists conducting research on the health needs of these communities. This FOA is issued by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences in conjunction with the other Institutes/Centers of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Indian Health Service (IHS).

[Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect or Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention](#)

Deadline: October 31, 2017

In general, these funds should be used to support primary prevention (a.k.a., universal) programs and strategies which are available to all families, as well as secondary (a.k.a., targeted) prevention efforts, which target children and families at risk for abuse or neglect.

[Aidan's Red Envelope Foundation](#)

Deadline: Open

Families of a disabled child and organizations helping disabled children, can apply for grants from Aidan's Red Envelope Foundation. At this time, Aidan's Red Envelope Foundation can only consider applicant families in the Southern California area. Grant awards are limited to \$5000. Grant Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

[California Wellness Foundation](#)

Deadline: Open

The mission of The California Wellness Foundation is to improve the health of the people of California by making grants for health promotion, wellness education and disease prevention. Since its founding in 1992, Cal Wellness has awarded 7,690 grants totaling more than \$912 million.

[Interventions for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Native American Populations](#)

Deadline: Open

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The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to develop, adapt, and test the effectiveness of health promotion and disease prevention interventions in Native American (NA) populations. NA populations are exposed to considerable risk factors that significantly increase their likelihood of chronic disease, substance abuse, mental illness, oral diseases, and HIV-infection. The intervention program should be culturally appropriate and promote the adoption of healthy lifestyles, improve behaviors and social conditions and/or improve environmental conditions related to chronic diseases, the consumption of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, mental illness, oral disease, or HIV-infection. The intervention program should be designed so that it could be sustained within the entire community within existing resources, and, if successful, disseminated in other Native American communities. The long-term goal of this FOA is to reduce mortality and morbidity in NA communities.

Lannan Indigenous Communities Program

Deadline: Open

The Indigenous Communities Program (ICP) supports the resolve of Native Americans to renew their communities through their own institutions and traditions. Funding priority is given to rural indigenous projects that are consistent with traditional values in the areas of education, Native cultures, the revival and preservation of languages, legal rights, and environmental protection. At this time the foundation only accepts new grant requests from United States federally recognized tribes or Native controlled 501(c)(3) organizations whose work is solely focused in the United States.

Surdna Foundation- Teens' Artistic and Cultural Advancement

Deadline: Open

This foundation seeks organizations that have a proven and longstanding commitment to serving teens and that emphasize skill building. This funding is designed to:

- Provide high quality arts training that integrate life skills. These skills include: written and oral communication, problem-solving, critical thinking, and leadership development;
- Encourage teens to connect to their cultural identity through art-making;
- Provide young people with a well-developed, sequential curriculum that meets the increasing skills of participants;
- Foster strong mentoring opportunities for artists with teens;
- Employ accomplished faculty and guest artists who engage teens in art forms that reflect their cultural interests and community;
- Use research and evaluation tools to track the progress of teens' success over time;
- Share best practices in regards to training and evaluation in order to strengthen the field of youth arts training.

Tribal Justice Support Directorate

Deadline: Open

Tribal Justice Support provides funding guidance, technical support, and advisory services to tribal courts and the Courts of Indian Offenses. This includes providing funding to tribal courts, training directed to specific needs of tribal court personnel, promoting cooperation and coordination among tribal justice systems and Federal and state judiciary systems, and providing oversight for the continuing operations for the Courts of Indian Offenses. The Division also works with tribes to conduct tribal court reviews which are conducted using a modified model of the Tribal Court Performance Standards (TCPS). The TCPS assists tribal courts in identifying existing problems and formulating strategies for improvement of tribal courts and provides an outcome-oriented conceptual framework of tribal court performance areas, standards, and measures.