



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



TRIBAL UPDATES MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: January 12, 2022 at 1:30 PM

Name of Organization: The State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Divisions of Aging and Disability Services (ADSD), Child and Family Services (DCFS) and Public Health (DPBH)

Place of Meeting: Teleconference/Microsoft Teams

AGENDA

- **Opening** - Priscilla Acosta
- **Introductions**
 - Chairperson – Representation unknown
 - Vice-Chairperson – Representation unknown
 - ITCN Representatives – Representation unknown
 - IHS Representatives – Representation unknown
 - Tribal Program Directors – Representation unknown
 - State- Division Tribal Liaisons
 - Priscilla Acosta, Director's Office (DHHS)
 - Nikki Haag, Aging and Disability Services (ADSD)
 - Fran Maldonado, Division of Child and Family Services, (DCFS)
 - Briza Virgin, Division of Health Care Finance and Policy (DHCFP)
 - Nevada Indian Commission Representation – Representation unknown
- **Public Comment**
 - No comments
- **Consultation/Update**
 - Department of Health and Human Services
 - Updates provided by Director's Office Tribal Liaison, Priscilla Acosta
 - Indigenous Educators Empowerment were not present at the meeting
 - Led a walk through of where to find our meeting announcements for Tribal Update Meetings, meeting minutes and presentations from the meetings. The link is Information listed on the Department's Website -- https://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/TL/Tribal_Home/ then click on "tribal meetings" then click on 2022. Reminder you can also find the information for both the Public Health and Social Services Tribal Updates Meeting as well as the Healthcare Tribal Consultations listed on the state public notice website and at publicnotices.nv.gov
 - The Department of Health and Human Services is in the process of pre-budget planning. The Department Tribal Liaison group would like to connect with tribes individually to coordinate a listening session to hear what's going on in your respective communities, so we can refine our

services to ensure that we have a thorough understanding of what the needs are and how to deliver services in each community. Liaisons will work with Tribal leadership, Health Clinic Directors and Social Services programs to complete this.

○ Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)

Updates provided by DCFS Tribal Liaison, Fran Maldonado

- Through a grant from Casey Family Programs, the division is in the process of gathering needed information from Nevada tribes to gift 2022 memberships to the National Indian Child Welfare Association. This process started in November 2021 and membership will be valid throughout 2022
- Two funding opportunities for grants through DCFS; VOCA or Victims of Crime Act, those applications are due February 7th and the second is Children Justice Act or CJ and that is to improve the investigation prosecution and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect and that CJ application process is due February 19.
- I also host, along with our agency BIA representatives, Indian Child Welfare Meetings, which is held bi-monthly our first meeting of the year is scheduled for next week. January 18th, 10:00am to 11:00 AM.
- DCFS partners with the Reno Rodeo Foundation to benefit Nevada's Foster Youth and we would like to include our 27 tribal entities in Nevada on anything and everything we do for foster youth. There is a foster family denim drive distribution event scheduled for Saturday, January 29th in Reno from 10am to 12pm at the Kids Cottage. I sent out an email this morning to our Nevada Agency BIA representatives as well as to my list serve of tribal social workers to see if they are interested in want to register children who are in need of any clothing items

○ Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Tribal Liaison

- No Division Tribal Liaison present, no report.
- Tracy Palmer, Health Program Manager, Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention (BBHWP)
 - The Bureau has gone through some changes. We have a new Bureau Chief; Shannon Bennett and she'll be starting at the beginning of February. We also have some new fiscal team members, a new Health Program Specialist, and new staff on the treatment side as well as staff on the prevention side.
 - Update on the volume of contracts in sub awards and memorandums work orders- All these different types of documents are needed in order for us as a state entity who oversee multiple funding sources to disseminate out to the communities. We've submitted approximately 250 documents out to our contracts and grants unit in order for us to get approval, so that we can continue to work with our stakeholders and the other providers throughout the community.
 - In the past year, we've done a big review of development and implemented several new strategic plans. These have not been in place before in the aspect of detailing the funding source and come as strategic plans for the next 5 years.
 - We have developed the Partnership for Success grant, focusing on 9 to 20 year olds. It's a strategic prevention framework format and reducing the use and misuse of alcohol marijuana and methamphetamines. We've developed strategic plan for the substance abuse prevention and treatment block grant that is focused on reducing the risk to use misuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drug usage.
 - We also developed a 5 year strategic plan that is part of the block grant focusing on tobacco and reducing the use of tobacco.

- The Division is doing inspections on retailers throughout the state of Nevada, so that we can meet the guidelines of a 20% retailer violation rate. Last year, we submitted and unfortunately, we hit 26% so we have a little bit of work to do in that area, but we're excited with the new legislation passing SB69.
- Working to develop an all-inclusive strategic plan. We welcome feedback from anyone who is heavily involved in like in at the opioid response, liquor implementation, problem gambling, women services etc. We are really working hard to focus on, what is happening? What can we change?
- The Bureau has worked with the State's Evaluator in conducting program monitors. We completed those on our Prevention Coalitions. We are also starting fiscal monitors for both our treatment providers and the prevention providers.
- New initiatives- The COVID and 988-warm line. We are working in the with the law enforcement collaboration and crisis response to expand our efforts.
- Enhancing our evidence-based practice policy, the idea is going from a discussion group to an actual active workgroup comprised of volunteers. These volunteers have been great and they bring a very multicultural view. We have a school based behavioral Health Director, a community representative, law enforcement, a minority health equity member, the Nevada Department of Education Indian Education Director, a faith-based LGBTQ leader. The workgroup is reviewing evidence-based practices, what's in place, is it addressing the needs of our high-risk population, which includes Native American, LGBTQ and military. Those are the three main areas SAMSA has pointed out to us, but it doesn't mean it's the only three but these are the areas that we are focusing heavily on.
- Priscilla shared an update on behalf of Cody Phinney. Cody went out to Schurz to address some concerns that the Walker River Paiute Tribe was having regarding emergency medical EMS program. Cody committed to work through these issues. One of the issues, addressed having to do within individual license, has been addressed the second issue will require some more time to address. The Division wants to have a Tribal Representative on the Advisory Committee. We will be sure to add this as an agenda item on our next meeting, so we can have Cody here in person and go into more in depth conversation about this.
- Aging and Disability Services, Nikki Haag, Tribal Liaison
 - Nikki, the Division has emergency funding for respite assistance. I have been going around to the tribes, mostly virtual meetings, to introduce our staff. Shared respite care information. We do have emergency one-time funds that are available, contact the Division for more information.
 - Diane Fearon, Southern Nevada Senior Law Program/SNSLP
 - Shared a presentation (attached as a separate document)
- **Public Comment Regarding any other issues**
 - Bobby Sullivan, Nevada EMS program
 - Add a couple of things to the comments shared from Cody. Through our tribal partners we have permitted ambulance services. The Pyramid Lake Fire Rescue group is in the process of completing a grant process to assist with funding of a new emergency medical technician course. This grant is in the final stages of approval. Our office regulates not only the EMTs paramedics advanced EMTs. We also permit the agencies, which involves conducting inspections.

- Owhyee notified us that they had a brand-new ambulance, and we were able to get that ambulance inspected before the end of the day. I was notified this morning that of the four ambulances they have, two of them had to be taken out of service due to mechanical issues. They have two functioning ambulances, which for the size of their agency is a real benefit to that community. Happy to answer any questions.
 - Priscilla Acosta, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services,
 - Next Tribal Consultation and Update Meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2022. Two separate meetings. Morning consultation is focused on health care and the afternoon meeting is focused on public health and social services.
 - If you are not receiving emails from me, please reach out so we can add you to our listserv.
 - **Cultural Closing**
 - No volunteers
 - **Adjournment**
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