



Tribal Courts Working for Children, Families and Wellness
February 26 – 28, 2009

Conference Agenda

Thursday, February 26, 2009

8:00 am – 8:30 am	On Site Registration and Continental Breakfast	Aviary Foyer
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Opening Plenary Session – Child Welfare and Tribal Courts <i>Panelists: Kelly Gaines Stoner, Executive Director, Native American Legal Resource Center, OCU School of Law</i> <i>The Hon. Anthony Brandenburg, Intertribal Court of Southern California</i> <i>Moderator: Michelle Rivard Parks, Associate Director, Tribal Judicial Institute</i> This session will explore the interplay between tribal, state and federal law in the disposition of child welfare cases in tribal courts. Additionally the panel will discuss recent developments, initiatives and creative remedies pertaining to the disposition of child welfare cases in tribal courts.	Aviary Ballroom
10:00 am – 10:20 am	Break	Aviary Foyer
10:20 – 11:30am AM Workshops – Day 1		
	Child Support Enforcement <i>Kate Christnot, Attorney/Consultant</i> This session will highlight existing tribal child support enforcement program(s) and will provide information relating to planning and implementation of tribal child support programs.	Toucan
	Combating Crimes Against Native Children <i>Geraldine Benally, Tribal Judge, Navajo Nation</i> <i>Tyrone Etsitty, Traditional Practitioner/Counselor, Department of Behavioral Health Services, Navajo Nation</i> This session will discuss some of the unique issues that face Native American Children as well as some of the risk factors associated with child victimization. The session will highlight strategies that may be implemented through tribal courts to combat crimes against Native Children.	Macaw
	Equine Assisted Learning <i>Darla Thiele, Juvenile Intake Officer, Spirit Lake Tribe</i> <i>William Cavanaugh, Judge, Spirit Lake Tribe</i> This session will focus on service based programs that work with court involved youth as a means of promoting peace and healing. The Shunka Wakan Ah Ku project was developed by court personnel and community volunteers as a means to work with court-involved youth and to foster traditional values through the active involvement and education about the horse culture and its traditional role within the tribe.	Cockatoo
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch on your own	



1:00 – 2:10 pm PM Workshops – Day 1

Child Support Enforcement

Toucan

Kate Christnot, Attorney/Consultant

This session will highlight existing tribal child support enforcement program(s) and will provide information relating to planning and implementation of tribal child support programs.

Combating Crimes Against Native Children

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Geraldine Benally, Tribal Judge, Navajo Nation

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Equine Assisted Learning

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2:10 pm – 2:30 pm

Break

Aviary Foyer

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

**Closing Plenary Session – Indian Child Welfare Act
Recent Updates and Developments**

Aviary Ballroom

Panelists: BJ Jones, Executive Director, Tribal Judicial Institute

Michele Fahey, Staff Attorney, California Indian Legal Services

This session will provide attendees with the most current legislative and case updates pertaining to the Indian Child Welfare Act. Panelists will focus on recent developments across the nation and specific discussion will be had on recent developments in California and Alaska.

Friday, February 27, 2009

8:00 am – 8:30 am

On Site Registration and Continental Breakfast

Aviary Foyer

8:30 am – 10:00 am

**Opening Plenary Session – Addressing Alcohol and Substance
Abuse through Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts**

Aviary Ballroom

Panelists: Valerie Raine, Director of Drug Court Programs, Center for Court Innovation

BJ Jones, Executive Director, Tribal Judicial Institute

This session will highlight the means in which wellness courts employ and promote core principles of dispute resolution by focusing on wrap around services, healing and support. Panelists will highlight strategies and program(s) that from tribes and states that have had measured success in working with substance abusing offenders.

10:00 am – 10:20 am

Break

10:20 – 11:30 am AM Workshops – Day 2

<p>Planning and Development of Healing to Wellness Courts <i>Sunny Goggles, Coordinator, Shoshone & Arapaho Tribal Substance Abuse Court</i> This session will provide attendees with information relative to planning and implementation of healing to wellness courts. The session will also discuss creative ways to address alcohol and substance abuse through tribal healing to wellness courts.</p>	<p>Toucan</p>
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<p>Combating Meth though Tribal Task Forces <i>BJ Jones, Executive Director, Tribal Judicial Institute</i> This session will provide information relating to the planning and implementation of a task force to address methamphetamine. Discussion will be had on who to involve, getting started and lessons learned. Additionally there will be discussion on collaborating with existing state and federal task force and drug enforcement initiatives.</p>	<p>Macaw</p>
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<p>Addressing Substance Abuse in Tribal Communities <i>Margaret Flores – Associate Judge, Judicial Branch, Pascua Yaqui Tribe</i> This session will explore various means that tribal courts may employ to address alcohol and substance abuse through the court system. Discussion will focus on creative civil and criminal remedies and services that focus on alcohol and substance abuse.</p>	<p>Cockatoo</p>
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11:30 am – 1:00 pm **Lunch on your own**

1:00 – 2:10 pm PM Workshops – Day 2

<p>Planning and Development of Healing to Wellness Courts <i>Sunny Goggles, Coordinator, Shoshone & Arapaho Tribal Substance Abuse Court</i> This session will provide attendees with information relative to planning and implementation of healing to wellness courts. The session will also discuss creative ways to address alcohol and substance abuse through tribal healing to wellness courts.</p>	<p>Toucan</p>
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<p>Combating Meth though Tribal Task Forces <i>Michelle Rivard Parks, Associate Director, Tribal Judicial Institute</i> This session will provide information relating to the planning and implementation of a task force to address methamphetamine. Discussion will be had on who to involve, getting started and lessons learned. Additionally there will be discussion on collaborating with existing state and federal task force and drug enforcement initiatives.</p>	<p>Macaw</p>
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<p>Addressing Substance Abuse in Tribal Communities <i>Margaret Flores – Associate Judge, Judicial Branch, Pascua Yaqui Tribe</i> This session will explore various means that tribal courts may employ to address alcohol and substance abuse through the court system. Discussion will focus on creative civil and criminal remedies and services that focus on alcohol and substance abuse.</p>	<p>Cockatoo</p>
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<p>2:10 pm – 2:30 pm</p>	<p>Break</p>	<p>Aviary Foyer</p>
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<p>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</p>	<p>Closing Plenary Session – Combating Methamphetamine use in Tribal Communities</p> <p><i>Panelists: Karrie Azure, Consultant, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Valerie Raine, Director of Drug Court Programs, Center for Court Innovation</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Michelle Rivard Parks, Associate Director, Tribal Judicial Institute</i></p> <p>This session will highlight community initiatives to combat methamphetamine use in tribal communities. Panelists will explore various community initiatives that tribes can employ to combat meth in their respective communities.</p>	<p>Aviary Ballroom</p>
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Saturday, February 28, 2009

8:30 am – 9:00 am	On Site Registration and Breakfast	Aviary Foyer
9:00 am – 10:30 am	Incorporating Tradition and Custom into Child and Family Cases	Aviary Ballroom
<p><i>Panelists: Kelly Gaines Stoner, Executive Director, Native American Legal Resource Center, OCU School of Law</i> <i>Vernon Lambert, Cultural Instructor, Spirit Lake Tribe</i></p> <p>This session will provide information relative to the incorporation and tradition and custom into child and family cases through the adoptive process and through various legal procedures. Panelists will discuss the role of custom and tradition in child and family court and will provide information relative to procedures that courts may employ to incorporate tradition and custom into such cases.</p>		
10:30 am – 10:45 am	Break	Aviary Foyer
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Using Tradition and Custom to Address Substance Abuse	Aviary Ballroom
<p><i>Panelists: Philmer Bluehouse, Traditional Peacemaker, Navajo Nation</i> <i>Barbara Norman, Peacemaker, Karuk Tribe</i></p> <p>This session will serve as an introduction to the Peacemaking process and traditional dispute resolution methodology. Attendees will learn core principles, ideas on ways to incorporate traditional dispute resolution methods into existing tribal court infrastructures and how peacemaking can address alcohol and substance abuse in tribal communities.</p>		
12:00 pm	Conference Adjourn	