



STATE OF NEW MEXICO INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT



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2019 State Tribal Leader Summit Accomplishments

After the 2019 State Tribal Leaders Summit (“STLS” or “Summit”), IAD worked with tribal liaisons to begin addressing commitments that were made at Summit. The areas that were addressed at Summit included: Education and Public Safety, Healthy Communities, and Water and Cultural Sites Protection. IAD and the tribal liaisons established working groups to begin addressing each commitment outlined in the 2019 STLS Report. Working group efforts were hampered by COVID-19. The following is a brief list of accomplishments:

Education & Public Safety: Departments involved in this working group included: Early Childhood Education and Care Department (“ECECD”), Public Education Department (“PED”), Higher Education Department (“HED”), Children, Youth and Families Department (“CYFD”), Department of Public Safety (“DPS”). The working group began addressing the following commitments made at the 2019 State Tribal Leaders Summit:

Public Education Department

- Developed the NM DASH Annual Plan and requiring schools to submit a 90-day plan at the start of the school year showing compliance with the Indian Education Act. All districts will be required to comply by the 2020-2021 school year.
- Consultation on House Bill 250 occurred on January 8, 2020.
- School district annual reports have been reviewed by PED and the recommendations will be included in the annual state-wide tribal education report submitted to all NM Tribes.
- The Indian Education Advisory Council (“IEAC”) and PED have held various work sessions and an open house for advisory councils. In addition, PED regularly communicates with IEAC members, tribal education directors, school districts and stakeholders.
- In progress – PED has conducted outreach for K-5 Plus and is engaging tribal leadership around curriculum and instructional materials and will do so more formally at the 2020 G2G meeting.

Higher Education Department

- Quarterly meetings between the Tribal College and University Presidents and the Office of the Secretary began in 2019 and will continue indefinitely.
- The Tribal Liaison and the Office of the Secretary conduct every-other-month meetings with all Tribal Higher Education Directors and the Tribal College and University Presidents to jointly share updates, provide feedback and identify critical issues.

- FY20 was the first year for tribal lottery scholarships; students attending Diné College, Navajo Technical University, and the Institute of American Indian Arts are now eligible to receive lottery scholarships.
- In progress – Meetings have been held between HED and tribal leaders to discuss the quality of different programs highly attended by Native Students (dual credit program, adult education program).

Early Child Education and Care Department

- In progress – ECECD is working to establish an internal working group of tribal liaisons who represent each division and bureau within the new Department. This working group will develop and implement strategic communications and consultation with our tribal partners and Honorable Governors & Presidents.

Department of Public Safety

- A meeting was held in June 2019 with Acoma, Laguna, Zuni, and Ramah police departments to discuss various law enforcement issues.

Healthy Communities: Departments involved in this working group included: Department of Health (“DOH”), Human Services Department (“HSD”), CYFD, and Behavioral Health Division of the New Mexico Human Services Department, Department of Finance and Administration (“DFA”), Aging and Long-term Services Department (“ALTSD”), Department of Workforce Solutions (“DWS”). The working group began addressing the following commitments made at the 2019 State Tribal Leaders Summit:

Children Youth and Families Department

- The Indian Child Welfare Act (“ICWA”) unit within CYFD was established and staff are going through training.
- Developed Kinship-Guardianship Practices and Procedures to increase placement with relatives to comply with ICWA preferred placements.
- Tribal IV-E Joint Powers Agreement (inter-governmental) allowed Tribes to access federal funding for monthly foster care maintenance payments and incidentals, adoption, and guardianship subsidies, and extended foster care on behalf of Title IV-E eligible children and youth.
- In progress – CYFD is working with Butterfly Healing Center and Kewa House to expand services and provide financial support to these local youth facilities that support youth who require a higher level of behavioral health care.

Department of Health

- Strengthened tribal agricultural systems through a collaboration between DOH’s Office of Tribal Liaison and Obesity, Nutrition, and Physical Activity Program (“ONAPA”), Women, Infant, Children (“WIC”), and Farmers Market and Senior Farmers Market programs to provide a fourth annual gathering of tribal farmers and ranchers at Santa Ana Pueblo, Tamaya Wellness Center, covering topics like farm to school procurement, farm to table, WIC, creating a better image of agricultural products, and extending the selling season by creating value-added products.

- Prevention activities were funded to address the prevalence of youth suicide disproportionately impacting Native American youth; additionally, thirty Natural Helpers Peer-to-Peer Programs were funded in the 2019-2020 school year.
- In progress – DOH is working to integrate tribal health planning into the State Health Improvement Plan and DOH’s strategic plan by developing a survey to get tribal leadership feedback about tribal health priorities.

Department of Workforce Solutions

- Provided information to tribes about the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and other federal funding opportunities.

Water and Cultural Sites Protection: Departments involved in working group: Department of Cultural Affairs (“DCA”), State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”), Department of Game and Fish (“DGF”), Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (“EMNRD”), Environment Department (“NMED”), Tourism Department, Agriculture Department (“NMDA”), and Office of State Engineer (“OSE”). The working group began addressing the following commitments made at the 2019 State Tribal Leaders Summit:

Office of State Engineer

- In progress- OSE is working to establish a water rights unit. During the 2021 legislative session the State Engineer, in conjunction with DFA approval, will request additional funding to properly staff a dedicated Indian water rights settlement team.

Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Division

- Consultations and collaborations occurred with tribes in fiscal year 2020 regarding mining permits, oil and gas drilling permits, methane regulation, energy efficiency, renewable energy development, state parks construction projects, and wildland fire training.
- EMNRD collaborations included technical assistance on forest and watershed health programs and renewable energy programs