OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE
AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

2021 TRIBAL YOUTH VIRTUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Strengthening Resilience, Promoting Healing, Restoring Culture

TRIBAL YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER
A Program of OJJDP

SHAPING BRIGHTER FUTURES WITH AMERICAN INDIAN, ALASKA NATIVE YOUTH AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

MARCH 29 - APRIL 2

Welcome to the 2021 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Tribal Youth Virtual National Conference. We are honored to welcome hundreds of participants, including tribal leaders and staff, elders and youth, and state, local, and federal attendees who are invested in improving the lives of tribal youth. This year's conference theme is *Shaping Brighter Futures with American Indian and Alaska Native Youth and Tribal Communities – Strengthening Resilience, Promoting Healing, Restoring Culture.*

OJJDP, the Tribal Youth Resource Center, the Resource Basket, and the National Native Children's Trauma Center have worked collaboratively to offer this conference. The event highlights innovative programs and practices that prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice system involvement among tribal youth. We look forward to sharing resources and insights that will strengthen our ability to create a resilient future for tribal youth and communities.

OJJDP supports tribal customs and traditions, and we respect their ability to solve tribal issues. During the conference, we feature community-based and culturally appropriate practices that promote youth resilience and wellness, recognize trauma and emphasize healing, and support restorative justice practices and detention alternatives.

The conference kicks off with a youth panel discussion that recognizes the vital role youth play in the development and implementation of programs for youth. We are also emphasizing innovation when implementing services in these challenging and uncertain times, including sessions that focus on using technology as a tool for engagement.

During OJJDP's first tribal consultation last year, we heard about the importance of building collaborative relationships between federal, tribal, state, and local partners. We know that tribal youth are impacted by the complexities of tribal civil and criminal jurisdiction and that many communities are working to create juvenile justice systems that respond to the unique needs of tribal youth. We will hear from some of those communities during a panel discussion on Tribal and State Relations to Support Juvenile Justice System Improvements.

We hope you enjoy the conference and that you will share archived sessions with others who can benefit from them. Please visit OJJDP's Tribal Youth Resource Center and the Resource Basket for comprehensive, individualized, and culturally relevant training and technical assistance. Please also subscribe to JUVJUST to receive the latest juvenile justice information from OJJDP and the field, including funding opportunities, new resources, and upcoming events.

Sincerely,

Chyrl Jones

Chyrl Jones
Acting Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Chyrl Jones
Acting Administrator, Office of the Administrator,
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

On January 20, 2021, Chyrl Jones was named Acting Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Since 2014, Ms. Jones served as Deputy Administrator for the Office. She oversaw OJJDP's programs and initiatives, including mentoring; tribal youth; gang prevention, Internet crimes against children; missing and exploited children; child advocacy centers, drug courts; reentry; formula grant programs. She also oversaw training and technical assistance, communications, and budgeting activities.

Ms. Jones previously served as the Deputy in OJJDP's former State Relations and Assistance Division and worked on behalf of designated state agencies for 15 years. Before coming to the U.S. Department of Justice, Ms. Jones worked at the National Governors Association on maternal and child health issues, the University of Maryland on environmental health concerns, and C-SPAN. Ms. Jones holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Cultural Anthropology from the University of the District of Columbia.

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AGENDA-AT-A-GLANCE

Shaping Brighter Futures with American Indian, Alaska Native Youth, and Tribal Communities

Strengthening Resilience, Promoting Healing, Restoring Culture

Eastern Time Zone	
Monday, March 29, 2021	
12:30pm	Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center Opening Blessing Welcome Remarks from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
12:45pm	**Session A1** – Panel: Youth Voice
2:00pm	*Break*
2:15pm	**Session A2** – Building an Indigenous Resilience-Focused Lens Pt. 1
3:45pm	*Break*
4:00pm	**Session A3** – Restorative Approaches and Cultural Integration in the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court
5:15pm	Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap Closing
Tuesday, March 30, 2021	
12:30pm	Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center Opening Blessing Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Law and Policy Institute
12:45pm	**Session B1** – Digital Smoke Signals: Using Technology as a Tool for Engagement
2:00pm	*Break*
2:15pm	**Session B2** – Building an Indigenous Resilience-Focused Lens Pt. 2
3:45pm	*Break*
4:15pm	**Session B3** – Profile in Youth Resiliency
5:00pm	Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap Closing
Wednesday, March 31, 2021	
12:30pm	Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center Opening Blessing Welcome Remarks from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
12:45pm	**Session C1** – Panel: Tribal State Relations to Support Juvenile Justice Improvements
2:00pm	*Break*
2:15pm	**Session C2** – Building the Capacity of Tribal Youth Programs and Communities to Prevent and Reduce Juvenile Delinquency with Two Spirit and LGBTQ Youth
3:30pm	*Break*
4:00pm	**Session C3** – Innovative Strategies – Tribal Youth Courts and Peer-Led Processes
5:15pm	United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) Staff and Peer Guides Presentation
5:30pm	Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap Closing

Thursday, April 1, 2021	
12:30pm	Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center Opening Blessing Welcome Remarks from the Resource Basket, Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP)
12:45pm	**Session D1** – Telling Our Story Through Evaluation
2:00pm	*Break*
2:15pm	**Session D2** – Probation and Supervision in the Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court
2:15pm	**Session D3** – QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Intervention (Limit 35/Preregistration Required)
3:30pm	*Break*
4:00pm	**Session D4** – A Continuum of Connectedness: Strategies and Considerations for Implementing Youth Substance Use Reduction Initiatives
5:20pm	Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap
5:30pm	*Break*
5:45pm	**Four Talking Circles (Concurrent):** Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court Grantee Talking Circle Tribal Youth Program Grantee Talking Circle Alaska Native Grantee Talking Circle Talking Circle for Native Youth
Friday, April 2, 2021	
12:30pm	Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center Opening Blessing Welcome Remarks from Squaxin Island Tribal Youth Program
12:45pm	**Session E1** – Creativity & Innovation in the Face of COVID-19: Maskiizibii Oshki Gabeshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference
2:00pm	*Break*
2:15pm	**Session E2** – QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Intervention (Limit 35/Preregistration Required)
2:15pm	**Session E3** – A Deeper Dive into Restorative Approaches and Cultural Integration in the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court: Peer-to-Peer Sharing
3:30pm	*Break*
4:00pm	**Session E4** – Enhancing Tribal Juvenile Justice with Trauma-Informed Systems Change Trauma Center Expert Panel
5:15pm	Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap Closing

2021 OJJDP Tribal Youth Virtual National Conference

Shaping Brighter Futures with American Indian, Alaska Native Youth, and Tribal Communities

Strengthening Resilience, Promoting Healing, Restoring Culture

Agenda

All times listed in Eastern Time Zone

Monday, March 29, 2021

12:30pm – 12:45pm **Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center**
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Sydney Matheson, Youth MC

Opening Blessing
Rose-Margaret Orrantia, Yaqui Tribe

Welcome Remarks from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Chyrl Jones, OJJDP Acting Administrator

12:45pm – 2:00pm **Panel: Youth Voice**
Session A1

- *Facilitator: Tasha Fridia,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Youth Panelists: Rory Wheeler, Devin Hernandez, Kennedy Fridia, Daryle Conquering Bear Crow, and Rebekah Sawers*

Workshop Description: Tribal youth panelists will share their thoughts, experiences, and perspectives on issues their generation is currently facing. This dynamic group of young people will discuss their priorities in creating wellness for their communities and recommend solutions for the most pressing concerns and challenges related to safety, empowering youth, and juvenile justice.

2:00pm – 2:15pm **Break**

Conference Agenda – Eastern Time *Monday, March 29, 2021*

2:15pm – 3:45pm
Session A2

Building an Indigenous Resilience-Focused Lens Pt. 1

- *Laura Guay,* National Native Children's Trauma Center
- *Ashley Trautman,* National Native Children's Trauma Center

Workshop Description: It is important to understand the risk factors for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth at risk or involved in the juvenile justice system in order to support safety and empower youth who may suffer from Childhood Traumatic Stress (CTS). CTS is the result of unaddressed exposure to trauma and contributes to increasing the negative impacts of risk factors. This session will provide critical information about the impact of CTS on the risk factors that can lead to juvenile delinquency and negative involvement in the juvenile justice system and will build a foundation for participants to understand and utilize best practices and Indigenous knowledge to be able to address the impacts of CTS. Understanding risk factors will develop the skills needed to promote protective factors that support AI/AN youth empowerment and enhance family and community safety.

3:45pm – 4:00pm

Break

4:00pm – 5:15pm
Session A3

Restorative Approaches and Cultural Integration in the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court

- *Amy Modig,* Resource Basket, RurAL CAP
- *Doug Modig,* Tsimshian Elder
- *Joie Millet,* Resource Basket, RurAL CAP
- *Anna Clough,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute *(session moderator)*

Workshop Description: Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts have an opportunity to empower youth and promote accountability and restorative justice by implementing a range of approaches to support youth engagement and activities that promote healing, understanding, and support. The Restorative Circle Approach has been implemented within wellness court frameworks to support trust-building, open dialogue, and peer engagement.

5:15pm – 5:30pm

Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Sydney Matheson, Youth MC

Closing
Ohiyesa Win Ramirez, Oglala Sioux

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

12:30pm – 12:45pm

Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Sam Schimmel, Youth MC

Opening Blessing
Connie McCloud, Puyallup Tribe

Welcome Remarks from Tribal Law and Policy Institute
Jerry Gardner, Executive Director, Tribal Law and Policy Institute
Heather Valdez Freedman, Deputy Director, Tribal Law and Policy Institute

12:45pm – 2:00pm
Session B1

Digital Smoke Signals: Using Technology as a Tool for Engagement

- *Tasha Fridia,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Angey Rideout,* Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- *Nicole Hewitt,* Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Workshop Description: Connection with youth is integral to enhancing both safety and accountability for individual youth and communities as a whole. There is a growing need for digital engagement to enhance Tribal Youth Program and Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court efforts, especially in times that require social distancing. This session will focus on engaging with youth through a variety of digital channels to ensure that tribal youth programs have the capacity to provide avenues for innovative programming. The session will include grantee community examples that exhibit ways in which digital engagement broadens access to services. A variety of digital platforms and strategies for virtual interactions that allow for prevention and intervention to transcend challenges of space and time will be explored.

2:00pm – 2:15pm **Break**

Conference Agenda – Eastern Time *Tuesday March 30, 2021*

2:15pm – 3:45pm
Session B2

Building an Indigenous Resilience-Focused Lens Pt. 2

- *Marilyn Zimmerman,* National Native Children's Trauma Center
- *Debra Klemann,* National Native Children's Trauma Center

Workshop Description: Protective factors can greatly decrease the potential harmful impacts of risk factors for AI/AN youth. This session will provide an understanding of protective factors and promote best practices among participants who will construct programming that can reduce the impact of risk factors. The focus on protective factors will build resilience through cultural connection and tribal identity to promote and support the safety of AI/AN youth, families, and communities and encourage AI/AN youth to live productive lives that contribute to their community's well-being.

3:45pm – 4:15pm

Break

4:15pm – 5:00pm
Session B3

Profile in Youth Resiliency

- *Jamie Crowe,* Pueblo of Tesuque
- *Tasha Fridia,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute

Workshop Description: This session presents a digital storytelling event highlighting Pueblo of Tesuque youth, Jamie Crowe. In this session participants will learn about one youth's desire to stay on a positive path and overcome the vast impacts of the year 2020. Ms. Crowe shares her story and the desire to continue positive relationships, increase her education, and continue to adaptively engage within the local community and surroundings. Ms. Crowe's story demonstrates youth resiliency to overcome challenging circumstances through personal accountability, individual goal setting, and family support.

5:00pm – 5:15pm

Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Sam Schimmel, Youth MC

Closing
Charlie Danae McAdams, Wichita, Plains Apache, Kiowa

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

12:30pm – 12:45pm

Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Akiane Bates, Youth MC

Opening Blessing
Richard Two Dogs, Oglala Lakota

Welcome Remarks from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Kellie Blue, Associate Administrator, Intervention Division, OJJDP
Kara McDonagh, Grants Management Specialist, OJJDP

12:45pm – 2:00pm
Session C1

Panel: Tribal State Relations to Support Juvenile Justice Improvements
Moderators: Anna Clough and Jacob Metoxen, Tribal Law and Policy Institute

- *Alisha Edelen and Amber Loftis,* Choctaw Nation Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court Team
- *Kheri Smith,* Office of Juvenile Affairs, State of Oklahoma
- *Janelle Bretten,* Office of Juvenile Affairs, State of Oklahoma
- *Debra Gee,* Chickasaw Nation
- *Tasha Fridia,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Bridget Coppersmith,* South Dakota State Department of Corrections

Workshop Description: The dialogue will focus on establishing and strengthening Tribal and State partnerships, discuss the cultivation of collaborative relationships between Tribal and State juvenile justice stakeholders and provide insight into the experiences of several community members and their work toward solution-focused responses to support Tribal youth. The session will highlight some practical steps taken by Tribal community juvenile justice and prevention stakeholders to establish and engage in a Tribal task force to support the identification of processes and protocols to coordinate with local State juvenile justice leaders. These efforts have led to improved communication regarding Tribal youth resources and diversion opportunities, the shared review of local Tribal juvenile justice data, and development of strategies to support coordinated referral processes for Tribal youth who make contact with the State juvenile justice system.

2:00pm – 2:15pm **Break**

Conference Agenda – Eastern Time *Wednesday, March 31, 2021*

2:15pm – 3:30pm
Session C2

Building the Capacity of Tribal Youth Programs and Communities to Prevent and Reduce Juvenile Delinquency with Two Spirit and LGBTQ Youth

- *Lenny Hayes,* Tate Topa Consulting, LLC
- *Daryle Conquering Bear Crow*, Foster Youth Specialist, Native American Youth and Family Center
- *Elicia Goodsoldier,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute

Workshop Description: This session will focus on building the capacity of Tribal Youth serving programs to meet the needs of youth with increased risk factors for juvenile justice system involvement. Research has shown that LGBTQ and Two Spirit youth have a higher likelihood of experiencing bullying, family rejection, homelessness, illicit drug use, and arrest for status offenses. By understanding historical and contemporary factors that influence risk and resiliency factors, programs can increase awareness of the complexities of juvenile justice involvement among LGBTQ and Two Spirit youth to reclaim, reinvent, and redefine their place as valued and contributing Tribal citizens.

3:30pm – 4:00pm **Break**

4:00pm – 5:15pm
Session C3

Innovative Strategies- Tribal Youth Courts and Peer-Led Processes

- *Anna Clough,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Angela Noah,* United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. (UNITY) Peer Guides
- *Elise Hocking,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute

Workshop Description: Youth/Peer courts provide strategies for diversion, peer engagement, and youth led-processes. Learn how Tribal youth and peer courts offer a unique opportunity for communities to support youth accountability and develop proactive and prosocial solutions by engaging youth who have minor or first-time infractions.

5:15pm – 5:30pm **United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) Staff and Peer Guides Presentation**
LorenAshley Buford, Program Manager, UNITY
Savanna Rilatos, Peer Guide, UNITY
Sonwai Wakayuta, Peer Guide, UNITY

5:30pm – 5:45pm **Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap**
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Akiane Bates, Youth MC

Closing
Cayatano Zephier, Diné, Ihanktonwan

Thursday, April 1, 2021

12:30pm – 12:45pm **Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center**
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Kennedy Fridia, Youth MC

Opening Blessing
Maurice John, Seneca Nation

Welcome Remarks from the Resource Basket, Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP)
Joie Millet, Community Development Program Director, RurAL CAP
Eva Gregg, Community Technical Assistance Coordinator, RurAL CAP

12:45pm – 2:00pm **Telling Our Story Through Evaluation**
Session D1

- *Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Marneena Evans,* Westat

Workshop Description: Participants will be provided with an example of an evaluation process from data collection through data analysis and an example of how to present the evaluation findings to the community.

2:00pm – 2:15pm **Break**

2:15pm – 3:30pm ***Sessions D2 and D3 are held concurrently from 2:15pm – 3:30pm ET. Please note that session D3 is limited to 35 participants and requires pre-registration.***

Session D2 **Probation and Supervision in the Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court**

- *Kristina Pacheco,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Anna Clough,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Dave McArthur,* White Earth Nation Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court

Workshop Description: The Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court emphasizes ongoing support, supervision, and accountability. This session will provide an overview of the methods by which supervision may occur and will provide participants with an overview of data collection and management processes that can support effective team communication.

Session D3 **QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Intervention**

- *Nona Main,* National Native Children's Trauma Center

Workshop Description: This presentation provides a foundational training in the Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) method to support service providers in the field to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

3:30pm – 4:00pm **Break**

4:00pm – 5:20pm *Session D4*

A Continuum of Connectedness: Strategies and Considerations for Implementing Youth Substance Use Reduction Initiatives

- *Kristina Pacheco,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Gerry RainingBird,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Leon Leader Charge,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Anna Clough,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute

Workshop Description: This session will focus on current substance abuse trends in Indian Country, efforts to address substance use among Tribal youth, and the examination of strength-based processes to support Tribal youth substance use/reduction in Tribal prevention and youth wellness programs. Speakers will share community-driven processes for initiatives that lead to youth connectedness and resiliency.

5:20pm – 5:30pm **Tribal Youth Resource Center Daily Recap**
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Kennedy Fridia, Youth MC

5:30pm – 5:45pm **Break**

5:45pm – 6:30pm **Four Talking Circles will be held concurrently: Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court Grantees, Tribal Youth Program Grantees, an Alaska Native Grantee Talking Circle, and a Talking Circle for Native Youth.**

- ***Tribal Youth Program Grantee Circle Keeper:*** *Gerry RainingBird,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- ***Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court Grantee Circle Keeper:*** *Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- ***Alaska Native Grantee Circle Keeper:*** *Eva Gregg,* Resource Basket, RurAL CAP
- ***Native Youth Circle Keeper:*** *Tasha Fridia,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute

Description: The Talking Circles will provide a place and space for participants to dialogue about critical takeaways from the previous conference sessions and identify additional trainings and resources to support their continued work within their programs and communities.

Friday, April 2, 2021

12:30pm – 12:45pm

Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Youth Resource Center
Jeri Brunoe, MC
Kaitlin Martinez, Youth MC

Opening Blessing
Joel Wolfe, Mvskoke (Creek)

Welcome Remarks from Squaxin Island Tribal Youth Program
Jaimie Cruz, Squaxin Island Tribal Youth Program

12:45pm – 2:00pm
Session E1

Creativity & Innovation in the Face of COVID-19: Maskiizibii Oshki Gabeshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference

- *Lynn Bigboy,* Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians Tribal Youth Program
- *Jeri Brunoe,* Jeri Brunoe Training and Consulting, Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- *Daryl Jay,* Jeri Brunoe Training and Consulting

Workshop Description: This session will present the journey undertaken in 2020 to develop, plan, and implement a virtual peer to peer mentoring and experiential youth leadership conference that encompassed poetry, photography, music and art for middle and high school students during a pandemic. The session will also explore peer to peer mentoring and cultural arts approaches that promote healing, resilience, and prevent or reduce delinquent behavior.

2:00pm – 2:15pm

Break

2:15pm – 3:30pm

Sessions E2 and E3 are held concurrently from 2:15pm – 3:30pm ET. Please note that session E2 is limited to 35 participants and requires pre-registration.

Session E2

QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Intervention

- *Nona Main,* National Native Children's Trauma Center

Workshop Description: This presentation provides a foundational training in the Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) method to support service providers in the field to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

Session E3

A Deeper Dive into Restorative Approaches and Cultural Integration in the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court: Peer-to-Peer Sharing

- *Amy Modig,* Resource Basket, RurAL CAP
- *Doug Modig,* Tsimshian Elder
- *Joie Millet,* Resource Basket, RurAL CAP
- *Anna Clough,* Tribal Law and Policy Institute *(session moderator)*

Workshop Description: For those who would like to dive deeper into discussion around Restorative Approaches and Cultural Integration in the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court, this session will build upon the principles and ideas shared in Monday's session and will open the floor for more extensive peer-to-peer discussion of restorative approaches to support youth within juvenile justice settings and prevention program frameworks. This session aims to allow grantees and others to continue to learn from each other about what is working in their communities to support trust-building, open dialogue, and peer engagement.

3:30pm – 4:00pm **Break**

4:00pm – 5:15pm
Session E4

Enhancing Tribal Juvenile Justice with Trauma-Informed Systems Change Trauma Center Expert Panel

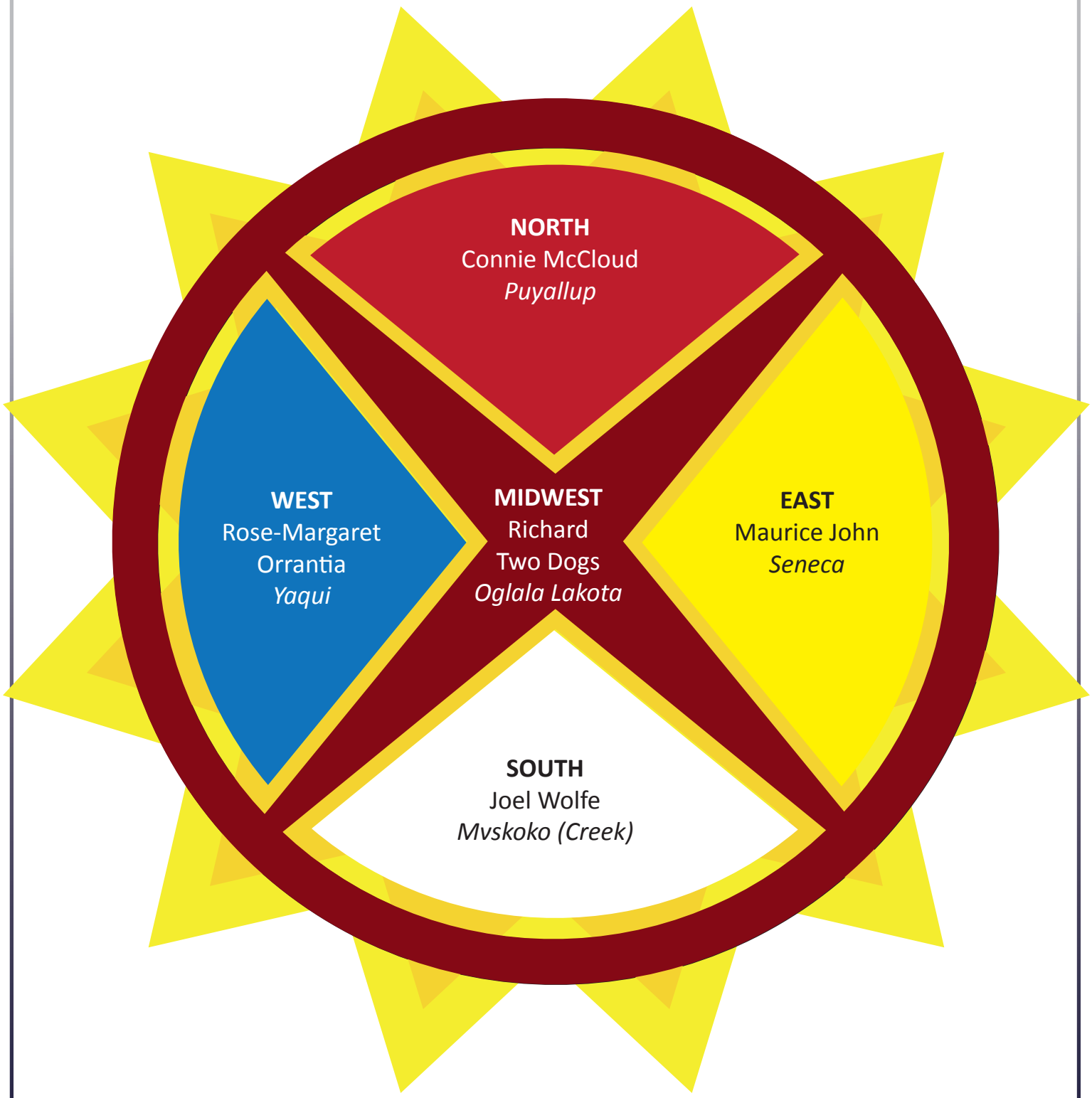
- *Veronica Willeto DeCrane*, National Native Children's Trauma Center
- *Maegan Rides At The Door,* National Native Children's Trauma Center
- *Lisa Stark,* National Native Children's Trauma Center
- *Laura Guay,* National Native Children's Trauma Center
- *Marilyn Zimmerman,* National Native Children's Trauma Center
- *Nona Main,* National Native Children's Trauma Center

Workshop Description: Research suggests that Native American youth are at increased risk of trauma, depression, and PTSD as a result of grief and exposure to violence which can lead to relationship problems, drug and alcohol abuse, violent behavior, suicide and depression, problems in school, and bullying and victimization. National Native Children's Trauma Center provides training in evidence-based and promising practices as well as technical assistance in trauma-informed systems change across all tribal child-serving systems, including schools, behavioral health providers, child welfare agencies, and juvenile justice systems. The National Native Children's Trauma Center also assists in the cultural adaptation of evidence-based and promising practices and develop products and practices intended for use in Native communities. This panel provides an opportunity for attendees to hear more about their work and to ask questions that may have been generated throughout the conference.

RECOGNIZING OUR RELATIVES

With much gratitude we acknowledge the contributions of Youth and Elders to the 2021 OJJDP Tribal Youth Virtual National Conference

Thank you for your presence.


NORTH
Connie McCloud
Puyallup
WEST
Rose-Margaret
Orrantia
Yaqui
MIDWEST
Richard
Two Dogs
Oglala Lakota
EAST
Maurice John
Seneca
SOUTH
Joel Wolfe
Mvskoko (Creek)

ELDER AND YOUTH CONTRIBUTORS

Rose-Margaret Orrantia
Yaqui Tribe

Connie McCloud
Puyallup Tribe

Joel Wolfe
Mvskoke (Creek) Tribe

Richard Two Dogs
Oglala Lakota

Maurice John
Seneca Nation

ELDER AND YOUTH CONTRIBUTORS

Akiane Bates
Absentee Shawnee, Seminole,
Lower Brule Sioux

Rory Wheeler
Seneca

Kaitlin Martinez
Akimel O'odham & Diné

Jamie Crowe
Pueblo of Tesuque

Isabella Nycole Fridia
Wichita (Waco Band), Kiowa,
Caddo

Wyatt Nelis
Bad River Band of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians

ELDER AND YOUTH CONTRIBUTORS

Kennedy Grace Fridia
Wichita, Kiowa, Caddo

Devin Hernandez
Oglala Sioux

Rebekah Sawers
Yupik

Ohiyesa Win Ramirez
Oglala Sioux

Charlie Danae McAdams
Wichita, Plains Apache, Kiowa

Daryle Conquering Bear Crow
Oglala Lakota

ELDER AND YOUTH CONTRIBUTORS

Sonwai Wakayuta
Hualapai/Hopi

Angela Noah
White Mountain Apache
Oklahoma Choctaw

Savanna Rilatos
Confederated Tribes of Siletz

Sydney Matheson
Colville

Cayatano Zephier
Diné, Ihanktonwan

Elders' Biographies

Rose-Margaret Orrantia (*Yaqui Tribe)*
Opening Blessing Date: Monday, March 29, 2021

Ms. Rose-Margaret Orrantia is from the Yaqui Tribe and Tribal STAR Team Elder, she completed her Bachelor and Master degrees at San Diego State University. She served in the Peace Corps in Peru from 1962-64. She worked at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M. for 18 years. Returning to San Diego, she served as the Executive Director of Indian Child and Family Services (ICFS), a State Licensed Foster Family and Adoption Agency serving the Tribal community in San Diego and Riverside Counties. Leaving ICFS she served as a consultant and grant writer to Indian Tribes and non-profit agencies for eight years and as the Director of Foster Family and Adoption Agencies in the non-Indian world. From 2004 to 2015 she served as part of the team that founded Tribal STAR and as Program Director until her retirement. Currently she is self-employed. She serves on the Tribal STAR advisory council and serves as an Advisory Board member for the Capacity Building Center for Tribes (CBC4T's).

Connie McCloud (*Puyallup Tribe*)
Opening Blessing Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021

Connie McCloud is a member of the Puyallup Tribe; her family also has ties to Nisqually and her mother was Chehalis. Connie is currently the Culture Director for the Puyallup Tribe. A long time ago…her first job was with the Puyallup Tribe and when the Tribe was completing a demographic survey; she moved forward as a Community Health Representative, training as a Women's Health provider and then in 1982-1986 she was elected to the Puyallup Tribal Council. During this time, her tribe began the work towards the Puyallup Tribal Land Claims Settlement. Which was a multi-governmental agreement between the Puyallup Tribe, the Federal Government, the City of Tacoma, Fife, Puyallup, and Pierce County. Also, included were local business and landowners who lived within disputed land claim areas.

Connie has brought to her community the cedar canoes. The community has traveled with the Annual Canoe Journeys since 1998, Full Circle Journey from 1994 to 1996. In 2018 the Puyallup Tribe and Puyallup Canoe Family hosted the "Power Paddle to Puyallup, Honoring Our Medicine." Hosting more than 100 canoes and Potlatching for nine days. The Annual Canoe Journeys are significant cultural, spiritual, and traditional teachings. The Puyallup Canoe Family is Drug and Alcohol Free, Tobacco Free and Violence Free. The Journeys are a significant D/A Prevention activity for our youth and families.

Today the Culture Department has moved through the last year to provide Traditional Medicine Care packages to the Elders and Community. The Culture Department has been able to gather, process and distribute Traditional Medicines to the community. The Department learned how to use zoom and teach drum making, moccasin making and cedar and wool woven head band, and cedar Christmas ornaments to more than 1,000 youth and adults. Which entailed a lot of prep time, they looked like Santa's workshop some days.

The Culture Department also assists the community with access to Native Traditional Healers for those who request their services. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions the annual Canoe Journey has been cancelled. Connie looks forward to traveling in her home waters this summer. They will continue to gather traditional foods such as camas, and will hold the Huckleberry Camp this August.

Today Connie is preparing for the annual "Spring Break Gathering of Native American's" April 5-7, 2021, "You Are the Story!" The focus will be middle school age students.

Richard Two Dogs (*Oglala Lakota*)
Opening Blessing Date: Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Hmuya Mani (Walks with a Roaring), is Oglala Lakota and the son of the late Hehaka P'a (Elk Head), Asa Two Dogs Sr. and As'ke Luta Win (Red Wrapped Braids Woman), Edna Lone Hill Two Dogs. His bloodline includes American Horse, Medicine Horse, Lone Hill, and Rock. Hmuya Mani has been working in the Lakota traditional healing field for about forty-seven years and has worked with numerous organizations, programs, schools, and communities in the area of cultural strengthening. He is a past Adjunct Instructor with the Oglala Lakota College and has worked as a Lakota Cultural Specialist assisting children, youth and families who have experienced or have been exposed to trauma. He is currently a Lakota Language and Culture Instructor for the Anpo Wicahpi (Morning Star) School/Pine Ridge School for Girls in Porcupine, SD.

Maurice John (*Seneca Nation*)
Opening Blessing Date: Thursday, April 1, 2021

An Elder of the Seneca Nation, he was born and raised on the Allegany Territory. He is a member of the Bear clan. He survived the removal process of the 1964 Kinzua Dam along the Allegany River, which eroded the survival and traditional ways of the Seneca. He attended Niagara University and was drafted by the US Army and honorably served in the US Air Force during the Vietnam conflict. Mr. John served the Seneca People as Tribal President, Treasurer, Councilor and Judge in the Peacemaker Court of Appeals. He helped to create economic opportunity with private sector retail opportunities in petroleum and tobacco. He helped to fight Federal and New York state taxation on Sovereign jurisdictional grounds and was involved in many court cases. He also assisted with the fight against the pollution of local sacred water ways from fracking. Mr. John is married to Karen Cuny John, Oglala Lakota from the Pine Ridge territory for forty one great years. They have two sons – Maurice Jr. and Baptiste. Now, enduring socially distancing and trying to encourage the survival of our people. He is trying to teach his grandson what he can remember of Native cultures. Nyaweh (thank you).

Joel Wolfe (*Mvskoke [Creek] Tribe*)
Opening Blessing Date: Friday, April 2, 2021

Mr. Wolfe is from the Mvskoke (Creek) Tribe and is from Anadarko OK. He is a licensed practical nurse working with the Indian Health Service. He is a father of three and grandfather of fourteen. Mr. Wolfe also has sacrificed on behalf of the people for many years in the sacred Sundance ceremony.

STAFF AND PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Biographies

Kellie J. Blue, Associate Administrator, Intervention Division, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Kellie J. Blue currently serves as the Associate Administrator for the Intervention Division for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. In this capacity she provides program oversight and management for OJJDP's Juvenile Reentry initiatives; Juvenile and Family Drug Treatment Court Programs; Children of Incarcerated Parents programs; Opioid Affected Youth programs; and other juvenile justice system reform initiatives. Previously, Ms. Blue served as the Safe Schools Program Coordinator. In that capacity she provided overall coordination for the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, a collaborative effort of the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Justice providing funding to over 200 schools and communities across the nation to promote healthy childhood development and prevent violence. Ms. Blue served as Deputy Director at the Justice Research and Statistics Association where she managed and administered various evaluation and research projects funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Justice. She has a Master of Science degree in Administration of Criminal Justice from the American University.

Leanetta Jessie, Program Manager/Grant Management Specialist, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Leanetta Jessie is a Program Manager with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and manages a wide variety of complex grants and/or cooperative agreements; her portfolio of work includes Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts; Community Supervision reform efforts; and Tribal Youth Programs. Ms. Jessie's career in Juvenile Justice has a span of over 20 years in three different states. It was her first caseworker position with the Methodist Children's group home in Louisiana that plunged her into a passion that would direct her career path. Soon after graduation, Ms. Jessie began working for King County Superior Court in Seattle, Washington as a Juvenile Superior Court Bailiff, Juvenile Corrections Officer, Juvenile Probation Officer, and JDAI/DMC Coordinator. Leanetta's exposure on Juvenile Justice Reform in Seattle, Washington began her journey on a policy level that has guided her in Baltimore and now with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Leanetta is a graduate of Grambling State University where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice.

Kara McDonagh, Grants Management Specialist, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Kara McDonagh currently serves in the Intervention Division at the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). She works with the Tribal Youth Resource Center and with the Healing Indigenous Lives Initiative, a youth leadership development initiative. She also works closely with a portfolio of Tribal Youth Program grants that are awarded to support tribal nations in their efforts to develop innovative and culturally relevant prevention, intervention, and treatment programs for their youth. Her background is in the creation and implementation of youth development, community arts and cultural programs for youth, families, and communities. She holds an MSW with a specialization in community organizing and a concentration in social and community development.

Heather McDonald, Grants Management Specialist, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Heather McDonald, who will soon celebrate 17 years of federal service, works as a grants management specialist in OJJDP's Intervention Division. Her portfolio includes grantees of the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation Purpose Area 8, which supports tribal juvenile healing to wellness courts. She also manages the Office's Delinquency Prevention program. Previously, Ms. McDonald worked for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) as a program officer with AmeriCorps State and National. She managed a portfolio of grants supporting AmeriCorps members throughout the United States and served as one of the department's Healthy Futures subject matter experts. Prior to her employment at CNCS, Ms. McDonald served as a country desk assistant in the Africa region of the Peace Corps, an English teacher in Japan, and a parliamentary assistant in the House of Commons (United Kingdom). Ms. McDonald holds a bachelor's degree in international studies (Western Europe) from Central College in Pella, IA.

Geroma Void, Grants Management Specialist, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)**.** Geroma Void has been with the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs (OJP) for over 20 years serving in various offices and capacities. She's currently a Senior Program Manager in the Intervention Division of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention where her portfolio includes the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts, Tribal Youth Programs, and the Family Drug Court Program. Prior to joining the Intervention Division, Geroma provided oversight for the Community Based Youth Violence Prevention Program including leading the National Forum and Technical Assistance efforts for the former National Weed and Seed Initiative. She completed a detail exchange with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Office of Violence Prevention in 2015 with the intent of infusing the Public Health approach in Youth Violence Prevention programs and strategies. Geroma Void holds a master's degree in Criminal Justice Administration and completed numerous trainings and certificate programs.

Tribal Youth Resource Center (TYRC) – Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI) Biographies

Stephanie Autumn (*Hopi/Irish*), Director, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Tribal Youth Program Lead Stephanie Autumn brings extensive experience in developing, implementing, and evaluating programs in Indian country. Ms. Autumn has 38 years of local, national, and international American Indian advocacy and policy work experience, and has presented at various Human Rights forums at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland and in New York. She has worked throughout the country on issues of American Indian adult and juvenile justice, substance abuse prevention, restorative practices, and tribal youth mentoring programs. Ms. Autumn served as the Executive Directive of the Minnesota Restorative Justice Campaign for five years and is a skilled Restorative Practitioner facilitator, trainer, and Circle Keeper. Ms. Autumn's expertise includes developing culturally competent strategic planning tools and trainings for American Indian/Alaska Native tribes. She has directed national projects on American Indian juvenile domestic assault, restorative practices, pre-and post-release services for incarcerated Native youth and adults, tribal mentoring, and truancy. She served as project director for three DOJ-funded programs for tribal youth that provided training and technical assistance to over 135 tribal grantees. Ms. Autumn has provided expertise/testimony for the Minnesota and South Dakota Departments of Corrections with regards to traumatic brain injury and trauma informed care needs/issues with incarcerated American Indian youth and adults. For the past fifteen years, Ms. Autumn has provided expertise to the Minnesota Department of Education on disproportionality issues that impact American Indian youth and communities. Ms. Autumn is the founder of the American Indian Prison Project Working Group.

Jeri Brunoe (*Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs*), Founder/Owner, Jeri Brunoe Training and Consulting. Jeri Bruno is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon. She has worked in Indian country for over 30 plus years and is the founder and owner of Jeri Brunoe Training & Consulting (JBTC). Jeri's experience has included being a Leadership Trainer, College faculty member, Prevention Coordinator/Trainer and GONA Facilitator. Jeri is a certified "Core Team & Crisis Intervention/Prevention Specialist" and is a graduate of the Bill McGrane Self-Esteem Institute in Advance Psycholinguistics/Neurolinguistics and an Oregon State University alum. She was raised with her traditional native values and continues to practice her cultural "Way of Life." She currently serves as a board member on the National Indian Youth Leadership Project, an international adventure training program. Ms. Brunoe is a nationally known and highly respected motivational speaker, youth leadership expert, an educator as well as a gifted writer, and an actor. She has appeared in films, television, commercials and performed in the theater.

Leon Leader Charge (*Rosebud Sioux and Oglala Sioux*), Training and Technical Assistance Specialist, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Leon Leader Charge, is an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud S.D. and a part of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Pine Ridge, South Dakota. Leon holds a Bachelor of Science in Addiction Counseling and Prevention from the University of South Dakota, with an emphasis on treatment and prevention continuum and a Master of Arts Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Educational Administration & Leadership, and Addiction Counseling and Prevention from the University of South Dakota Graduate school. Leon has experience in psychological first aid, co-occurring mental health disorders, 12 core functions of a substance abuse counselor, evidence based best practice theories and public health models, facilitation/consultation, national policy formation, and advocacy at the state and national level. Leon recently completed a research project funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) in his tribal community that focused on the intersection of Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) and Native American culture. He has successfully completed an internship at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center of Substance Abuse Treatment (2013) and an internship at the SAMHSA Center of Mental Health Services (2015), and was a co-facilitator, planning committee, and special events committee member for 2014 SAMHSA, National Native Youth Conference. Leon has gained tribal technical assistance experience on a national level. Leon has an interest in helping tribal communities, expanding culturally appropriate evidence based best practices, expanding tribal research, Lakota and all Native American culture and history, tribal law and treaty, formation of federal/tribal policy, suicide prevention, healing from trauma, and the betterment of all tribal nations and communities. Recently Leon successfully completed a graduate policy internship at South Dakota U.S. Senator Mike Rounds office and recently worked as an Access Advisor for South Dakota Jump Start, a program that focuses on Native American college recruitment and retention at South Dakota's public post-secondary regental institutions. Currently Leon works as a Tribal Technical Assistance Coordinator for SAMHSA Tribal Tech, and the Tribal Youth Resource Center. He provides culturally appropriate prevention for tribal communities on a national level. Leon served as the chairman of the board for the Rosebud Scholarship Fund, South Dakota Urban Indian Health Board of Directors, and the South Dakota State University President Wokini Advisory Council. Leon is the recipient of University of South Dakota: Tiospaye Student Council 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award, 2016 National Indian Health Board's Area Impact Award for exceptional service in American Indian and Alaska Native health, and the Mary L. Reiner Memorial Award: Rising Star in Public Health and Research 2014.

Anna Clough (*Muscogee, Yuchi*)**,** JD, Director, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court Lead. Anna Clough is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Yuchi Tribes. She graduated from The University of Oklahoma with a BA in Sociology and double minor in Native American Studies and Criminology. In 2008, she graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law with a Juris Doctorate and a certificate in Native American law from the Center for the Study of American Indian Law and Policy. She is an admitted and practicing member of the Oklahoma Bar Association and has been admitted to practice in numerous Oklahoma Tribal courts. She has spent her legal career working with Tribal youth and families in both State and Tribal Courts throughout Oklahoma. Mrs. Clough has served as a Tribal prosecutor handling both adult and juvenile matters, represented adults and youth in criminal, dependency, and delinquency matters, and has served as a legal services provider for a Tribal domestic violence program. Mrs. Clough currently serves as a training and technical assistance provider on behalf of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and has supported the development and implementation of numerous national training efforts for Tribal youth prevention, intervention, and diversion programs. She currently serves as a lead trainer for the Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts initiatives. Most recently she authored the *Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Handbook,* a primer planning guide supportive of Tribal community development of wellness courts for Tribal youth and served as primary author of *Truancy Prevention to Support Tribal Youth* (forthcoming) a practical guide for implementing community-based truancy prevention programs. Anna is a wife and mother to five children and resides in Oklahoma.

Heather Valdez Freedman, Deputy Director, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Heather Valdez Freedman provides oversight for programmatic operations, as well as oversees TLPI's tribal-state collaboration work. Heather has been with TLPI since 2006 and has 20 years of experience working on policy issues in Indian country, with a focus on tribal criminal justice systems. She received her master's degree in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, where her focus was criminal justice policy in Indian country. She also holds a master's degree in American Indian studies from UCLA. She has researched and written in the areas of tribal legal and community development and California tribal history. Her experience includes serving as project director for several research-related projects in Indian country, including the UCLA Native Nations Law and Policy Center's nationwide assessment of Public Law 280, tribal liaison for tribal court grantees in California, and consultant for the Gabrieleno/Tongva tribal recognition project. She is an instructor for the UCLA Tribal Learning Community and Educational Exchange and the series co-editor of the Tribal Legal Studies textbook series.

Marlon Footracer (*Diné*), Graphics Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Insitute. Marlon Footracer, Diné, Water-Flows-Together, born for One-Who-Walks-Around-You clan serves as TLPI's Administrative Coordinator. Marlon was raised in Tsé Síaní (Lupton, AZ). He attended Stanford University where he majored in Creative Writing with an emphasis in poetry. While at Stanford, he co-founded the Stanford Native American Poets, co-instructed a course on contemporary Native Poetry, and participated in the performance arts and theater programs. He also worked at the Stanford Alumni Association in the Native American Initiative and helped organize Stanford's first ever conference, "Community, Diversity and Excellence: Celebrating Stanford's Minority Alumni." In 2011, Marlon served as staff support for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit as well as then Secretary Clinton's Women in the Economy Summit. He has worked as a consultant and project manager for indigenous art projects and artists, such as Matika Wilbur's Project 562 in 2014. In his personal creative work, he was named the Taos Writer's Conference Native American Writer-In-Residence Award recipient in 2015. He actively contributes to creative writing journals and spoken arts projects. Most recently, he worked as a non-profit strategist and consultant for development and capacity building, specifically focusing on non-profits that work to end homelessness in New Mexico/Navajo Nation border towns.

Tasha R. Fridia (*Wichita, Kiowa, and Caddo*), JD, **Pejuta Cangleska Win (Sacred Medicine Circle Woman), Assistant Director, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute.** Tasha Fridia is the owner of Fridia Consulting where she assists tribes with strategic and justice system planning, code drafting and policy implementation. Tasha also serves as a Policy Analyst and Political Advisor to the Vice President of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. She previously served as a Senior Associate at the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College. Prior to her work with TLPI, she worked for the OJJDP Tribal Youth Program Training and Technical Assistance Center at the University of Oklahoma in the Tribal Law and Policy Division. Tasha is a graduate of Oklahoma City University School of Law, where she earned her Juris Doctorate as well as a certificate in American Indian Law. While in law school, Tasha held numerous leadership positions including Student Bar Association Vice President, Pupil of Ruth Bader Ginsburg Inn of Court, and an appointment to the Dean's Council on Diversity, Equality and Inclusion where she helped establish a regalia policy for Native American Law Students. Tasha served on the National Native American Law Students Association board and was awarded Future Trailblazer in Indian Country by her local chapter. Tasha previously worked in the Tribal Human Resources field and is currently on the Board of Managers of Quivera Enterprises LLC, a division of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Industrial Development Commission. She is a member of the 2020 class of Leadership Native Oklahoma and a 2020 recipient of the Native American 40 under 40 award. Tasha earned a BA from the University of Oklahoma and a MA in Human Resources Development from Webster University. Tasha is passionate about the work she does and approaches it with the guidance of cultural and traditional teachings.

Chad Jackson (*Cocopah*), Administrative Assistant, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Chad Jackson serves as TLPI's Administrative Assistant. He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a focus on financial accounting from California State University Dominguez Hills, magna cum laude. After graduating, he wanted to work with the Native American Community and received his first job at United American Indian Involvement, Inc. in Los Angeles, CA. In order to gain more experience, he joined a corporate advertising company where his duties included financial accounting and analysis. After a few years in the corporate world, he wanted to work with the Native community again. When the opportunity to work for the Tribal Law and Policy Institute presented itself, he was very happy to work with a non-profit focused on Native American issues.

Jerry Gardner (*Cherokee*), JD, Executive Director, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Jerry Gardner serves as TLPI's Executive Director and is an attorney with more than 40 years of experience working with American Indian/Alaska Native Nations, tribal court systems, and victims of crime in Indian country. Jerry has served as the Executive Director of the Tribal Law and Policy Institute since its founding in 1996 and oversees all TLPI projects and services. Jerry has also served as the Director of the National Child Welfare Resource Center for Tribes, Council Member of the American Bar Association (ABA) Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice (CRSJ), and National Native American Bar Association (NNABA) Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates. Jerry has served as an Adjunct Professor at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, UCLA School of Law, and Southwestern School of Law. He previously served as the Administrator for the National American Indian Court Judges Association (NAICJA). He has been an appellate court judge for the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (North Dakota) and Poarch Creek Band (Alabama). He served as the Senior Staff Attorney with the National Indian Justice Center (NIJC) from NIJC's establishment in 1983 until TLPI's founding in 1996. He served as a Professional Staff Member at the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in the late 1970s. He also served in legal training positions for the national office of the Legal Services Corporation and the American Indian Lawyer Training Program. Jerry received his JD from the Antioch School of Law.

Elicia Goodsoldier (*Dine'/Spirit Lake Dakota*), Training and Technical Assistance Specialist, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Elicia Goodsoldier is an enrolled citizen of the Navajo Nation and also is a relative to the Spirit Lake Dakota nation. She was raised by her grandparents in Lupton, Arizona and went to school at Arizona State University. She has spent the last 18 years working in multicultural communities, in both urban and rural environments in the mental health and social services field. Currently, Elicia is a Training and Technical Assistance Specialist with the Tribal Youth Resource Center. Her passion in life is helping mainstream society understand historical and intergenerational trauma and creating awareness of the importance and efficacy of traditional and spiritual healing within Native communities. Her approach is one that encourages young people to look at their own healing and encourage exploration of past and present trauma and its impacts in their young lives, adding observations of cutting-edge neuroscience, and weaving in traditional healing elements as possible tools available to tribal communities. She's served on the Board of Directors for the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition and the Cultural Competency Advisory Council for the Colorado Office of Behavioral Health. She also served as Co-Chair of the Denver American Indian Commission and the Colorado Commission to Study American Indian Representation in Public Schools.

Jessica Harjo (*San Carlos Apache*), Operations Director, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Jessica Harjo serves as TLPI's Operations Director and has been with TLPI since 2008. She is responsible for the financial management, human resources, and overall administrative operations of TLPI. She leads the TLPI Administrative team providing grants management and administrative support on all TLPI grants and projects. Her background includes over 15 years of experience in administrative management, operations, and logistics. Jessica holds a Bachelor of Science in Film, Media, and Social Justice and a minor in Business Administration and holds a master's in business administration from Mount Saint Mary's University. Jessica is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) through the internationally recognized Project Management Institute.

Elise Hocking, Intern, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Elise is a junior at Bowdoin College studying Government and Legal Studies and Asian Studies. At Bowdoin, Elise works with first-year students through Residential Life, serves on the Hillel (Jewish students) board, and is active in the community engagement center. An aspiring lawyer, she has experience working with youth-led diversion programs, housing insecure populations, and family law mediations. Her interests include sustainability, community-based restorative justice, and Native sovereignty. In her free time, Elise enjoys running, reading, and perfecting her chocolate chip cookies.

Uno Lawthong, Bookkeeper, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Uno Lawthong serves as TLPI's Bookkeeper. He moved to Los Angeles from Bangkok, Thailand for high school and college. He studied Economics at University of California Irvine and proceeded to work in fast-pace start-up environment, accounting and assuring integrity of financial information. Uno recently completed all four-part CPA examination. He is passionate about positive social change, music and art. He loves to go hiking and Yoga with his fiancé and two dogs. Recently he decided to enter the next Marathon (whenever it may be) and began training for it. In his free and lazy time, he loves to read while John Coltrane is playing in the background.

Jordan Martinson (*Lac Courte Oreilles*), JD, Tribal Law and Policy Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Jordan Martinson joined the Tribal Law and Policy Institute in 2019 where he serves as Tribal Wellness/Legal Specialist. Jordan brings a broad range of state and tribal interdisciplinary legal expertise to the TLPI team. His tribal legal experience includes serving as Assistant General Counsel for the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin in addition to working as social services and child support attorney for the Menominee Nation, where he intervened on behalf of the tribe in state and federal Indian Child Welfare Act cases. Most recently, Jordan served as Assistant Corporation Counsel for Manitowoc County, Wisconsin where he represented the state in child protective services, guardianship, mental health and child support related litigation. During his undergraduate studies, Jordan worked for the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Equal Rights Division. Jordan received his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School, where he focused his studies on federal Indian law, and completed research on Ojibwe treaty rights as well as the interplay between the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and federal employment law. Jordan received his bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with a certificate in American Indian Studies.

Jacob Metoxen (*Oneida*), Training and Technical Assistance Specialist, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Jacob Metoxen is from Wisconsin and currently serves as a Tribal Prosecutor in New Mexico. He completed his Bachelor of Science Degree at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Master in Information Resources and Library Science at the University of Arizona, and Juris Doctor from the University of Arizona. Jacob is interested in supporting Tribal communities with the expansion of their community justice systems. Jacob serves as part of the National Criminal Justice Training Center and provides education presentations related tribal justice system development. Jacob has extensive experience with research, writing, and critical analysis for Tribal community projects.

Kristina Pacheco (*Pueblo of Laguna*), Tribal Wellness Courts Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Kristina Pacheco lives and works from her home in the village of Paraje/Casa Blanca, NM. She is a licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor in the state of New Mexico and has over 20 years of experience in the field of substance abuse treatment and prevention. Prior to joining the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, she worked for the Pueblo of Laguna for 14 years as a Supervising Probation Officer, Lead Counselor, and Behavioral Health Program Manager. In 2007, Kristina and the staff of the tribal court began the Pueblo of Laguna Healing to Wellness Court (HTWC). The HTWC was granted Mentor Court Status in 2017 by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals Drug Court Initiatives. Kristina has previously served as a consultant to other Native communities and presently serves as a Wellness Courts Specialist at the Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Within her current position, she has

had the opportunity to provide training and technical assistance to a wide range of Native communities as they work to develop and implement Tribal Wellness Court initiatives for both adult and/or youth populations. Kristina is the mother of one son, an adopted daughter, and a grandmother.

Gerry RainingBird (*Nehiyaw Nation*), Training and Technical Assistance Specialist, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Gerry RainingBird has been involved with American Indian/Alaska Native/Pacific Islander education, health, and wellness promotion for over 30 years. His educational background includes a B.S. in Physical Education and Health, and a M.S. in Education Administration. Gerry's professional experience includes leadership of community development efforts and capacity building, positive youth development, cultural competency, group facilitation, strategic planning, and program development. RainingBird has worked with over 200 native communities all across Indian Country and the Pacific Islands. He has served as a Project Director, Training and Technical Assistance Consultant, Sustainability and Training Coordinator, Senior Prevention Specialist, Group Facilitator, Strategic Planning Advisor, and has led, directed, and successfully implemented a variety of education, health and wellness initiatives specific to native communities. Gerry continually strives to implement culturally appropriate and responsive teaching concepts in his trainings and presentations.

Catherine Retana (*Embera/Pomo*), JD, Tribal Law Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Catherine Retana serves as TLPI's Tribal Law Specialist, working with Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts as well as other tribal justice and intergovernmental collaboration related projects. Before joining TLPI, she served as an Education Law Advocate with California Rural Legal Assistance where she helped protect students in Kern County from unlawful discrimination, suspensions, and expulsions. Her legal work experience includes serving as a student tribal code drafter in the UCLA Law Tribal Legal Development Clinic. Catherine was also awarded the 2016-2017 UC President's Public Service Fellowship at the Los Angeles Black Worker Center, where she worked to reduce employment discrimination and improve industries that employ Black workers through policy and legal advocacy. She is a graduate of UCLA School of Law's David J. Epstein Public Interest Law and Policy program, where she focused her courses on federal Indian law and completed research on the interplay of the National Labor Relations Board, federal employment law, and tribal governments. During law school, Catherine served as the Vice President of the Native American Law Students Association, Chief Managing Editor of the Indigenous Peoples' Journal of Law, Culture & Resistance, Co-Chair of the UCLA El Centro Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) & U-Visa Clinic, and Staff Editor of the Chican@/Latin@ Law Review. Catherine received her bachelor's degree from Humboldt State University with a minor in Native American Studies and her Senior Thesis focused on a comparative study of Domestic Tribal Government Systems and International Indigenous Governments.

Ashley Sarracino (*Laguna Pueblo*), Program Assistant, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Ashley Sarracino, serves as a Program Assistant and is the Principal Owner of Native Ascension Community Development, LLC. She has over ten years of experience in fundraising serving in the capacities of coordinator, facilitator, director, and trainer. Ms. Sarracino was born and raised in the Land of Enchantment in a small Native American village of one hundred people located on the Pueblo of Laguna 45 miles west of Albuquerque, New Mexico. She attended Stanford University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Cultural Anthropology and a Masters of Arts degree in Education. After college, Ms. Sarracino quickly immersed herself into the nonprofit realm and today continues to write grants, solicit individuals, corporations, foundations, and organize special events in an effort to generate income for noteworthy nonprofit organizations.

Laura Smith, Program Assistant, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Laura Smith serves as a Program Assistant for the Tribal Youth Resource Center with Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI). Laura completed her BA in Psychology at Vassar College with a correlate in Sustainability. Prior to joining TLPI, Laura served as Project Manager for the World Well-Being Project, a multi-disciplinary research team based out of the University of Pennsylvania's Positive Psychology Center. Laura is a certified practitioner of PsychoNeuroEnergetics, a bodywork modality related to trauma renegotiation.

Abby Thoennes, JD, Program Assistant, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Abby Thoennes serves as a Program Assistant. She graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and then went on to attend law school at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, where she graduated in 2016. She took some time off after law school to spend time at home with her two kids, Nora and Christopher. Abby has over 10 years' experience in the customer service industry, which is where her dedication for people comes from. She interned with Fredrikson and Byron working on a nonprofit startup, The Wolves Den, a culturally based group residential housing program for American Indian women receiving methadone treatment. This is where her passion for nonprofits was born. She has also interned with Wills for Heroes, providing essential legal documents free of charge to our first responders. Abby's most recent internship was with the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Ombudsman Office where she gained alternative dispute resolution experience. Outside of work, she loves cheering on all Minnesota sports teams and chasing her two children around.

Janice Thompson (*Diné*), Program Assistant, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Janice Thompson, Diné, Tł'ízí łání (Manygoats), born for Tábąąhá (Edgewater) serves as a Program Assistant. She is from Jaysho (Buzzard Springs) located within the community of Dilkon, Arizona on the southwestern region of the Navajo Nation. Janice attended Fort Lewis College where she received her Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and Sociology. Prior to coming to TLPI, she worked with the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians and the Navajo Nation Department of Family Services.

Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs, Sina Ikikcu Win (Takes the Robe Woman) (*Oglala Sioux Tribe*), Senior Training and Technical Assistance Specialist, Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs is an enrolled citizen of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and has Crow ancestry. She counts among her many blessings - her cherished life companion, loving family, and many precious relatives. Ethleen has over thirty years of experience in the helping field, currently she serves as a Senior Training and Technical Assistance Specialist with the Tribal Youth Resource Center, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Ethleen also serves on the Rosalyn Carter Mental Health Task Force, the Knife Chief Buffalo Nation Society Board of Directors, and the Anpo Wicahpi Owayawa (Morning Star School), Pine Ridge Girls School. She also volunteers her time directing Healing Camps for children, youth and families who have experienced trauma or have been exposed to trauma. Ethleen resides in Porcupine, South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Cindy Wlasowich (*Sicangu/Oglala Lakota*), Program Assistant, Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Cindy Wlasowich serves as a Program Assistant. Cindy spent over a decade working in the entertainment industry before beginning her second career in Native non-profit work. She has worked with several direct service Native non-profits in Los Angeles since 2006, and will be receiving her B.A in Applied Psychology from Mount Saint Mary's University in 2017 years end. Cindy is Sicangu/Oglala Lakota and an enrolled member of the Sicangu Nation

The Resource Basket, Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP) Biographies

Eva Gregg (*Native Village of Kotzebue, Kotzebue IRA*), Community Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Resource Basket, RurAL CAP. Eva Gregg is a mother of four children and grandmother to two grandsons. Originally from Kotzebue, Alaska, she moved to Anchorage and earned a Bachelor of Social Work. Eva currently works as the Community Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Resource Basket at RurAL CAP. She is an active member of the Anchorage Northern Lights Dancers and has been dancing for six years. Eva has a love of beading and cooking big dinners for birthdays, holidays, and traditional occasions. She is indigenous all day long!

Laura Knapp, RurAL CAP. Laura Knapp is a proud Alaskan and an avid world traveler. Since 2010, she has taught Microsoft programs and networking platforms to young, impoverished women of Cameroon Africa, inspiring them to become self-sustaining entrepreneurs. With her background experience in cultural-economic development, nutrition, and web skills, she is excited to work at RurAL CAP to support their ongoing vision in the preservation of healthy Alaskan Native families.

Kimberly Martus (*Cupeno/Tongva/Yaqui),* JD, Community Technical Assistance Supervisor, RurAL CAP. Kimberly Martus has lived and worked in rural and urban Alaska since 1977. She earned a juris doctorate (J.D) degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1993 and a B.A degree in Native American Studies from The Evergreen State College in 1985. She is a mother to two grown sons and a grandmother of three. Kimberly has a long-standing commitment and passion for tribal justice and has actively provided tribal court assessments, training, planning, code-writing and other technical services to Alaska Tribes since 1995. She is a certified Tribal Healing to Wellness Court trainer and has other specialized experience representing indigenous children, troubled youth, and Tribes in both state and tribal courts. Kimberly has served as a tribal court judge and as an associate justice. She has worked as a prisoner reentry program manager, tribal court administrator and as an Assistant Professor at the University of Alaska teaching federal Indian law and justice studies.

Joie Millett, Community Development Program Director, RurAL Cap. Joie Millet was born in Kotzebue, Alaska and raised in Unalakleet, Alaska with her older brother. Her parents are originally from Oklahoma. She and her husband who is also from Unalakleet have three boys that keep her busy and constantly entertained. Joie has worked at RurAL CAP for 18 years on various prevention, wellness, youth, and tribal court projects and is committed to its vision of "Healthy People, Sustainable Communities, Vibrant Cultures." As the Community Development Program Director, she provides overall supervision and leadership of the Resource Basket.

Amy Modig (*Deg Hit'an Athabascan of Shageluk and Holikachuk by birth and Tanacross by adoption*), RurAL CAP. Amy Modig recently returned to RurAL CAP to work with rural villages on youth programs, such as culture camps and youth leadership. She continues a 36-year commitment to the statewide Rural Providers' Conference with her husband Doug. She has worked in the fields of education, alcohol treatment and prevention, conference coordinating, newsletters, grant writing and program development. With her husband, she works as a researcher as well as a writer, artist, and trainer. Amy studied with Alkali Lake on incest and sexual abuse of children which helped her and her husband in their 14 years as foster parents, as well as in alcohol treatment and sobriety support.

National Native Children's Trauma Center Biographies

Veronica Willeto DeCrane (*Diné*), School Training and Technical Assistance Specialist, National Native Children's Trauma Center. Veronica Willeto Decrane is Diné, of the Many Hogans Clan and born for the Mexican Clan. Her maternal grandparents are of the Tangle Clan, and her paternal grandparents are of the Bitter Water Clan. She grew up in Dinétah and now lives in Montana with her husband and children. Veronica holds a BA in Race and Ethnic Studies from Whitman College and has been in the field of Indian education for over 10 years. She has worked in school turnaround, parent and community engagement, youth leadership, afterschool programs, systems change, multi-tiered systems of supports, and cultural adaptation. She is an MTSS Implementation Specialist for the Montana Office of Public Instruction. As a School Training and Technical Assistance Specialist with the National Native Children's Trauma Center (NNCTC), Veronica manages the healing work of providing trauma-focused training and technical assistance to Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Tribal grantees, through the Tribal Youth Resource Center, in partnership with the Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Additionally, Veronica supports the piloting of a trauma resilient school model in several Tribal schools and partners with the Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board on a trauma resilient schools peer learning network. She also contributes to grassroots healing and resilience initiatives in Diné communities and supports both the NNCTC and the National Child Traumatic Stress Network in culturally adapting products and resources for Indigenous peoples.

Laura Guay, Training and Technical Assistance Manager, National Native Children's Trauma Center. Laura Guay received her Master of Social Work from the University of Montana. The focus of Laura's professional career has surrounded child welfare and trauma informed systems of care. Laura has experience providing direct child protective services, supervision, and workforce development. Laura's emphasis in her work with the National Native Children's Trauma Center has focused on trauma-informed system change across tribal programs serving children and families. Much of this work is guided by culturally adapting assessments that guide implementation and evaluation of TTA that is responsive to the specific goals of each tribal program and community. Examples of this work include facilitating: agency-wide visioning sessions, focus groups with tribal leadership, agency management, field staff, and community stakeholders as well as practice mapping case flow, form requirements, and cross-agency integration points, all with the purpose of gathering robust data to guide decision-making. Laura has supported the development of on-site leadership teams, facilitating the group process in the selection of desired trauma and resiliency focused outcomes along with the identification of a measurable path towards accomplishment. Most recently, Laura has supported the development of a new curriculum and training of trainers' titled: Trauma and Resiliency in Tribal Communities. This training is focused on equipping local stakeholders to adapt, train and sustain trauma-informed approaches throughout their tribal communities.

Debra Klemann, Clinical Consultant, National Native Children's Trauma Center. Debra Klemann is a LCPC and LMFT in Montana. She serves as the Clinical Consultant to The National Native Children's Trauma Center housed at the University of Montana. Debra consults with sites in the area of trauma informed systems. Debra also provides training on a number of tier 1 and tier 2 evidenced based interventions for trauma. She is currently working on piloting a social emotional learning curriculum designed to mitigate the effects of trauma for elementary students that she co-authored. She has 20 years of experience providing therapeutic services to children, adolescences, adults, couples, and families. She has worked in a variety of settings including a training and research center, two universities, an early childhood development center, a treatment center for children and adolescents, a school district, and private practice. In addition to her work with the National Native Children's Trauma Center, Debra also operates a private practice in Kalispell, Montana.

Nona Main, Training and Technical Assistance Specialist, National Native Children's Trauma Center. Nona Main has been providing training and technical assistance to schools and agencies in tribal communities through the NNCTC and other organizations for more than 5 years. She came to NNCTC in 2019 after nine years spent with the Native Outreach Project of Planned Parenthood of Montana, in which role she provided culturally responsive, comprehensive sexuality education to adolescents and young adults. Nona is also an experienced trainer and advocate in the areas of health education/awareness, historical/intergenerational trauma, and current social issues. She lives in Fort Belknap with her son, Trenton, and enjoys keeping active, watching her son play basketball and other sports, spending time with family and other loved ones, watching movies, reading, and cooking.

Meagan Rides At The Door (*Assiniboine-Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation, descendent of Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma*), PhD, LCPC, Director, National Native Children's Trauma Center. Meagan Rides At The Door has had a key role for the past five years in designing and implementing a range of training and technical assistance initiatives in tribal communities. This work has focused on co-developing trauma responsive systems of care with various child serving agencies across the nation, implementing community-wide youth suicide prevention efforts, and supporting child advocacy centers in service to tribal communities. She is an enrolled member of the Assiniboine-Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation and a descendent of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

Lisa Stark (*Ojibwe*), CAPSW, MSW**,** Tribal Child Protection Specialist, National Native Children's Trauma Center. Lisa Stark is trained as both a clinician and a child welfare worker, her direct practice has focused on tribal child welfare. She has worked as a case manager/ICWA Representative for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe of Indians and as an Assistant Director/ICWA Representative for the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. A recent addition to the NNCTC team, Lisa supports trauma-informed child welfare work across the organization's numerous grants and contracts.

Ashley Trautman, MSW, JD, Assistant Professor, University of Montana School of Social Work and Juvenile Justice Technical Assistance Specialist, National Native Children's Trauma Center. In her work at NNCTC, Ashley provides training and technical assistance on the issue of childhood trauma and resilience to tribal nations across the country. This work has included training to tribal court judges, attorneys, advocates, school professionals and social service workers on trauma informed policies and practices. In her role as faculty in the School of Social Work, Ashley teaches Cultural Humility in Social Work Practice, the Indian Child Welfare Act, Social Justice in Indian Country, and Methods of Social Policy Analysis.

Dr. Marilyn J. Zimmerman (*Assiniboine-Sioux/Fort Peck Reservation*), founding Director, National Native Children's Trauma Center. Dr. Marilyn J. Zimmerman brings expertise in tribal cultures, systems, and trauma-informed systems change. She has been a member of numerous national, state, and local committees and workgroups including the U.S. Presidential (Obama) Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities and the Advisory Committee of the Attorney General's (Holder) National Task Force on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence. Dr. Zimmerman has expertise in trauma-informed systems-change, provides training and technical assistance in all service systems serving AI/AN children and families, and has participated in cultural adaptation of evidence-based and best practices. Her current focus at NNCTC is on trauma-informed systems changes for tribes and on state, federal, and tribal policy that supports tribal sovereignty and self-determination. She currently oversees three sub-award projects including the Tribal Youth Resource Center, a collaboration with Tribal Law and Policy Institute to provide training and technical assistance to Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention tribal grantees at the national level; the Capacity Building Center for Tribes, a collaboration with the University of Denver's Butler Institute, providing training and technical assistance to Administration of Children and Families tribal child-serving grantees at the national level; and Lower Sioux Coordinated Tribal Access Solicitation (CTAS), providing cross-system trauma-informed training and technical assistance to the Lower Sioux Community in Minnesota. Dr. Zimmerman also holds an appointment to the University of Montana's School of Social Work as the Diversity and Inclusion Project Director for the School's 2+2 Program, which allows tribal students to stay in their home communities to earn a four-year or master's degree in social work through University of Montana.

United National Indian Tribal Youth Biographies

LorenAshley Buford (*Yamassee descendant*), Program Manager, United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. (UNITY)/OJJDP Tribal Youth Development Initiative-*Healing Indigenous Lives, Peer Guide Program*. LorenAshley Buford continues to be active in her home community while working abroad. Recently, LorenAshley has worked with the PBS "Secrets of Spanish Florida" documentary on Yamassee history, and collaborated with University of North Florida for "The Yamasee Indians: From Florida to South Carolina" book. She studied American Indian Studies at Arizona State University with an emphasis in Federal Indian policy, decolonization, and historical trauma. She has been a passionate advocate for prison ministries and cultural prevention LorenAshley's former years as a Prevention Specialist, GONA facilitator, ASIST trainer and grassroots organizer, have helped mobilize communities to address indigenous health disparities, the awareness of HIV/AIDs, substance abuse and suicide prevention. Prior to being named to her OJJDP position, Buford was the UNITY Youth Leader Advisor and Project Manager for the UNITY Wellness Warrior Project funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Buford has been a mentor and trainer for the National UNITY Council's Executive Committee, UNITY Earth Ambassadors, and 25 Under 25 Awardees.

Angela Noah (*White Mountain Apache and Oklahoma Choctaw*), Youth Leader, United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. (UNITY) (she/hers). Angela Noah is the 2020-2021 Miss Indian University of Oregon where she is a current Sophomore studying Public Policy, Urban Planning, and Non-Profit Management. Angela is a current 25 Under 25 recipient and youth leader with the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) Inc. Her platform entails healthy conversations surrounding mental health, advocacy for Native youth attending higher education, and highlighting oppressive systems hindering Native communities.

Savanna Rilatos (*Confederated Tribes of Siletz*), Peer Guide, United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. (UNITY). Savanna is 23 years old and a proud member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz. Her tribal bands are Galice Creek, Molalla, and Yamhill. She currently attends Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island and will graduate in the summer of 2021 with a degree in Ethnic Studies focusing on Native/Indigenous Studies. She is applying to the 5th year Master's of Art (MAT) in teaching for the summer of 2022, and then wants to go on to law school to eventually pursue a career in law and or policy. She is a UNITY Peer Guide, 2016 Gates Millennium Scholar, served as her tribe's 2018/2019 Miss Siletz, and was selected as a member of UNITY's 2018 Class of 25 under 25 awardees.

Sonwai Wakayuta (*Hualapai/Hopi*), Peer Guide, United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. (UNITY) (she/her/hers). Sonwai is 20 years old from the Hualapai/Hopi tribes in Arizona. She currently serves her communities as a UNITY Peer Guide and CNAY Ambassador for Land Conservation. As a former Earth Ambassador, Ms. Wakayuta continues to be a passionate environmental steward as well as promoting cultural awareness and diversity among her peers through various mediums. As a hobby artist she uses her skills to find creative new approaches to advocate for a healthier stronger relationship with elders and language instructors.

Guest Presenter Biographies

Lynn Bigboy (*Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa*), Director of Mashkiiziibii Youth Services, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Lynn Maday-Bigboy (Medweoshkakwe, which means strong water in Spring in Ojibwe) is currently the Director of Mashkiiziibii Youth Services for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in northern Wisconsin. She lives in the traditional ways on the reservation harvesting wild rice, maple syrup, fish, and medicines with her husband Gary. She is a Certified Parent Peer Specialist trainer, Certified Peer Specialist and trained in a wide range of areas serving youth, with a specialty in mental wellness. Lynn has served on the local school board for three terms, volunteers with the League of Women Voters (her great Aunt was part of the first indigenous League a hundred years ago in the US). She is blessed to have a position that she is passionate about and located in her own community.

Janelle Bretten, Director of Strategic Planning and Engagement, Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA). Janelle Bretten began her career with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice as a parole officer in 1992. In 1994, she moved to Oklahoma where she worked in the non-profit sector providing services to youth and families involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. In 2000, Ms. Bretten joined OJA as a Juvenile Justice Specialist. She continued on to become an Assistant District Supervisor, a Program Field Representative monitoring the agency's case management services, and in 2006 was promoted to a District Supervisor. In 2013, she served as the agency's Chief of Programs overseeing community-based and residential programming. Ms. Bretten has also served as Interim Executive Director for OJA. She currently represents OJA on multiple councils and committees engaging in partnerships and collaborative projects. In addition to her work regarding juvenile reform efforts, grants, training, and quality assurance, she also serves as the agency's tribal liaison. Ms. Bretten holds a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice with a minor in Political Science from Texas Christian University and earned a Master's in Public Administration from Arkansas State University. Ms. Bretten is a member of Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Fellows Network.

Bridget Coppersmith, Juvenile Justice Specialist, South Dakota Department of Correction. Bridget Coppersmith currently resides in Pierre, South Dakota and works for the state's Department of Corrections where she has served as the state's Juvenile Justice Specialist for the past nine years. Bridget actively works with the nine Tribes in South Dakota through subgrants awarded by South Dakota's State Advisory Group.

Jaimie Cruz *(Squaxin Island)*, Teen Advocate, Squaxin Island Tribe. Jaimie Cruz is a Squaxin Island Tribal Member who is currently working as the Teen Advocate for the Squaxin Island Tribe. Jaimie Cruz is 28 years old and has a 18 month old daughter named Hazel. She is currently attending Olympic Community College in WashingtonState. Jamie is the 4th child of her mother Leanora Krise. She enjoys clam digging, geoduck diving, and gathering traditional foods. Jaimie is passionate about her community and hopes to contribute as much as she can to it. Jaimie has worked for the Squaxin Island Tribe in the Education Department for the last eight years. Starting as the office assistant she was able to help the Teen Program develop a strong youth council. This particular youth council was able to host the 2018 Northwest Indian Youth conference which was attended by over 300 youth in the Pacific northwest. Jaimie participates and assists with leading youth groups on the annual canoe journey. She has recently started to learn the traditional language of the Squaxin Island people, Lushootseed. In her free time Jaimie enjoys podcasts and americanos.

Alisha Edelen, Assistant Director, Choctaw Nation Juvenile Services. Alisha Edelen graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University with a BA in Criminal Justice. After almost a decade of experience with the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs as a Juvenile Justice Specialist II, she began her career with the Choctaw Nation. She spent her first two years at the tribe as a Reintegration Specialist and helping to build the Choctaw Nation Reintegration Program as a post-release service provider for adult offenders. Following her service in the reintegration program, she became the Assistant Director of Juvenile Services at Choctaw Nation and has served in this position the last three and a half years. She has found that her passion is to engage with, support, and divert at-risk youth and their families from continued involvement with the juvenile justice system. She has facilitated the development and implementation of various youth service initiatives and currently oversees the Choctaw Nation Healing to Wellness Program. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her two children and staying actively involved in all their actvities.

Marneena Evans, Lead Research Associate, Westat. Marneena has over 17 years of experience in research, evaluation, and technical assistance in child welfare, juvenile justice, and other human service areas. She currently serves as the Westat project director for the Capacity Building Center for Tribes, which provides capacity building services and resources to Tribal child welfare programs. As the data and technology arm of the Center for Tribes, the Westat team offers technical assistance in data collection, data management, data analysis, planning for continuous quality improvement and program evaluation, and other aspects of data-informed practice.

Debra Gee (*Navajo*), General Counsel and Executive Officer, Chickasaw Nation Legal Division. Prior to her appointment as General Counsel with the Chickasaw Nation Legal Division, Debra served as Deputy Attorney General and Director for the Division. Debra previously worked at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. where she served as Deputy Director of the Office of Tribal Justice and Tribal Legal Counsel for the Violence Against Women Office, Office of Justice Programs. In addition, Debra previously worked at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Okmulgee, Oklahoma and DNA-People's Legal Services, Inc. in Shiprock, New Mexico. Debra is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and is also affiliated with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. She is a graduate of the Arizona State University College of Law where she earned her JD and Smith College where she earned her BA. Debra holds bar memberships in the tribal courts of the Chickasaw Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Navajo Nation and in the states of Oklahoma and New Mexico (inactive).

Lenny Hayes (*Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate*), MA, Owner/Operator Tate Topa Consulting, LLC. Lenny is a citizen of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the northeast corner of South Dakota. Lenny is also owner and operator of Tate Topa Consulting, LLC and is currently in private practice specializing in Marriage Family Therapy. He has extensive training in mental and chemical health issues that impact the Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ and Native community. Lenny has traveled nationally and locally training and presenting on the issues that impact both the Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ individual and community. Lenny is also working with Sovereign Bodies Institute as their Missing and Murdered Two-Spirit Project Assistant. Lenny is also a 2020 graduate of the Human Trafficking Leadership Academy Cohort 5. Lenny is former Chairman of the Board of the Minnesota Two-Spirit Society. As Chairman of the Board of the Minnesota Two-Spirit Society he assisted Native organizations in developing policies in the protection, safety, and non-discrimination of Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ people in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. Lenny was selected to be a recipient of the 2018 Bonnie Heavy Runner Advocacy Award at the 16th National Indian Nations Conference.

Nicole Hewitt *(Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde)*, Therapist. Nicole has worked as a therapist with youth, adults, and families for over 10 years. She has a great passion for being a part of the healing process and is grateful for the experience of previously being the Youth therapist for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

and to have been the Youth Empowerment and Prevention Program Manager. Nicole has her Master of Arts in Psychology with a specializing in Co-Occurring disorders and a minor in Native American Studies. Nicole grew up in Southern California and moved to Oregon almost 9 years ago to give back to her community and provide therapy to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde community. Nicole lives with her husband, daughter, and rambunctious dog Bella Lee. She is a Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde tribal member, her mother is Debbie Leno, and her grandparents are Bud and Maxine Leno. Her sister, Danielle Murrell, is the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Domestic Violence Program Manager. In her free time Nicole loves to spend time with her family and friends, she is a proud auntie and enjoys traveling. She loves cooking, working out, and listening to music. “I am so honored to work for my people and my community. I am grateful to the tribe for supporting my education and I want to give back to other young people and let them know they are valued, and they can become anything they set their minds to."

Amber Loftis, Juvenile Service Coordinator, Choctaw Nation Juvenile Healing to Wellness Program. Amber has seven years of experience working with at-risk youth. Her passion is to help youth and families meet their needs by building rapport, offering rehabilitation services and guidance to overcome challenges. She is a member of various community organizations and coalitions in her area. Amber earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice, with a minor in Human Services Counseling from East Central University. She is a proud mother of two and currently resides in Southeastern Oklahoma.

David McArthur, Manager, *Nitam animikiiaa aya aa waa kaa iqan* (First Thunderbeing House), White Earth Nation. David McArthur is manager of the White Earth Nation’s Nitam animikiiaa aya aa waa kaa iqan (First Thunderbeing House). The First Thunderbeing House encompasses the Niigaan Waaseyaaban (Wellness Court Program), Niizhoo anaamo bemaadizid onji nibi (Dually Involved Youth Program), and Giiwitaashkaa neyaa (Circle Back Program). Mr. McArthur has previously served in law enforcement, probation, supervision and has been involved with the White Earth Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court since its inception. Mr. McArthur is dedicated to supporting youth through restorative approaches, healing practices, and diversionary methods.

Doug Modig (*Tsimshian of the Eagle Clan*). Doug was born and raised in Ketchikan, Alaska. Professionally, Doug has worked with Native peoples since the early 70s. He has worked in the fields of employment, education, alcohol treatment, youth development, program management, grant writing and village treatment development. He has trained nationally in the drug courts initiatives and is a trainer for Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT). Doug is a longtime advocate for people taking personal responsibility for their actions and this helped begin what has become known as the Sobriety Movement. Doug is a board member of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. He meets with men advocating for an end of domestic violence and supports the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women groups in Alaska. He researches new ways to combine modern needs with a more traditional lifestyle, utilizing his experience with the training of his son and the work he shares with his wife. He is a student of his Elders in Native Thought, healing, and his own developing Eldership.

Kheri Smith, Juvenile Justice Specialist, Office of Juvenile Affairs. Within the role of Juvenile Justice Specialist, Kheri serves Bryan and Choctaw Counties, located in southeastern Oklahoma. Kheri was born to a drug addicted mother and was consequently raised by her grandparents. Her story is one of success as she has overcome many of the Adverse Childhood Experiences that our youth and families face. These stories of testimony were not necessarily what we would have written into our lives were we holding the pen, but we do recover and find the strength to stand. She has played a pivotal role in bringing the Resilience Film and the Handle with Care program to the counties she serves. It is her hope to be used by her Creator to help “the least of these”. Kheri was honored to be invited by the Choctaw Nation to attend the 2017 Cohort Strategic Planning Meeting for their newly established Juvenile Healing to Wellness Program and continues to serve on their steering committee.

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