



2021 CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE ICWA CONFERENCE AGENDA

June 24th, 2021	
TIME	EVENT
7:30 – 8:30 Pre-Function Area	Registration/Breakfast – Hosted by Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe
8:30-9:00 Hemini/Liani	Opening Ceremony: Glenda Nelson, Chairwoman, Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe Kim Johnson, Director, California Department of Social Services
9:00-9:30 Hemini/Liani	Keynote A: Art Martinez, Program Director, Tribal Law and Policy Institute
9:30-10:30 Hemini/Liani	<p>Plenary: Lessons Learned from Covid and Wildfires: Handling ICWA Cases During Disasters <i>Summary:</i> Tribes, Courts, and Counties experienced challenges in handling child welfare cases during the Covid-19 pandemic. Many tribal communities also experience similar challenges when tribal communities are affected by wildfires. Learn from the panel about how Covid and wildfires effect ICWA cases and how to develop best practices, including updating disaster plans and collaborating with tribal communities.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Stephanie Weldon, ICWA/Tribal Social Services Specialist, Office of Tribal Affairs Christina Snider, Tribal Advisor to Governor Newsom and Executive Secretary of the Native American Heritage Commission Audrey Fancy, Principal Managing Attorney Center for Families, Children & Courts Lori Nezhura, Deputy Director of Planning and Preparedness, CalOES Floyd Velasquez, Director of Emergency Services, Morongo Band of Mission Indians – <i>pre-recorded</i> Ashley Hemmers, Tribal Administrator, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe – <i>pre-recorded</i></p>
10:30 – 10:45	BREAK – Hosted by Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe
10:45-12:00 Hemini/Liani	<p>Plenary: ICWA in the News <i>Summary:</i> With the recent release of the 325-page <i>Brackeen</i> court case decision, the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) has been in the news. This panel will provide updates on national court cases and the impact on child welfare cases involving Indian children. Learn about the <i>Brackeen</i> case, the challenge to the U.S. Health and Human Services sunset rule, and the challenge to the Administration for Children and Families' decision to AFCARS litigation updates.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Kimberly Cluff, Legal Director, California Tribal Families Coalition Ret. Ambassador Keith Harper, Partner, Jenner & Block – <i>pre-recorded</i> Michael L. Newman, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Enforcement Section, California Kristen Miller, Counsel, Democracy Forward – <i>pre-recorded</i> Samara Spence, Senior Counsel, Democracy Forward – <i>pre-recorded</i> Tamara Honrado, Associate General Counsel, Yurok Tribe</p>
12:00-1:30 Pre-Function AreaKey	Lunch – Hosted by Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe



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<p>1:30 – 2:00 Hemini/Liani</p>	<p>Plenary Address: Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, California Department of Education</p> <p><i>Summary:</i> State Superintendent Thurmond will discuss ongoing issues affecting Native American children in the California education system. He will share California’s vision for engaging with tribes and honoring tribal sovereignty.</p>
<p>2:00 – 3:00 Hemini/Liani</p>	<p>Plenary: Legislative Updates <i>Summary:</i> This panel will address pending 2021 California and federal legislation that affects and intersects with Indian child welfare. The panel will also provide updates on the legislative process in California.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Kimberly Cluff, Legal Director, California Tribal Families Coalition Adriana Ruelas, Chief of Staff, State Assemblymember James Ramos Delia Sharpe, Executive Director, California Tribal Families Coalition Chris Lindstrom, Executive Director, California Tribal Business Alliance</p>
<p>3:00 - 3:15</p>	<p>BREAK</p>
<p>3:15 – 4:30 Hemini/Liani</p>	<p>Plenary: Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) <i>Summary:</i> Signed into law in 2018, FFPSA reformed how states can spend Title IV-E funding. Through the passage of FFPSA, states and tribes with approved Title IV-E plans can use federal funding to provide evidence-based prevention services to keep children with their families and out of foster care. Additionally, FFPSA set specific requirements for using qualified residential treatment programs. This panel will provide a broad overview of FFPSA, California’s progress in submitting their FFPSA implementation plan and pending trailer bill legislation. Tribal representatives will also share how FFPSA implementation affects tribes, include Title IV-E Tribes.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Stephanie Weldon, ICWA/Tribal Social Services Specialist, Office of Tribal Affairs Angie Schwartz, Deputy Director, Child and Family Services Division Kelly Winston, Bureau Chief, Child Welfare Policy and Program Development Bureau Sara Rogers, Branch Chief, Systems of Care Branch - <i>invited</i> Tamara Honrado, Associate General Counsel, Yurok Tribe Karan Kolb, Social Services Director, Indian Health Council</p>
<p>6:00-8:00 Event Center Tep/We</p>	<p>Dinner – Hosted by Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe</p>



2021 CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE ICWA CONFERENCE AGENDA

June 25th, 2021

June 25th, 2021	
7:30 – 8:45 Pre-Function Area	Breakfast - Hosted by Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe
8:45-9:00 Hemini/Liani	Opening Prayer: Creig Marcus, Tribal Administrator, Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe
9:00-9:30 Hemini/Liani	<p>Keynote: Robert Bonta, Attorney General, State of California Department of Justice Abby Abinanti, Chief Judge, Yurok Tribe</p> <p><i>Summary:</i> Attorney General Bonta will speak to California’s committee to addressing inequities for tribes and families to improve the health, safety, and welfare of Californians. Chief Judge Abinanti will address the growing need for tribes to build tribal infrastructure for the health, safety and welfare of all tribal children.</p>
9:30-10:30 Hemini/Liani	<p>Plenary: Tribal Infrastructure Development – Title IV-E & IV-B</p> <p><i>Summary:</i> Through the 2008 Fostering Connections Act, tribes were authorized to access federal foster care and adoptions funding. As an effort to protect Indian children and support Indian families, tribes have focused on building tribal infrastructure. Tribes, in this panel, will share strategies for planning and implementation of Title IV-E programs, whether through direct agreements or state pass-through agreements, and Title IV-B programs. Learn more about how county-tribal collaboration and partnership is important for implementation and how counties can implement best practices to support tribes in enhancing best outcomes for Indian children.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Gregory Rose, California Department of Social Services Tamara Honrado, Associate General Counsel, Yurok Tribe Season Goodpasture, Director of Social Services, Pala Band of Mission Indians Samala Maloney, Operations Administrator, Karuk Child Welfare, Karuk Tribe Frankie Snider, Lead Social Worker, Karuk Child Welfare Services, Karuk Tribe Dorothy Wait, Director, Community & Family Services, Tolowa Dee-ni’ Nation - <i>invited</i></p>
10:30-10:45	BREAK
10:45- 12:15 Hemini/Liani	<p>Plenary: CDSS Updates</p> <p><i>Summary:</i> Join this plenary session and hear updates from CDSS on the ICWA Compliance Program, the System Improvement Plan (SIP), ICWA Hotline, ICWA Specialist Certification Program, ICWA CORE Curriculum Update, and meet the OTA ICWA Field Liaisons.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Jennifer Parsons, Analyst, Office of Tribal Affairs, CDSS Heather Hostler, Director, Office of Tribal Affairs, CDSS Korena Downing Hazen, Consultant, Children’s Services System Improvement Section, CDSS Victoria Bueno, Analyst, Children’s Services System Improvement Section, CDSS Rachel Trusty, Bureau Chief, Program Policy and Business Requirements Bureau, CDSS Jessie Rosales, Bureau Chief, Children Services Operations Bureau, CDSS Laila DeRouen, Central ICWA Field Liaison, CDSS Donald Rodriguez, Southern ICWA Field Liaison, CDSS Jessica Fawn Canez, Northern ICWA Field Liaison, CDSS Kim Metler, Tribal STAR Program Manager – <i>pre-recorded</i> Geneva Shaw, Training and Curriculum Development Director, California Tribal Families Coalition</p>



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12:15 – 1:45	Lunch – On Your Own
Breakout Sessions: 1:45 – 2:45	
1:45-2:45 We	<p>(A) ICWA 101</p> <p>Summary: The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was passed in 1978 as a remedial statute in response to the high number of Indian children that were being removed from their families and communities and placed in non-Indian families. Learn about the importance of the ICWA and the key provisions of the ICWA.</p> <p>Mark Vezzola, Directing Attorney, California Indian Legal Services Donald Rodriguez, Southern ICWA Field Liaison, CDSS</p>
1:45-2:45 Hemini/Liani	<p>(B) Complying with ICWA’s Placement Preferences: Tribally Approved Homes and Resource Family Approval</p> <p>Summary: After conducting tribal listening sessions in 2020, California Tribal Families Coalition prepared a report with recommendations surrounding tribally approved homes and resource family approval. In this panel, Tribes and California Department of Social Services will discuss how to move forward with recommendations of the report to increase opportunities for tribes to approve homes through the tribally approved home process.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Jessica Fawn Canez, Northern ICWA Field Liaison, CDSS Liz DeRouen, Executive Director, Indian Children and Family Preservation Program Shari Ghalayini, ICWA Director, Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe Mica Llerandi, Senior Attorney, Program and Legal Services, California Tribal Families Coalition Kim Wrigley, Chief, Resource Family Bureau, CDSS Kendra Elmendorf, Manager, RFA Policy Unit, CDSS Charm Lee, Analyst, Foster Caregiver Policy & Support Unit, CDSS</p>
2:45-3:00 Pre-Function Area	Break – Hosted by Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribes
Breakout Sessions: 3:00 – 4:00	
3:00 – 4:00 We	<p>(A) ICWA 102: Placement</p> <p><i>Summary:</i> Due to the history of placing Indian children with non-Indian families, this panel will focus on the importance of ICWA placement preferences and how county workers can ensure that the placement preferences are followed in cases involving Indian children.</p> <p>Geneva Shaw, Training and Curriculum Development Director, California Tribal Families Coalition Blair Kreuzer, Policy Director, California Tribal Families Coalition Angela Sundberg, Social Services Director, Trinidad Rancheria Laila DeRouen, Central ICWA Field Liaison, CDSS</p>



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<p>3:00 – 4:00 Hemini/Liani</p>	<p>(B) Best Practices: Collaboration between Counties and Tribes in Child Welfare Cases <i>Summary:</i> This panel will focus on best practices implemented by two counties, San Diego and Butte, in collaborating with tribes. Learn strategies and tools for enhancing collaboration for best outcomes of Indian children.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Donald Rodriguez, Southern ICWA Field Liaison (AGPA) Shari Ghalayini, ICWA Director, Enterprise Rancheria, Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe David Kennedy, County Counsel, Butte County Angelina Farias, Social Worker, Butte County Children’s Services Division Sunni Dominguez, Assistant Program Coordinator, Tribal STAR and Tribal Secretary, Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel Linda Ruis, Director of Social Services, Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel Karan Kolb, Social Services Director, Indian Health Council</p> <p><i>Presentation by County of San Diego was Pre-Recorded</i> Evangelina Woo, Senior Deputy County Counsel, County of San Diego Antonia Torres, Protective Services Program Manager, County of San Diego Arabella Arrellano, Child Welfare Services Policy Analyst, County of San Diego Danielle DeLuca, Protective Services Supervisor, County of San Diego Mike Green, Protective Services Program Manager, CWS, County of San Diego Pearce Robinson, Protective Services Worker, Indian Speciality Unit, County of San Diego</p>
<p>3:00 – 4:00 Tep</p>	<p>(C) Words Matter: Ethical Considerations for Operating and Developing Legal Systems that Interface with Indian Child Welfare. <i>Summary:</i> Implicit bias is an important requirement for attorneys. From the American Bar Associations’ inclusion of Rule 8.4(g) and AB 242 (Kamlager-Dove) in 2019, the legal community is required to explore how implicit bias affects attorney practice. In this panel, learn from panelists to understand how implicit bias has an impact on Indian child welfare practice.</p> <p>Delia Sharpe, Executive Director, California Tribal Families Coalition Kimberly Cluff, Legal Director, California Tribal Families Coalition Tamara Honrado, Associate General Counsel, Yurok Tribe</p>
<p>4:00 – 4:15</p>	<p>Conference Closing</p>