

CTFC WEEKLY REPORT

Latest News From California Tribal Families Coalition



UPCOMING DATES & DEADLINES



JULY 13 - NORTHERN REGIONAL CONSULTATION ON RFA (11 AM - 1 PM)



JULY 13 - WEEKLY FFPSA STAKEHOLDERS GROUP (3:30 - 5 PM)



JULY 15 - FINAL COMMENT FOR CALIFORNIA FFPSA PREVENTION PLAN



JULY 23 - ICPM AND TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT MEETING (1 - 2:30 PM)

28TH ANNUAL STATEWIDE ICWA CONFERENCE HOSTED AS A HYBRID EVENT RESULTING IN HIGHEST EVER ATTENDANCE

On June 24 and 25, 2021, the 28th Annual Statewide ICWA Conference was held at the Enterprise Rancheria's Hard Rock Casino & Hotel in Sacramento. This year's event had both on-line and in-person participation, with over 300 attendees!

The conference panel topics included: ICWA in the News; Child Welfare Lessons Learned from Covid and Wildfires; Family First Prevention Services Act, and Tribal Infrastructure Development. We also had keynote addresses from Dr. Art Martinez, Judge Abby Abinanti, Attorney General Rob Bonta, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond. At the Thursday night dinner, Assemblymember James Ramos invigorated the audience with his vision for protecting Indian children.



ICWA Conference Cont'd

We are already planning for the next conference and hope that you can give us your thoughts! Whether you attended this year or not, we would love to hear from you. Please go here to complete the [brief survey](#). Your responses are anonymous and will help us improve future conferences.

We also encourage you to visit our website for all of the resources and materials from the conference- you can find the link [here](#). If you have any questions about the conference, please email us at icwaconference2021@gmail.com. Thank you for your work protecting Indian children and families.

RFA Regional Consultation Sessions

In July, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) will continue regional consultation with tribes on the application of tribal cultural and social standards in Resource Family Approval (RFA), the state foster care licensing process. In preparation for the July consultations, CTFC wanted to share thoughts for tribal representative to consider going into these consultation sessions.

(1) On Friday, July 9, 2021 at 2 PM, CDSS sent an email notifying tribes of the Northern Regional session scheduled for [July 13, 2021, from 11am-1pm](#). It is clear that the notice of this important consultation, less than 5 days in advance, is inadequate for authentic government to government consultation.

(2) CTFC believes it is critical for tribes to remind CDSS that the social and cultural standards of the tribe cannot be written into any regulations as they are tribally and family specific. The only way to apply these standards is to invite the child's tribal representative to participate in all aspects of the assessment and approval process, which is requirement that should be written into the state regulations. If tribal advocates would like more information about these consultations, please contact Blair Kreuzer at blair.kreuzer@caltribalfamilies.org.

ICPM Guidebook and Tribal Engagement Meetings

The Integrated Core Practice Model (ICPM) Guidebook is currently undergoing revisions by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). The ICPM is the California established guiding model from evidence-based practices to create a consistent, collaborative, family center and trauma-informed practice approach to child welfare and mental health services. Despite positive intentions in the development of the ICPM, tribal input was not sought nor contemplated. CDSS is seeking tribal engagement in the update of the ICPM.

On Friday, July 2, 2021, CDSS hosted a meeting to begin tribal engagement. Non-tribal stakeholder review has already begun, and CDSS seeks to have a final version of the ICPM Guidebook completed [September 30, 2021](#). Given the short turnaround, meetings with CDSS will occur on a bi-weekly basis with the next meeting occurring on [July 23, 2021 at 1:00 – 2:30 PM](#). If you have any questions or want to participate in the meetings, please contact Mica Llerandi at mica.llerandi@caltribalfamilies.org.

