



CTFC WEEKLY REPORT

Latest News From California Tribal Families Coalition

UPCOMING DATES & DEADLINES

- **JULY 20 - WEEKLY FPPSA STAKEHOLDERS GROUP (3:30 - 5 PM)**
- **July 20 - Intersection between Tribal TANF and Indian Child Welfare (9 AM - 12:00 PM)**
- **JULY 23 - ICPM AND TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT MEETING (1 - 2:30 PM)**

Governor Signs AB 627

On July 9, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 627 (Waldron): Recognition of tribal court orders: rights in retired plans or deferred compensation. Through this bill, California courts will recognize tribal court family law orders involving the division of retirement via Qualified Domestic Relation Orders (QDROs) and orders relating to child support and spousal support.

Are you a Native American Youth that has been in foster care? Are you over 18?

Have you lost access to extended foster care benefits like housing or monthly payments after receiving your tribal 18 monies?

CTFC would like to ensure tribal youth are able to access benefits they are entitled to and is gathering information to determine next steps.

If you are an affected youth or know an affected youth, please contact **Blair Kreuzer** at contact@caltribalfamilies.org or fill out the form at: <https://caltribalfamilies.org/efcbenefits/>

It has come to the attention of California Tribal Families Coalition that a number of tribal children in extended foster care are losing critical extended foster care benefits, including housing and monthly foster care maintenance payments. The explanation to tribes and their tribal youth for this loss in benefits is described as youth becoming ineligible for benefits when receiving tribal trust fund distributions upon reaching the ages of 18 and 21. CTFC has found evidence that this analysis is incorrect and have raised this issue with CDSS. We would like to assist tribal youth and need to gather information to determine next steps. Our contact form can be found at: <https://caltribalfamilies.org/efcbenefits/>.

THE TRUMP ADMIN'S "SUNSET RULE" WILL EXPIRE NEARLY EVERY PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATION UNDER THE SUN

FOOD SAFETY
- PACKAGING
- NUTRITION
- LIVESTOCK & DAIRY
- FOODBORNE ILLNESS

PRODUCTS
- BABY FORMULA
- PET FOODS
- COSMETICS
- TOBACCO/E-CIGS

HEALTHCARE
- DRUG SAFETY
- CHIP/MEDICAID
- VACCINATIONS
- COMMUNITY CLINICS

GRANTS & FUNDING
- FAMILY SERVICES
- TRIBAL FUNDING
- PUBLIC HEALTH ED.
- SENIOR CARE



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, Office of Child Support Enforcement

The AFCARS Report

Preliminary FY 2019 Estimates! as of June 23, 2020 - No. 27

SOURCE: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) FY 2019 data*

Numbers as a Glance					
Fiscal Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number in foster care on September 30 of the FY	421,418	405,511	426,009	438,031	423,997
Number entered foster care during the FY	288,865	273,332	270,285	262,791	281,569
Number exited foster care during the FY	242,051	250,500	248,286	251,161	245,649
Number served by the foster care system during the FY	663,406	685,433	685,007	686,151	672,984
Number waiting to be adopted on September 30 of the FY	109,778	116,261	123,450	126,285	122,216
Number adopted with public child welfare agency involvement during the FY	53,236	57,176	59,469	62,997	66,035
Number waiting to be adopted for whom parental rights (or all birth parents) were terminated as of the last day of the FY	42,230	46,447	49,234	51,480	51,226

Democracy Forward against the federal government to challenge decisions that harm tribes and tribal interests, specifically in the area of family and child welfare. The first lawsuit is focused on stopping the SUNSET Rule, which requires review of over 18,000 regulations within the Department of Health and Human Services. Under the Rule, if the review is not completed on the designated timeline, the regulations are "sunset-ed", removing regulations Tribes rely on to guide tribal health services, tribal emergency planning and tribal social services. Without the guidance and clarity of regulations Tribes are left not knowing, for example, how to comply with federal funding requirements. More on the SUNSET litigation can be found [here](#). Recently, a settlement offer from the federal government was declined and a counterproposal was submitted by CTFC and other plaintiffs. We anticipate hearing soon whether this case will settle or the litigation will go forward.

The second CTFC lawsuit requires collection of relevant data about native children in foster care so that federal, state and tribal agencies have accurate information. This data, collected through the AFCARS data system, informs all elements of child welfare, including funding and other resources. The good news is that the detrimental changes in the AFCARS data collection have been put on hold until March 2022, while the parties try to reach settlement. Please watch for more news on the AFCARS litigation as CTFC may be calling for letters of support as the federal government considers next steps.

Watch a presentation by Democracy Forward attorneys on the AFCARS and HHS Sunset lawsuits [here](#).

2021 National Tribal TANF Institute

CTFC is proud to announce that CTFC staff Geneva Shaw, Training and Curriculum Director, and Blair Kreuzer, Policy Director, will be training at the 2021 National Tribal TANF Institute on "The Intersection Between Tribal TANF and Indian Child Welfare." Their workshop will provide an overview of ICWA and its connection to Tribal TANF to understand how to strengthen county, tribal, and inter-tribal collaborative relationships. The workshop will explore the intersection between tribal TANF programs and Indian Child Welfare; and the common goals of promoting and protecting the health, safety, and welfare of tribal children and families.

The National Tribal TANF Institute will run from July 19 - 22, 2021. More about the Institute can be found [here](#).

