



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

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Governor

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Arizona Department of Economic Security

TRIBAL CONSULTATION ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Agency Overview

Purpose:

The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES/Department) works to strengthen and build strong relationships with Arizona's 22 Sovereign Tribes. The Department is committed to working with American Indian Tribes to improve the quality, availability, and accessibility of human services to children, youth, and adults. The Department's Tribal Government Consultation policy ensures that DES engages in ***open, continuous, meaningful communication, and consultation*** with the 22 Arizona Tribal Nations. This consists of information exchange and mutual understanding prior to taking actions that will likely have a direct impact on the American Indian Tribes in Arizona.

Office of Tribal Relations Team:

To ensure that the Department thoroughly engages and is accessible to the 22 Arizona Tribes, the Office of Tribal Relations (OTR) has two Tribal Liaisons, and a Tribal Relations Manager (TRM) to assist tribes. The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility (DBME) both have a dedicated full-time Tribal Liaison. The positions for the DBME and DDD Tribal Liaisons were vacant at the start of Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, and by the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, both positions were filled. The Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS), Division of Child Support Services (DCSS), and Division of Employment and Rehabilitation Services (DERS) have selected staff to work on Tribal matters on an as needed basis.

The role of the Tribal Liaison is to be the conduit between the Department's divisions and each sovereign Tribe; to provide guidance, support, and technical assistance to the Tribes on divisional programming, as DES has over 40 different programs. To ensure that the trust of the Tribes is established and continuous, the Tribal Liaison works out of the OTR to provide transparency and clarity on the work of each division. In addition to being the connection and point-of-contact for DES with Tribes, the Tribal Liaison assists with identification of issues with DES policy, procedures, and processes.

The role of the Tribal Relations Manager is to ensure that the Department is in compliance with the Department's Tribal Government Consultation policy and that the relationship and partnership with the 22 Sovereign Tribes is consistent and productive through sound and responsible management. Creating effective and efficient program development

goals and strategies through data collection and analysis is a delicate but necessary responsibility of the position because each of the 22 Sovereign Tribes are unique and require separate communication to address their needs equitably and effectively. The Tribal Relations Manager works with the Department's leadership team to make sure they are made aware of successes and challenges in working with the Tribes to create a strong working relationship, and to stay true to the intention of the Tribal Consultation policy.

Standard Work (SW) for OTR:

The purpose and goal of the OTR is to stay in consistent communication and connection with the 22 Sovereign Tribes. The role of the Tribal Liaison for Outreach and Communication is to represent both DES and their respective division. They each provide division/program information and updates, attend tribal meetings, and provide technical assistance to the Tribes. Their communications between tribes will be relayed back to the Tribal Relations Manager, so that the overall issues or communications can be addressed at an elevated level should the issue need leadership involvement.

FY 2020 OTR Progress

The focus of FY 2020 was to reorganize the OTR structure and re-prioritize the way the Tribal Relations Manager and Tribal Liaisons conducted outreach to the 22 Tribes. Prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the OTR team scheduled six Tribal Informational Forums throughout the state during August and September of 2019. The six locations were selected based on the proximity to the Tribal Nations/communities so that the Tribal program staff only had to drive 1 to 1.5 hours to the site. The six Tribal Informational Forums were held in: Sacaton, Tucson, Yuma, Whiteriver, Kingman, and Tuba City. The purpose of the Tribal Informational Forums is to provide an opportunity for tribal program staff, community stakeholders, and tribal DES customers to engage with all five of DES divisions. Division/program updates, policy changes or notifications are communicated to the attendees. Due to COVID-19, the Tribal Informational Forums for the spring were postponed until August and September of 2020.

After COVID-19 closed many of the Tribal offices, the OTR team remained in contact with the Tribal program staff on a limited basis, as many were working from home or were on a staggered work schedule. The DBME Tribal Liaison was able to have constant communication with the eight Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) to assist in setting up an efficient process for Tribal Food Distribution Directors to get Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefit Verifications for their members in a timely manner. What used to take one to three days, now takes one to three hours. Therefore, the Tribal Program can distribute the food boxes in the same day, reducing the need for the Tribal citizen to travel back to the food distribution site.

The Office of Tribal Relations: Working & Collaborating with Tribes

During FY 2020, the Tribal Relations Manager worked with the DES Policy team to revise and update the DES Tribal Government Consultation policy (DES 1-92-03) and add a DES Tribal Government Tribal Consultation Procedures policy (DES 1-92-03-01). These documents were finalized in April 2020 and posted on the DES website. The TRM has been working with the various divisions to ensure that DES provides advance notice to the Tribes of any upcoming changes to policy and DES programming that may impact Tribal citizens or programming. During FY 2020, the DES OTR conducted three Tribal Government Consultation/Informational Sessions:

- January 16, 2020 - Able-Bodied Adult without Dependents (ABAWD) Waiver and ARIZONA@WORK State Plan
- March 5, 2020 - FY 2020 State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Plan and FY 2020 Social Services Block Grant Plan
- June 25, 2020 – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education & Training (SNAP E&T) Program and the DDD American Indian Health Plan (AIHP)

OTR is drafting SW documents for each process that involves tribes. For instance, the DBME Tribal Liaison has drafted SW for Tribal Billing/Referral/Compliance issues that involve any of the Tribal TANF programs. This SW ensures that any process issues that need to be addressed are handled in a timely manner, and that the people or policies that need to be involved are included. The DBME Tribal Liaison has also provided technical assistance to the tribes to allow them to provide input during the SW development process.

Since August 2020, the TRM has been working with the DDD AIHP Project Staff in creating awareness and education about the changes being made with the DDD AIHP Integration for their DDD Tribal members. The first changes to the DDD AIHP were announced and explained at each of the six Tribal Informational Forums in August and September of 2019, for the changes being implemented on October 1, 2019. The forums prompted discussion between DDD AIHP team members with five Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (TRBHA).

The focus of FY 2020 was to restructure and establish the OTR as the go-to Office for support and assistance for DES staff/programs in working and communicating with Tribes. The TRM revised and updated the DES Tribal Consultation Policy and Procedures, which now provides clarity on how Tribes can access DES and vice versa. The move toward reorganizing the structure of OTR, setting standard work, and clarifying the role of OTR and the role of the Tribal Liaisons provides information to DES staff/programs on how OTR can assist them in their roles. The OTR will be continuing process improvements into the next FY.

FY 2020 DIVISION DATA FOR TRIBAL OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT:

DIVISION OF BENEFITS AND MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY October 2019 – June 2020

Number of Tribal Visits (in person)	Number of Tribes Visited	Tribal Communication (meetings)	Presentations to Tribes	Number of Tribal Consultations
4	2	16	1	3

DIVISION OF BENEFITS AND MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY

Goal	Tribal Communication Objective	Activity and Impact/Outcome
To meet, support and engage in collaborative efforts (in accordance with agency tribal consultation policy).	Pascua Yaqui Tribe Yoemem Organization for Employment and Member Enhancement Services (YOEME) TANF Program Quarterly Meeting - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.	10/16/2019 – Participated in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe TANF Program and DBME quarterly meeting. Discussed collaborative efforts between programs and provided staff introductions.
	Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) - Resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.	10/30/2019 to 10/31/2019– Attended the Indian Child Welfare Act Training with other tribal program entities and learned about the history and current circumstances of the Indian Child Welfare Act.
	Bureau of Indian Affairs Social Service for Truxton Canon & Southern Paiute Agency - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.	11/5/2019 - Provided a presentation regarding DBME services to the Bureau of Indian Affairs – Truxton Canon & Southern Paiute Agency Representative, Yavapai Apache Nation Social Service Representatives and Hualapai Tribe Social Service Representative.
	White Mountain Apache Tribe TANF Program Quarterly	11/18/2019 – Participated in the White Mountain Apache

<p>Meeting - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.</p>	<p>Tribe TANF Program and DBME quarterly meeting. Discussed collaborative efforts between programs and provided staff introductions.</p>
<p>Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.</p>	<p>11/26/2019 – Participated in a meeting with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program and DBME 111 office regarding a Strategic Plan Proposal.</p>
<p>Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.</p>	<p>12/23/2019 – Participated in a Work Participation Rate (WPR) meeting with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program and DBME Business Operations team. Discussed WPR data errors and the data submission to Administration for Children and Families (ACF).</p>
<p>ITCA Early Childhood Development Meetings - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.</p>	<p>1/9/2020 – Attended ITCA meeting as an invited guest. Agenda developed by ITCA.</p>
<p>25th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day - Resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.</p>	<p>1/15/2020 – Provided DBME information to attendees at the event.</p>
<p>Six Tribes/Tribal TANF Quarterly Meetings/Conferences - Technical Assistance, Resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.</p>	<p>1/21/2020 to 1/22/2020 Hosting Tribe: Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community - Attended meetings as an invited guest. Agenda developed by host tribe, Salt River, Pima, Maricopa Indian Community. Presented</p>

		information regarding the ABAWD waiver for geographic exemption areas such as tribal reservations and provided a brief overview of the Tribal Consultation that took place on 1/16/2020.
	White Mountain Apache Tribe Food Distribution Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.	1/22/2020 – Participated in a meeting with the White Mountain Apache Tribe Food Distribution Program, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and DBME Business Operations – Information Security Analyst team. Discussed and initiated the Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) process with the White Mountain Apache Tribe Food Distribution Program.
	Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program Quarterly Meeting - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.	1/30/2020 – Facilitated the quarterly meeting with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program and DBME staff. Discussed collaborative efforts between Family Assistance Administration (FAA) and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME Program. Addressed and discussed the following items: WPR Penalty Letter, Federal Poverty Level eligibility criteria, approvals without pre-compliance, email address updates, weekly pending case list, reimbursement procedure and HEAplus Assistors account.
	White Mountain Apache Tribe Food Distribution Program -	2/11/2020 – Facilitated a meeting with the White Mountain Apache Tribe Food

<p>Technical Assistance and collaboration.</p>	<p>Distribution Program and DBME Business Operations – Information Security Analyst team. Discussed and answered questions regarding the DSA document.</p>
<p>White Mountain Apache Tribe TANF Program Quarterly Meeting - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.</p>	<p>2/24/2020 – Facilitated the quarterly meeting with the White Mountain Apache Tribe TANF Program and DBME staff. Discussed office closure notifications, points of contact for each program and verification forms.</p>
<p>Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.</p>	<p>3/9/2020 – Participated in a follow up meeting with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program and DBME Business Operations team regarding the WPR and the data submission to ACF. DBME Business Operations discussed data submission errors and collaborated on an action plan to address data submission concerns/errors.</p>
<p>ITCA Social Services Workgroup Meetings - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.</p>	<p>3/19/2020 – Attended ITCA meeting as invited guest. Agenda developed by ITCA.</p>
<p>Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program Quarterly Meeting - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.</p>	<p>4/16/2020 – Facilitated the quarterly meeting with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME TANF Program and DBME staff. Discussed collaborative efforts between FAA and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe YOEME Program. Addressed and discussed the following items:</p>

		resubmission of the WPR hours, DES waivers for interviews and recertifications, email communication protocol and 60-month benefit lifetime limit.
	Gila River Indian Community Food Distribution Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.	5/5/2020 – Facilitated and participated in a teleconference meeting with the Gila River Indian Community Food Distribution Program and the OTR. Introduced and discussed a new formalized process for tribal food distribution programs to obtain the SNAP verifications from DBME. Obtained feedback from the tribal food distribution program regarding the new verification process in hopes of creating systemic collaboration. Obtained an update on the DSA process.
	Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Food Distribution Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.	5/6/2020 – Facilitated and participated in a teleconference meeting with the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Food Distribution Program and the OTR. Introduced and discussed a new formalized process for tribal food distribution programs to obtain the SNAP verifications from DBME. Obtained feedback from the tribal food distribution program regarding the new verification process in hopes of creating systemic collaboration. Initiated a DSA with the Fort Mojave Indian

		Tribe Food Distribution Program.
	Tohono O’odham Nation Food Distribution Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.	5/7/2020 – Facilitated and participated in a teleconference meeting with the Gila River Indian Community Food Distribution Program and the OTR. Introduced and discussed a new formalized process for tribal food distribution programs to obtain the SNAP verifications from DBME. Obtained feedback from the tribal food distribution program regarding the new verification process in hopes of creating systemic collaboration. Discussed the process of a DSA between DBME and the Tohono O’odham Nation Food Distribution Program.
	San Carlos Apache Tribe Food Distribution Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.	5/14/2020 – Facilitated and participated in a teleconference meeting with the San Carlos Apache Tribe Food Distribution Program and the OTR. Introduced and discussed a new formalized process for tribal food distribution programs to obtain the SNAP verifications from DBME. Obtained feedback from the tribal food distribution program regarding the new verification process in hopes of creating systemic collaboration. Initiated a DSA with the San Carlos Apache Tribe Food Distribution Program.

	Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe Food Distribution Program - Technical Assistance and collaboration.	5/14/2020 – Facilitated and participated in a teleconference meeting with the Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe Food Distribution Program and the OTR. Introduced and discussed a new formalized process for tribal food distribution programs to obtain the SNAP verifications from DBME. Obtained feedback from the tribal food distribution program regarding the new verification process in hopes of creating systemic collaboration. Discussed the process of a DSA between DBME and the Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe Food Distribution Program.
	ITCA Social Services Workgroup Meetings - Technical Assistance, resource sharing, program outreach, and collaboration.	6/18/2020 – Attended ITCA meeting as an invited guest. Agenda developed by ITCA.

1. DBME STAFF HAVE ENCOUNTERED CHALLENGES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Verifying information through tribal entities such as housing verifications, per capita payment amounts, and clarification on tribal resolutions
- Building and maintaining trusting relationships with tribal entities

The OTR and DBME hired a full time Tribal Liaison in October 2019. The DBME Tribal Liaison has been working on fostering and building relationships with tribal entities. The DBME staff have been utilizing the Tribal Liaison as the main contact individual for all tribal concerns and inquiries. The DBME Tribal Liaison is working to assist the DBME

staff when it comes to concerns and inquiries regarding tribal matters in hopes of alleviating barriers and challenges for DBME staff.

2. Identify a memorable highlight or learning experience that could benefit other state agencies.

The DBME staff have identified creative ways in utilizing technology to provide assistance to tribal entities across Arizona. Below are examples of technology use that have been created by the DBME staff:

- DBME staff created two specific email addresses for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe TANF Program: One designated to Maricopa and the other to serve the Pima and Pinal Counties. The purpose is to address case inquiries and concerns regarding Pascua Yaqui Tribe TANF recipients. These email addresses were created in November 2019 and there have been over 300 plus case inquiries that have been addressed and resolved for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe TANF Program.
- The DBME Tribal Liaison has started to digitally record the quarterly meetings with tribal entities to improve documentation practices for the DBME staff as well as the tribal entities. The recorded meetings are shared with the tribes and are placed in a shared folder where DBME staff can access the information.
- The DBME Tribal Liaison created an email address specifically for the eight FDPIR to utilize for participation verifications for the SNAP. Out of the eight FDPIR programs, two tribes have utilized the email address as their main resource for verifications. This process began in April 2020 and thus far there has been 251 verifications completed through this email address.

3. Identify Legislative changes that may have an impact on tribes and/or tribal community members.

While there was no legislation passed that was specific to tribal clients in the FAA Assistance programs, the following legislation is noteworthy in that it impacts all recipients of Arizona's Cash Assistance (CA) Program, including tribal members:

On March 23, 2020 the Arizona Legislature passed S.B. 1687 *human services; budget reconciliation; 2020-2021*, retroactive to March 11, 2020, which provides a temporary waiver of the state time limits and a temporary waiver of the work requirements in the TANF CA Program. These are to be in effect during the Arizona Governor's Declaration of a Public Health State of Emergency period for COVID-19.

Impacts to our tribal clients receiving CA in the Arizona CA Program (this does not apply to Tribal TANF programs):

- Mandatory participation in the Jobs and Tribal NEW Work Programs for TANF CA work eligible individuals is temporarily waived. The mandatory participation will resume after the Governor lifts the Declaration of a Public Health State of

Emergency. Also, Graduated Sanctions for failing to comply with TANF Work Program requirements are temporarily waived for good cause exemption.

- As provided in S.B. 1687, both the Arizona 12 month state time limit restriction and the federal 60 month time limit restriction is temporarily waived during the Governor’s Declaration of a Public Health State of Emergency period. Otherwise eligible CA households that have received the maximum number of benefits under either time limit will continue to receive CA under a temporary Pandemic Emergency hardship extension. This temporary hardship extension will also apply to new applicant households that may have reached a benefit time limit prior to this period. TANF CA received during the Governor’s Declaration of a Public Health State of Emergency period will temporarily not count toward the TANF CA time limits.

4. Recommendations from Tribal Representatives:

The DBME Tribal Liaison recommends face-to-face interaction with tribal entities to assist in formulating, strengthening, and maintaining interpersonal relationships between the tribes and DBME. DBME will continue to review and maintain updated Intergovernmental Agreements and DSA with tribal partners, as well as address and follow through when the tribes identify a roadblock.

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES October 2019 – June 2020				
Number of Tribal Visits (in person)	Number of Tribes Visited	Tribal Communication (meetings)	Presentations to Tribes	Number of Tribal Consultations
14	18	16	8	1

Goal	Objective	Activity and Performance Measure
To meet, support and engage in collaborative efforts (in accordance with DES Tribal Consultation policy).	To provide technical assistance, resources, collaboration, and coordination with all 22 Tribes. Presentations provided were specifically for the Tribal agency or community partner to have better understanding of how DDD provides services to the Tribal Communities.	7/1/2019 - DDD Tribal Liaison participated in the workgroup for the AIHP.
		7/11/2019 - Attended AHCCCS Tribal Consultation.
		7/15/2019 - Participated on a telephonic workgroup with AIHP.
		7/16/2019 Attended Navajo Nation Social Services Bi-Monthly

		meeting, Window Rock, Arizona.
		7/24/2019 - Presented to Gila River Indian Community Tribal Social Services Office in Sacaton, Arizona.
		8/5/2019 - Participated in the AIHP workgroup meeting.
		8/12/2019 - Presented DDD changes to the San Carlos Apache Social Services office in San Carlos Arizona.
		8/17/2019 - Attended Tohono O'odham Social Services meeting in Sells, Arizona.
		8/19/2019 - Attended & participated with a workgroup on AIHP.
		8/21/2019 - Participated in the DES Tribal Informational Forum in the Gila River Indian Community. Presented to DDD AIHP.
		8/29/2019 - Participated in the DES Tribal Informational Forum held at the Tucson Indian Center. Presented to DDD AIHP.
		9/4/2019 - Participated in the DES Tribal Informational Forum held at Whiteriver. Presented to DDD AIHP.
		9/11/2019 - Participated in the DES Tribal Informational Forum held in Kingman. Presented to DDD AIHP.

		10/9/2019 - Attended and presented to the Colorado Indian Tribes material on DDD Eligibility and services.
		10/9/2019 - Provided Colorado River Indian Tribe information on Day Programs. Liaison mailed material in Spanish and forward other requests to DERS Liaison.
		10/9/2019 - Provided Colorado River Indian Tribe information on job core & transition to employment. Liaison Forward request to DERS Liaison.
		10/16/2019 - Attended the Fatherhood is Leadership Conference at Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation.
		10/17/2019 - Attended the 15th Annual Conference on Alzheimer's disease/ Dementia in Native Americans in the Yavapai-Apache Nation Casino. Had an informational table about DDD services and programs.
		10/18/2019 - Participated in the DES Tribal Informational Forum held in Tuba City. Presented to DDD AIHP.
		10/19/2019 - Attended the Cultural Celebration for the Cocopah Indian Tribe in Somerton, Arizona. Provided an informational table for DES and DDD P\programs and services.

		10/19/2019 - Facilitated the Navajo and Hopi Workgroup meeting. Meeting for Navajo Nation, Hopi Social Services and DDD staff for program service coordination. In a conference call format.
		10/25/2019 – Participated in the DES Tribal Informational Forum held in Yuma. Presented to DDD AIHP.
		10/30/2019 & 10/3/2019 Attended Indian Child Welfare Act Seminar held at ITCA.

Other Issues of Interest:

1. Identify the challenge(s) encountered by DDD staff in providing services to tribes and/or tribal community members.

A big challenge was not being able to contact tribal staff due to the Tribal Government closures for COVID-19. Sometimes it took a month to get a response back regarding a client. There was no clear direction from the Tribal Office about who to contact if there was a service or information needed for a client.

2. Identify a memorable highlight or learning experience that could benefit other state agencies.

The in-person meetings prior to COVID-19 were appreciated by the Tribal staff as it was helpful for them to put a face to a name and to be able to meet them.

3. Identify Legislative changes that may have an impact on tribes and/or tribal community members.

There were no legislative changes with an impact on tribes and/or tribal community members.

A concern shared with the Department by Tribal representatives, relates to changing federal, state and tribal health and safety guidelines including regulations established in response to COVID-19. It was noted that some of these changes can have an unintended negative impact on children who have disabilities and on their families. While the restrictions are well intended, they may in fact have detrimental impacts on the child(ren) and their families' access to physical and mental health services, transportation, income, education, and safety. More specifically, for those in the rural areas of the Tribal Nations,

the support network for these families can be impacted because of physical distancing, or travel restrictions, and with the closures of Tribal Government Offices.

DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES				
October 2019 – June 2020				
Number of Tribal Visits (in person)	Number of Tribes Visited	Tribal Communication (meetings)	Presentations to Tribes	Number of Tribal Consultations
5	8	2	2	2

Goal	Objective	Activity and Performance Measure
To meet, support and engage in collaborative efforts (in accordance with agency tribal consultation policy).	16 th Annual American Indian Disability Summit Planning Committee Meetings: Phoenix – 7/15/2019, 8/12/2019, 11/18/2019	The DERS Tribal Liaison represented DERS, which is also represented by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Region I Transition Specialist who is a long-standing member of the planning committee. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2020 Summit was postponed to Spring 2021.
	DES OTR Informational Forum: Hua’pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center Chandler – 8/27/2019	The DERS Tribal Liaison co-hosted a table with the SNAP Career Advancement Network (CAN) Manager and provided DERS related information to attendees and responded to various questions regarding DERS programs and services available.
	DES OTR Informational Forum Tucson Indian Center Tucson – 8/29/2019	The SNAP CAN Manager attended the forum on behalf of the DERS Tribal Liaison and hosted the DERS table to provide information to attendees.

	<p>Division for Developmental Disabilities/Disability Awareness Day: Sacaton D3 Head Start Center Sacaton – 10/18/2019</p>	<p>The DERS Tribal Liaison co-hosted a table with the DCSS Tribal Liaison and provided division-related information to attendees and responded to various questions regarding programs and services available.</p>
	<p>Nineteen Tribal Nations Directors' & Workforce Development Board (WDB) Quarterly Meetings and Annual Conference: Prescott – 12/4-7/2019</p>	<p>On behalf of the DERS Tribal Liaison, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Technical Assistance Coordinator regularly attended quarterly meetings and the annual conference to provide assistance and support to member tribes.</p>
	<p>Hopi Family Assistance Program (HFAP): Phoenix, Arizona – 12/2019 and 1/2020 (electronically)</p>	<p>On behalf of the DERS Tribal Liaison, the TANF Jobs Program Policy Specialist assisted the Hopi Tribal TANF Supervisor to understand the impact of, and respond to, proposed federal rule changes to the Tribal TANF Program.</p>
	<p>Arizona DES Tribal Government Consultation: Phoenix, Arizona – 1/16/2020</p>	<p>The DERS Tribal Liaison attended the consultation as part of a DES commitment to meet with tribal leadership to discuss initiatives, issues, and topics of mutual interest relating to the 2020-2023 WIOA State Plan, as well as the SNAP E&T ABAWD Waiver and tribal impacts. Also attending were the DERS Policy Administrator who facilitated a presentation on the ABAWD Waiver; the WIOA Project Specialist/Coordinator who facilitated a presentation on the WIOA State Plan; and staff from the DERS Policy</p>

		Workforce Development Administration.
	ITCA Social Services Workgroup Meetings: Phoenix, Arizona – 1/16/2020 DES OTR Informational Session: Phoenix, Arizona – 3/5/2020	The DERS Tribal Liaison attended meetings to support and consult member tribes. The DERS Tribal Liaison and TANF Jobs Program Policy Specialist represented DERS via conference call with tribes that operate their own Tribal TANF programs to discuss the TANF State Plan and Social Security Block Grant. Presentations were provided by the Division of Business and Finance, DES Policy Chief and Executive Consultant. Follow-up on questions and concerns from the Tribal Consultation held 1/6/2020 was also discussed.
	Arizona DES Tribal Consultation/Informational Session: Phoenix, Arizona – 6/25/2020	On behalf of the DERS Tribal Liaison, the SNAP E&T Policy Specialist met with tribal leadership as required by the USDA Food and Nutrition Services regarding the 2020 SNAP E&T State Plan and upcoming changes occurring within the 2021 SNAP E&T State Plan that may impact tribal members and to inform tribes of the opportunity to operate a SNAP E&T program on tribal lands.
	DERS WIOA Title I-B Policy Specialist tribal outreach/collaborations Statewide - March & April 2020	Per request by the U.S. Department of Labor and the DERS Policy Administrator, the Policy Specialist conducted outreach to Nineteen Tribal Nations Local Workforce Development

		<p>Board members to gather information and provide updates on tribal workforce operations affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Information gathered included whether office closures were anticipated, availability of staff to assist WIOA clients and how assistance would be provided, which offices would be affected, if staff would be teleworking, and projected dates for reopening if known.</p>
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Highlights:

Beginning July 2020 under the direction of the DERS Policy Administrator, more tribal outreach will be made by the DERS Policy Managers and DERS Programmatic Policy Specialists who will reach out to all DERS Administrations to capture the work being done to support the tribes and their communities. This outreach will be a coordinated effort together with the DERS Tribal Liaison and will also ensure that our tribal customers are receiving appropriate programmatic policy information and guidance from the respective programs. These accomplishments will be reported in the 2021 DERS Tribal Consultation Report and going forward.

Recommendations from Tribal Representatives:

Arizona’s tribal leadership, as a whole, consistently express a desire to be more engaged both with and by their governmental peers, recommending more peer-to-peer involvement by DES leadership in formal meetings and consultations, and reiterating the need to actively include the tribes in the drafting of State policy by which they may be directly affected. Tribal leadership and tribal staff also stress the need for continued and continuously improved communications strategies, to ensure a more balanced and efficient distribution of information to the Tribes of Arizona.

Challenges:

The DERS Tribal Liaison continues to find that the quality, distribution, and awareness-level concerning DERS programmatic and service-related information varies significantly from tribe to tribe. Whether the audience is tribal leadership, tribal staff, or the membership of tribal communities, communication is a constant challenge. Contributing factors may include variances in preferred or available communication mediums, geographical and technological barriers, the availability of staff to compile, organize, and present/distribute such information, and turnover within both DES and the tribes which can often disrupt the flow of information.

With the assistance of the DES Tribal Relations Manager, other DES Divisional Tribal Liaisons, and the tribes themselves, the Interim DERS Tribal Liaison is working to overcome these challenges through continued communication strategies. To account for the reduced time commitment of the DERS Tribal Liaison this year, the DERS Policy Administrator is committed to ensuring the Tribes of Arizona are served in a timely and respectful manner by the WIOA Technical Assistance Coordinator, WIOA Project Specialist/Coordinator, and each of the DERS Workforce Development Program policy staff from their respective programs that includes WIOA, TANF/Jobs, Employment Services, Trade Adjustment Assistance, and SNAP E&T.

DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES October 2019 – June 2020				
Number of Tribal Visits (in person)	Number of Tribes Visited	Tribal Communication (meetings)	Presentations to Tribes	Number of Tribal Consultations
1	1	0	1	0

Goal	Objective	Activity and Performance Measure
To meet, support and engage in collaborative efforts (in accordance with agency tribal consultation policy).	Guadalupe Coalition Meetings	DCSS regularly attended monthly meetings.
	Town of Guadalupe Christmas Party, 12/21/2019	DCSS hosted an informational booth. The event saw over 1,000 people attend.
	Native American Fatherhood and Families Association Monthly Clinics	DCSS regularly hosted monthly information booths.
	Town of Guadalupe Resource Center Monthly Clinics	DCSS regularly hosted monthly information booths.
	25 th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day, 1/15/2020	DCSS supported the OTR information booth.
	Native American Women's Health Expo, 10/19/2019	DCSS supported the OTR information booth.

Recommendations from Tribal Representatives: Continue to support and stay involved with Tribal Governments as it pertains to the State of Arizona and Child Support Services.

Continue to reach out to tribes and let them know of DCSS availability to help where the Tribes see fit. Continue to attend Tribal meetings, consultations, and conferences. Seek any input that Tribal Governments may have to continue to support and nurture working relationships. **Challenges:** Just as in years past, some Tribes do not have any Tribal Codes and/or Ordinances within their Constitution that pertain to Child Support or Child Support enforcement. Also, a challenge is making sure that tribal members are aware that they can apply for DCSS services as well as which location they can visit closest to their area.

For questions or more information, please contact:

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