



DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
Governor

JEFF HOOD
Director

TRIBAL CONSULTATION ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

1. Agency Overview

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) is responsible for the custody, care, and treatment of seriously delinquent youth who are committed to the agency by the Arizona juvenile courts. ADJC is committed to the promotion of public protection by changing the delinquent thinking and behaviors of committed youthful offenders. ADJC strives to create opportunities for youth and families to lead useful and rewarding lives; and we acknowledge and appreciate communities, families, friends, stakeholders and staff who support positive change in our youth. ADJC recognizes the unique sovereign nation status of tribal government and is committed to the government-to-government relationships it has with Arizona's American Indian Nations in its work to ensure safer communities through successful youth.

Agency Tribal Consultation Policy and Tribal Liaison

This report has been written and submitted pursuant to Arizona Executive Order 2006-14, Consultation and Cooperation with Arizona American Indian Tribes. It provides an overview of strategic partnerships, government to government relationships and opportunities for mutually respectful cooperation that occurred between the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections and Arizona's American Indian Tribes. The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections adopted its Tribal Consultation Policy in 2006, and it is reviewed annually and updated when necessary. However, ADJC had already recognized the need to have an employee with a comprehensive working knowledge of culture, religious practices, socio-economic circumstances, and the structure of operational tribal governments. The Tribal Liaison position was created in 2001, so ADJC was already working to enhance communication and build collaborative partnerships with Arizona Tribal Nations prior to the creation of the Executive Order.

Until 2016, the Tribal Liaison was a full-time position. However, given the declining numbers of committed youth, including a corresponding decline in Indian youth committed to the agency, the decision was made to assign the duties of the Tribal Liaison to the Legal Systems Bureau, where ADJC's Administrative Counsel is responsible for those duties. In FY20, there were 33 American Indian youth under ADJC's jurisdiction.

2. Tribal Consultation Activities

Goal	Objective	Activity and Performance Measure
<p>ADJC shall maintain and continue to cultivate a healthy organizational environment that positively impacts the juveniles, families, and communities we serve in accordance with the Tribal consultation policy.</p>	<p>Encourage Tribal parents and guardians to participate in the youth’s treatment in the facility and on conditional liberty.</p>	<p>Tribal parents or guardians receive a monthly invitation to attend and participate in treatment team meetings (staffings) and visitation with their youth while they are in agency care.</p>
<p>(same as above)</p>	<p>Encourage Tribal social workers / case managers to participate in the youth’s treatment in the facility and while on conditional liberty.</p>	<p>Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections case workers (Youth Program Officer IIIs) request attendance and participation of any assigned Tribal social workers / case managers in monthly treatment team meetings for youth in secure care in the facility or on conditional liberty (parole) in the community.</p>
	<p>(same as above)</p>	<p>An ADJC youth who is a member of the Tohono O’odham Nation was assigned a Tribal case worker. The youth’s ADJC Parole Officer consulted regularly with the Tribal case worker prior to the youth’s release, resulting in placement and counseling services identified, approved, and funded through the Tribe. The youth also received a clothing allowance of</p>

		\$250/month through the Tribe, and a laptop to support his enrollment in college.
ADJC shall pursue cooperation with American Indian Tribes represented by our juvenile population, in accordance with the agency Tribal consultation policy.	Consult with American Indian Tribes on collaborative efforts to protect youth in the community.	<p>In FY20, ADJC requested and received assistance from the following American Indian Tribes to locate and/or protect youth in the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yavapai-Apache Nation ● Tonto Apache Tribal Police ● Pascua Yaqui Tribal Police ● Gila River Indian Community Police Department ● Quechan Tribe
ADJC shall consider the provisions of the Indian Child Welfare Act in its work with Arizona American Indian Tribes, in accordance with agency Tribal consultation policy.	Ensure ADJC staff are aware of current issues involving ICWA and coordinate with American Indian Tribes on ICWA-related issues.	In addition to considering ICWA guidance in making placement decisions, ADJC regularly participates in the Federal-State Tribal Court Forums organized by the Arizona Administrative Office of the Court. Topics discussed include changes to Court Rules regarding Tribal participation in dependency case matters, collaboration and cooperation across jurisdictions, integrating Indian legal concerns into judicial education, and the intersection of delinquency, dependency, and ICWA issues.
ADJC shall provide cultural awareness training/ opportunities for staff to ensure cultural sensitivity in their interactions with others, in	Provide cultural sensitivity training specific to American Indian Tribes for ADJC staff.	Due to the global pandemic, nearly all external training (including our cultural sensitivity training) was postponed. ADJC is therefore developing specialized training to support the special needs of incarcerated Indian youth.

accordance with agency Tribal consultation policy.		
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3. Other issues of interest:

- a. Challenges encountered by staff in providing services to tribes and/or tribal community members
 - i. ADJC staff regularly engage parents and guardians in the treatment and rehabilitation of American Indian youth in our care, but occasionally struggle to identify the appropriate Tribal contact for collaboration on specific issues.
 - ii. Due to the global COVID pandemic, on March 16, 2020, ADJC made the difficult decision to temporarily suspend in-person family visitation to protect the health and safety of youth and staff. During this time, ADJC implemented an innovative video visitation option through Google hangouts, and ADJC Parole Officers have assisted families in utilizing this resource. On August 22, ADJC resumed limited, non-contact family visitation, with protocols to ensure that visitation could occur safely. On November 20, in response to increasing cases around the state, ADJC again suspended in-person family visitation. Video visitation has been expanded to allow youth and their families to connect during the upcoming weeks.
- b. A memorable highlight or learning experience that could benefit other state agencies

As mentioned above, collaboration between an ADJC Parole Officer and the youth's Tribal case worker resulted in the youth having access to additional resources and services in the community to support his college enrollment.
- c. Legislative changes that may have an impact on tribes and/or tribal community members.

Not applicable.

For further information, contact:

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