



DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
Governor

JEFF HOOD
Director

TRIBAL CONSULTATION ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

1. Agency Overview

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) is responsible for the care, custody, and treatment of seriously delinquent youth who are committed to the agency by the Arizona juvenile courts. ADJC's mission is to rehabilitate the youth in our care by providing evidence-based treatment, prosocial opportunities, and educational and career training programs that will lead them to become productive, law abiding members of society.

ADJC strives to create opportunities for committed youth to lead useful and rewarding lives, and we welcome and appreciate communities, families, friends, stakeholders and staff who support positive change in our youth. ADJC recognizes the unique sovereign nation status of tribal governments 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. ADJC's Tribal Liaison position was created in 2001, prior to the issuance of the Executive Order, because ADJC recognized the importance of working to enhance communication and build collaborative partnerships with Arizona Tribal Nations. In 2006, ADJC adopted its Tribal Consultation Policy, which is reviewed annually and updated when necessary.

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 FY21, there were 20 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>ADJC 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>ADJC shall pursue cooperation with American Indian Tribes represented by our juvenile population, in accordance with the agency Tribal consultation policy.</p>	<p>Consult with American Indian Tribes on collaborative efforts to place youth in the community.</p>	<p>In FY21, ADJC consulted with Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe, Navajo Nation, and Tohono O’Odham Nation caseworkers regarding the treatment and placement of tribal youth.</p> <p>In FY21, ADJC requested and received assistance from the Gila River Indian Community, the Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe, and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation to locate and/or protect youth in the community.</p>

<p>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.</p>	<p>Ensure ADJC staff are aware of current issues involving ICWA and coordinate with American Indian Tribes on ICWA-related issues.</p>	<p>ADJC works with the Department of Child Safety, juvenile courts, and tribal caseworkers to ensure compliance with ICWA in the placement of tribal youth.</p>
<p>ADJC shall provide cultural awareness training/ opportunities for staff to ensure cultural sensitivity in their interactions with others, in accordance with agency Tribal consultation policy.</p>	<p>Provide cultural sensitivity training specific to American Indian Tribes for ADJC staff.</p>	<p>Due to the global pandemic, nearly all external training (including our cultural sensitivity training) was postponed. Cultural sensitivity training is incorporated into ADJC’s Youth Correctional Officer Academy.</p>

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, ADJC has had to intermittently suspend in-person visitation to protect the health 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. In addition, ADJC has implemented regular COVID testing for staff and youth, as well as making vaccines available for staff and youth whose parents or guardians wish their youth to be vaccinated.

- b. A memorable highlight or learning experience that could benefit other state agencies:

ADJC has relied frequently upon its collaborative relationships with tribal governments to support youth in the community while promoting public safety, and greatly appreciates the cooperation and assistance.

- 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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