Forum E-Update

December 2015

TRIBAL COURT-STATE COURT FORUM

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IN THE NEWS

NATIONAL

Brief of Casey Family Programs and Twelve Other National Child Welfare Organizations as Amici Curiae in Support of Motions to **Dismiss**

NICWA Press Release November 16, 2015

Tribal Sovereignty Act Passes

By Cassidy Belus WASHINGTON D.C. - Courtesy press release ABC Fox Montana November 17, 2015

Justice Department Announces Funding Opportunities for Federal Recognized Tribes and Tribal Consortia

Department of Justice - Office of Public Affairs November 19, 2015

The Struggle for Justice on Tribal Lands

By Ned Blackhawk The New York Times Nov. 25, 2015

Suguamish Tribe Negotiates Agreement to Enforce State Laws

Indianz.com December 1, 2015

Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) - 5 Years Later: How have the jus systems in Indian Country improved?

United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs December 2, 1015

Navajo Nation Motion for Intervention and Motion to Dismiss in **ICWA Goldwater Litigation**

Turtle Talk

Posted on November 18, 2015 by Kate Fort

Justices Ask Whether Federal-Tribal Relations Should Affect Claim Timeliness Rules

The Daily Journal December 1, 2015

Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) - 5 Years Later: How have the iustice systems in Indian Country improved?

United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Oversight Hearing-Video

December 2, 2015

Ed Gehres Preview of the Dollar General Argument

Turtle Talk

Posted on December 1, 2015 by Matthew L.M. Fletcher

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

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Tribal/State Programs Link: http://www.courts.ca.gov/programstribal.htm

FORUM LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS Visit forum's home page

http://www.courts.ca.gov/3065.htm

<u>DOJ Wins Motion to Dismiss in NCFA v. Jewell (2015 Guidelines Litigation)</u>

Turtle Talk

Posted on December 10, 2015 by Kate Fort

Kevin Washburn Leaving BIA in January

Indian Country Today By Tanya H. Lee December 10, 2015

John Trudell: An Appreciation

Indian Country Today By Henay Geiogamah December 12, 2015

CALIFORNIA

Native American Tribe Bets on Olive Oil

NPR

December 1, 2015

EDUCATION

State Judicial Branch Online Resources

Newslinks is a service that the Judicial Council's Communications Office puts together every day. If you would like to receive this service, please visit this <u>webpage</u>. There is a sign up link on the horizontal blue bar near the top of the page.

Court Extranet and CJER Online

This website contains information relevant to all levels of judicial branch personnel and includes resources designed to meet education, facilities, financial, human resources, legal, special court projects, technology, and other informational needs. For more information, please contact Carolynn Bernabe at 415-865-7556 or carolynn.bernabe@jud.ca.gov.

California Dependency Online Guide (CalDOG)

This website contains dependency-related case law, legal materials, articles and other resources relevant to California attorneys, judicial officers, social workers, tribal representatives, Court Appointed Special Advocates, and other child welfare professionals. Subscriptions are free and available to professionals working in the field of juvenile dependency. Log in or subscribe here.

These programs are supported with funds from the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice that are administered through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Court Improvement Program, and the California Department of Social Services.

New Publications

The Beginning and End of Rape

Confronting Sexual Violence in Native America Kirkus Reviews By Sarah Deer

The New Boarding Schools: Racial Biases in the State of South Dakota Continue to Fuel Constant, Willful Violations of the Indian Child Welfare Act

A Report by the Lakota People's Law Project May 2015

Upcoming Conferences

Intertribal Friendship House (IFH) 60th Anniversary Event-"Community is Good Medicine"

January 30, 2016, 3:00-6:00pm-Oakland, California
For more information, please contact Vida Castaneda at vida.castaneda@jud.ca.gov

National Conference on Juvenile Justice
March 20, 2016 to March 23, 2016
Las Vegas, Nevada
MGM Grand

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

The Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act (S. 246) authorizes the establishment of a national commission that would study a broad range of issues affecting Al/AN children and families. Senator Heitkamp (D-ND) is the original co-sponsor. The bill has been reported out of committee and is now awaiting consideration by the full Senate. At a hearing in 2014, former Senator Byron Dorgan gave his support to the legislation, noting it is time that attention be brought to the challenges faced by Al/AN children, and that we work together to find solutions. Several members of SCIA also support this legislation. NICWA has endorsed this legislation and is working with Senator Heitkamp to address some concerns within the bill. This bill was approved by the Senate committee and is now awaiting consideration by the full Senate.

The Native American Children's Safety Act (S. 184 and H.R. 1168) establishes new mandates for tribal licensing of foster care and adoptive homes. The original co-sponsor of the Senate legislation is Senator Hoeven (R-ND), and the House bill co-sponsor is Representative Kevin Cramer (R-ND). The Senate and House bills have been reported out of their committees and are now awaiting consideration by the full Senate and House. Both the House and Senate bills have cleared their committees and are now awaiting consideration by the full House and Senate.

Senator Wyden Solicits Comments on Child Welfare Reform Proposal to expand reimbursement under the title IV-E program to allow for funding of in-home and other types of prevention services that can keep children safely in their homes without having to remove them. This proposal would also provide approximately \$470 million to the title IV-B Promoting Safe and Stable Families program. The expansion of funding and services to help reduce the number of children in foster care is similar to a FY2016 budget proposal from President Obama and is widely viewed as necessary to bring balance into the child welfare system, which has far more funding for services that require a child be removed from the home before receiving reimbursement for services. Tribes are eligible to operate both the title IV-E and Title IV-B programs and are encouraged to carefully study Senator Wyden's proposal. Senator Wyden is asking for comments on his proposal by June 12, 2016.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

SAMHSA's Tribal Training and Technical Assistance Center

The Tribal TTA Center provides training and technical assistance (TTA) on mental and substance use disorders, suicide prevention, and the promotion of mental health. We offer Broad, Focused, and Intensive TTA to federally recognized tribes, other American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities, SAMHSA tribal grantees, and organizations serving Indian Country.

New Federal Grants Available for Tribal-State ICWA Programs

Deadline: June 13, 2016

State and Tribal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Implementation Partnership Grants

Deadline: June 16, 2016

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to support the creation of effective practice model partnerships between state courts and/or Court Improvement Program, state public child welfare agency and a tribe, group of tribes, or tribal consortia, including both the tribal child welfare agency and tribal court for effective implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) of 1978 (Pub.L. 95-608).

Demonstration sites will be required to jointly develop protocols and practices to promote effective and timely:

- Identification of Indian children;
- Notice to tribes:
- Tribal participation as parties in hearings involving Indian children:
- Tribal intervention in dependency cases;
- Transfer of ICWA cases to tribal courts; and
- Placement of Indian children according to tribal preferences.

Partnership models must be co-created by states and tribes, jointly implemented, and designed to generate and capture clear, measurable outcomes such as:

- Compliance with identification methods;
- The number of Indian children identified;
- Length of time from removal or petition filed until identification is made;
- Number of notices sent;
- Length of time from identification until notice sent (state measure)
- Number of notices received (tribal measure)
- Length of time for tribal intervention or participation; (tribal measure)
- Number of cases in which a tribe intervenes; (joint measure)
- Number of transfers; (joint measure); and
- Number of Indian children placed according to tribal placement preferences (joint measure).

U.S. Department of Justice Access to Justice Grant Information

Criminal - Grants | Training & Technical Assistance

Juvenile - Grants | Training & Technical Assistance

Civil - Grants | Training & Technical Assistance

Violence Against Women - Grants | Training & Technical Assistance

Victims of Crime - Grants | Training & Technical Assistance

Tribal Justice- Grants | Training & Technical Assistance

<u>Consolidated Grant Program to Address Children and Youth Experiencing Domestic and Sexual</u> Assault and Engage Men and Boys as Allies

Deadline: January 19, 2016

The Consolidated Grant Program to Address Children and Youth Experiencing Domestic and Sexual Assault and Engage Men and Boys as Allies (hereafter referred to as the Consolidated Youth Program) was enacted in the FY 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015 appropriation acts, which consolidated four previously authorized and appropriated programs into one comprehensive program. The four programs included in the FY 2012, FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015 consolidations were: Services to Advocate for and Respond to Youth (Youth Services), Grants to Assist Children and Youth Exposed to Violence (CEV),

Engaging Men and Youth in Preventing Domestic Violence (EMY), and Supporting Teens through Education and Prevention (STEP). The Consolidated Youth Program supports projects designed to provide coordinated community responses that support child, youth and young adult victims through direct services, training, coordination and collaboration, effective intervention, treatment, response, and prevention strategies. The Consolidated Youth Program creates a unique opportunity for communities to increase collaboration among non-profit victim service providers; violence prevention, and children (0-10), youth (11-18), young adult (19-24) and men-serving organizations; tribes and tribal governments; local government agencies; schools; and programs that support men's role in combating sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

Justice for Families Program

Deadline: January 20, 2016

The Grants to Support Families in the Justice System program (referred to as the Justice for Families Program) was authorized in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) of 2013 to improve the response of all aspects of the civil and criminal justice system to families with a history of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, or in cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse. The program supports the following activities for improving the capacity of communities and courts to respond to families affected by the four crimes: court-based and court-related programs; supervised visitation and safe exchange by and between parents; training and technical assistance for people who work with families in the court system; civil legal services; provision of resources in juvenile court matters; and development or promotion of legislation, model codes, policies, and best practices.

AmeriCorps State and National Grants FY 2016

Deadline: January 27, 2016

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions to strengthen communities. An AmeriCorps member is an individual who engages in community service through an approved national service position. Members may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving. Upon successful completion of their service, members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award from the National Service Trust that members can use to pay for higher education expenses or apply to qualified student loans. Grant awards have two components: operating funds and AmeriCorps member positions. Grant award amounts vary – both in the level of operating funds and in the type and amount of AmeriCorps member positions. Unless otherwise specified, the grant generally covers a three-year project period. In approving a multi-year project period, CNCS generally makes an initial award for the first year of operation. In most cases, the application is submitted with a one-year budget. Continuation funding is not guaranteed. Contact: americorpsgrants@cns.gov 202-606-7508

Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Program

Deadline: February 1, 2016

The United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) (www.ovw.usdoj.gov) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for the Fiscal Year 2016 Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Assistance Program. This program furthers the Department's mission by supporting projects designed to address and prevent sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking in rural jurisdictions.

Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program

Deadline: February 2, 2016

The Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program provided funding directly to tribes, tribal organizations, and tribal nonprofit organizations to create, maintain, and expand sustainable sexual assault services.

Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life Program

Deadline: February 11, 2016

The Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life Program provides or enhances training and services to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, involving victims who are 50 years of age or older.

U.S. Department of Justice-Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation

Deadline: February 23, 2016

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding to improve public safety and victim services in tribal communities. This solicitation provides federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia an opportunity to develop a comprehensive and coordinated approach to public safety and victimization issues and to apply for funding. The DOJ's existing Tribal Government-specific programs are included in and available through this single Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation.

Applicants must register with GMS prior to submitting an application. An applicant will not be able to submit an application without registering in GMS before the application deadline of 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on February 23, 2016. Applicants should begin the registration process immediately to meet the GMS registration deadline, especially if this is the first time using the system. It is strongly recommended that applicants register early, but no later than Tuesday, February 2, 2016, in order to resolve difficulties well in advance of the application deadline. See Section H "How to Apply" for further details.

Research on Measurement of Teen Dating Violence

Deadline: March 9, 2016

NIJ is seeking proposals for measurement research related to teen dating violence (a.k.a. adolescent relationship abuse). In particular, NIJ is seeking proposals that advance the accurate and developmentally appropriate measurement of dating violence perpetration and victimization among adolescents and young adults.

Core State Violence and Injury Prevention Program (Core SVIPP) Deadline: April 8, 2016

The overall purpose of this funding is to: 1) decrease and prevent injury and violence related morbidity and mortality and 2) increase sustainability of injury prevention programs and practices. This will be achieved through support to State Health Departments (SHDs) in the implementation, evaluation and dissemination of programs, practices, and policies with the best available evidence (see Glossary for best available evidence definition). Strategies that address injury and violence prevention (IVP) through the lens of shared risk and protective factors are encouraged to promote maximum impact of limited resources. Required strategies will align with NCIPC priorities related to child abuse and neglect, traumatic brain injury (TBI), motor vehicle crash injury and death, and intimate partner/sexual violence. Technical Information Management Section Department of Health and Human Services CDC Office of Financial Resources Office of Grants Services 2920 Brandywine Road, MS E-14 Atlanta, GA 30341 Telephone: 770-488-2700 pgotim@cdc.gov

<u>Grants to Tribes, Tribal Organizations, and Migrant Programs for Community-Based Child Abuse</u> Prevention Programs

Deadline: April 14, 2016

The primary purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to provide financial support to selected tribes, tribal organizations, and migrant programs for child abuse prevention programs and activities that are consistent with the goals outlined by Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). The funds must support effective and comprehensive child abuse prevention activities and family support services that will enhance the lives and ensure the safety and well-being of migrant and Native American children and their families. Organizations should foster strong linkages with the State Lead Agency for the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Programs funded by Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act. Some examples of programs that may be funded include, but are not limited to, voluntary home visiting, respite care, parenting education, family resource centers, domestic violence services, and other family support services. Grantees are strongly encouraged to implement evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices that reflect the unique cultural characteristics and needs of their communities. The funds must also be used to support an evaluation of the programs and services funded by the grant. Finally, programs funded should develop stronger linkages with the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Program (CBCAP) State Lead Agency funded under Title II of CAPTA. It is anticipated that three grants will be funded under this announcement. The funding period will be for 5 years.

Foster/Adoptive Parent Preparation, Training and Development Project

Deadline: May 27, 2016

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to award one cooperative agreement to an organization to develop a state-of-the-art foster/adoptive parent training program to include intensive preparation and development components that reflect the capacities required of successful foster/adoptive parents. This is intended to be a product that could be utilized by all states, tribes, and territories and consistently applied wherever implemented. Development of this program would include research on the common characteristics of individuals and their foster/adoptive families that have succeeded in terms of well-being and stability. Common characteristics of families that are more likely to foster and/or adopt harder to place children/youth and are successful and remain committed to the relationship will be identified and integrated into the program.

State and Tribal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Implementation Partnership Grants

Deadline: June 12, 2016

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to support the creation of effective practice model partnerships between state courts and/or Court Improvement Program, state public child welfare agency and a tribe, group of tribes, or tribal consortia, including both the tribal child welfare agency and tribal court for effective implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) of 1978 (Pub.L. 95-608).

Veterans Cemetery Grants

Deadline: July 31, 2016

Grants are available for states, territories and federally recognized tribal governments. This program is implemented in 38 Code of Federal Regulations Part 39.

FY 2016 Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations

Deadline: September 30, 2016

The Secretary of the Interior established the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (Buy-Back Program, Program) to implement the land consolidation provisions of the Cobell Settlement Agreement, which provided \$1.9 billion to consolidate fractional land interests across Indian country. The Buy-Back Program allows interested individual owners to sell their land for immediate transfer to the recognized tribe that exercises jurisdiction. This effort will strengthen tribal sovereignty and put decision-making in the hands of the tribal government, freeing up resources that have been locked-up as land interests that have fractionated over time. The Buy-Back Program has announced 42 locations where land consolidation activities such as planning, outreach, mapping, mineral evaluations, appraisals or acquisitions are scheduled to take place through the middle of 2017. The Buy-Back Program is interested in partnering with the eliqible tribes that have jurisdiction over these 42 locations, as well as any locations that are added to the implementation schedule, to gain their direct participation in land consolidation efforts given tribes' unique qualifications to perform land consolidation activities for their reservations. Consequently, the Program intends to, whenever feasible and practical, enter into single source cooperative agreements with these eligible tribes to not only capitalize on their unique knowledge of their reservations but also to improve the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Program. Eligible tribes will be given the opportunity to apply for a cooperative agreement, whenever feasible and practical, prior to the implementation of the Buy-Back Program at the location under their jurisdiction. The Buy-Back Program will continue to expand to other reservations over the next several years, and tribes with jurisdiction over locations not yet scheduled for implementation will receive information about how they can participate once their reservations are scheduled. Tribes are encouraged to contact Program staff for more information on developing the cooperative agreement application prior to submission. Tribes are not required to enter into cooperative agreements to participate in the Program. In certain cases, it may be unnecessary and other vehicles, such as memorandums of agreements, may be used. The Settlement Agreement limits the amount of funding that may be used for implementation costs associated with the Program (e.g., outreach, land research, and appraisals). Thus, to help ensure that it stays within the established limit on implementation costs, the Program will fund indirect costs through cooperative agreements equal to no more than 15% of the modified total direct costs. PLEASE NOTE: This is a 10year program. The expiration on this posting reflects this current opportunity, and new opportunities will be posted over the duration of the Program. In addition, given that the Cobell Settlement specifically limits overall implementation costs for the duration of the Program, cooperative agreement awards are not intended to fund or support long-term, multi-year programs at each location or reservation. Most awards will provide funding for no longer than 1 year, and tribes are encouraged to utilize the award amount to

work with existing tribal land offices and programs. Tribes are also encouraged to first review mapping and other information available from the Program and to work with Program staff in the development of the cooperative agreement application.

Exploratory Clinical Trials of Novel Interventions for Mental Disorders (R61/R33)

Deadline: October 14, 2016

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support the efficient pilot testing of novel interventions for mental disorders in adults and children through an experimental therapeutics approach. Under this FOA, trials must be designed so that results, whether positive or negative, will provide information of high scientific utility and will support go/no-go decisions about further development or testing of the intervention. Studies of novel interventions include, but are not limited to behavioral, pharmacological, biologics-based, cognitive, device-based, interpersonal, physiological, or combined approaches. Support will be provided for up to two years (R61 phase) for preliminary milestone-driven testing of the interventions engagement of the therapeutic target, possibly followed by up to 3 years of support (R33 phase) for studies to replicate target engagement and relate change in the intervention target to functional or clinical effects. Ultimately, this R61/R33 FOA is intended to speed the translation of emerging basic science findings of mechanisms and processes underlying mental disorders into novel interventions that can be efficiently tested for their promise in restoring function and reducing symptoms for those living with mental disorders.

Integrated Food Defense

Deadline: Open applications until April 2, 2019

The Integrated Food Defense & Emergency Response Cooperative Agreement Program (IFD&ER CAP) grant awards are designed to generate food defense tools and resources that are easily replicated and can complement, aid in the development of, and/or improve State, local, Tribal and territorial (SLTT) food defense programs through unique, innovative, and reproducible projects. The known overlap between food safety (unintentional contamination) and food defense (intentional contamination) is extensive. And the pools of resources available are vast and sometimes difficult to locate and implement. As the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) recognizes the evolution of the relationship between food safety and food defense, it is critical that these programs be integrated to the maximum extent possible in order to ensure the most efficient use of resources, as well as to optimize responses to incidents and events.

Healthy Habits: Timing for Developing Sustainable Healthy Behaviors in Children and Adolescents Deadline: Open

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) seeks to encourage applications that employ innovative research to identify mechanisms of influence and/or promote positive sustainable health behavior(s) in children and youth (birth to age 21). Applications to promote positive health behavior(s) should target social and cultural factors, including, but not limited to: schools, families, communities, population, food industry, age-appropriate learning tools and games, social media, social networking, technology and mass media. Topics to be addressed in this announcement include: effective, sustainable processes for influencing young people to make healthy behavior choices; identification of the appropriate stage of influence for learning sustainable lifelong health behaviors; the role of technology and new media in promoting healthy behavior; identification of factors that support healthy behavior development in vulnerable populations, identification of barriers to healthy behaviors; and, identification of mechanisms and mediators that are common to the development of a range of habitual health behaviors. Given the many factors involved in developing sustainable health behaviors, applications from multidisciplinary teams are strongly encouraged. The ultimate goal of this FOA is to promote research that identifies and enhances processes that promote sustainable positive behavior or changes social and cultural norms that influence health and future health behaviors.

Interventions for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Native American Populations Deadline: Open

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to develop, adapt, and test the effectiveness of health promotion and disease prevention interventions in Native American (NA) populations. NA populations are exposed to considerable risk factors that significantly increase their likelihood of chronic disease, substance abuse, mental illness, oral diseases, and HIV-infection. The intervention program should be culturally appropriate and promote the adoption of healthy lifestyles. improve behaviors and social conditions and/or improve environmental conditions related to chronic

diseases, the consumption of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, mental illness, oral disease, or HIV-infection. The intervention program should be designed so that it could be sustained within the entire community within existing resources, and, if successful, disseminated in other Native American communities. The long-term goal of this FOA is to reduce mortality and morbidity in NA communities. For the purposes of this FOA Native Americans include the following populations: Alaska Native, American Indian, and Native Hawaiian. The term Native Hawaiian means any individual any of whose ancestors were natives, prior to 1778, of the area which now comprises the State of Hawaii.

California Wellness Foundation

Deadline: Open

The mission of The California Wellness Foundation is to improve the health of the people of California by making grants for health promotion, wellness education and disease prevention. Since its founding in 1992, Cal Wellness has awarded 7,690 grants totaling more than \$912 million.

Lannan Indigenous Communities Program

Deadline: Open

The Indigenous Communities Program (ICP) supports the resolve of Native Americans to renew their communities through their own institutions and traditions. Funding priority is given to rural indigenous projects that are consistent with traditional values in the areas of education, Native cultures, the revival and preservation of languages, legal rights, and environmental protection. At this time the foundation only accepts new grant requests from United States federally recognized tribes or Native controlled 501(c)(3) organizations whose work is solely focused in the United States.

Tribal Justice Support Directorate

Deadline: Open

Tribal Justice Support provides funding guidance, technical support, and advisory services to tribal courts and the Courts of Indian Offenses. This includes providing funding to tribal courts, training directed to specific needs of tribal court personnel, promoting cooperation and coordination among tribal justice systems and Federal and state judiciary systems, and providing oversight for the continuing operations for the Courts of Indian Offenses. The Division also works with tribes to conduct tribal court reviews which are conducted using a modified model of the Tribal Court Performance Standards (TCPS). The TCPS assists tribal courts in identifying existing problems and formulating strategies for improvement of tribal courts and provides an outcome-oriented conceptual framework of tribal court performance areas, standards, and measures.

Surdna Foundation- Teens' Artistic and Cultural Advancement

Deadline: Open (Letters of Inquiry) http://www.surdna.org

This foundation seeks organizations that have a proven and longstanding commitment to serving teens and that emphasize skill building. This funding is designed to:

- Provide high quality arts training that integrate life skills. These skills include: written and oral communication, problem-solving, critical thinking, and leadership development;
- Encourage teens to connect to their cultural identity through art-making;
- Provide young people with a well-developed, sequential curriculum that meets the increasing skills of participants;
- Foster strong mentoring opportunities for artists with teens;
- Employ accomplished faculty and guest artists who engage teens in art forms that reflect their cultural interests and community;
- Use research and evaluation tools to track the progress of teens' success over time;
- Share best practices in regards to training and evaluation in order to strengthen the field of youth arts training.