

Interdepartmental Tribal Justice, Safety, & Wellness

Government-to-Government Consultation, Training & Technical Assistance – Session 7



U.S. Department of Justice
Office on Violence Against Women

August 18–22, 2008
Billings, MT

Executive Summary

Since 2006, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Office on Violence Against Women, and Office of Tribal Justice; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through its Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Minority Health, and Indian Health Service; U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs; and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Native American Programs have worked in partnership to deliver a series of Interdepartmental Tribal Justice, Safety, & Wellness consultation, training, and technical assistance sessions that focus on tribal priority issues related to public safety for families and communities, and address drugs, tribal court systems, multi-jurisdictional coordination and communication, sexual offender registry, and other law enforcement areas.

Second TJS&W Session Convened for 2008

This session, the second in a series of three sessions scheduled for 2008, continued to emphasize justice and safety issues, while focusing specifically on health and wellness in tribal communities. Session topics included traditional treatment, family and community development, parenting, historical trauma, child protection and welfare, and behavioral health. This week long event featured two days of preconference and consultation sessions followed by three days of additional training and technical assistance and was scheduled in conjunction with two national conferences—the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service (IHS) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMSA) 2008 National Behavioral Health Conference: *Partnering for Native Wellness* and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) 2nd National Conference on Child Protection and Welfare in Indian Country: *Celebrating Our Heritage for Future Generations*.

Program Contributors

The following bureaus, agencies, tribal organizations, and non-profits contributed to the event by sponsoring presentations and participating in workshop discussions with attendees.

Advocates for Children and Youth

Casey Family Programs

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America

Gun Lake Tribe

Child Adolescent Referral and Evaluation Center

Indian Child and Family Resource Center

Messengers for Health Program, Crow-Lodge Grass

National Congress of American Indians

National Native Children's Trauma Center

Native American Children's Alliance

Native Aspirations

Native Youth Rising, Youth Academy

Tribal Law and Policy Institute

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

- Bureau of Justice Assistance
- Bureau of Justice Statistics
- Community Capacity Development Office
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
 - Center for Mental Health Services
 - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
 - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
 - United States Public Health Service
- Indian Health Service
 - Native H.O.P.E.
- Office of Minority Health
- Administration for Children and Families – Children's Bureau
- National Institutes of Health
 - National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

U.S. Department of the Interior

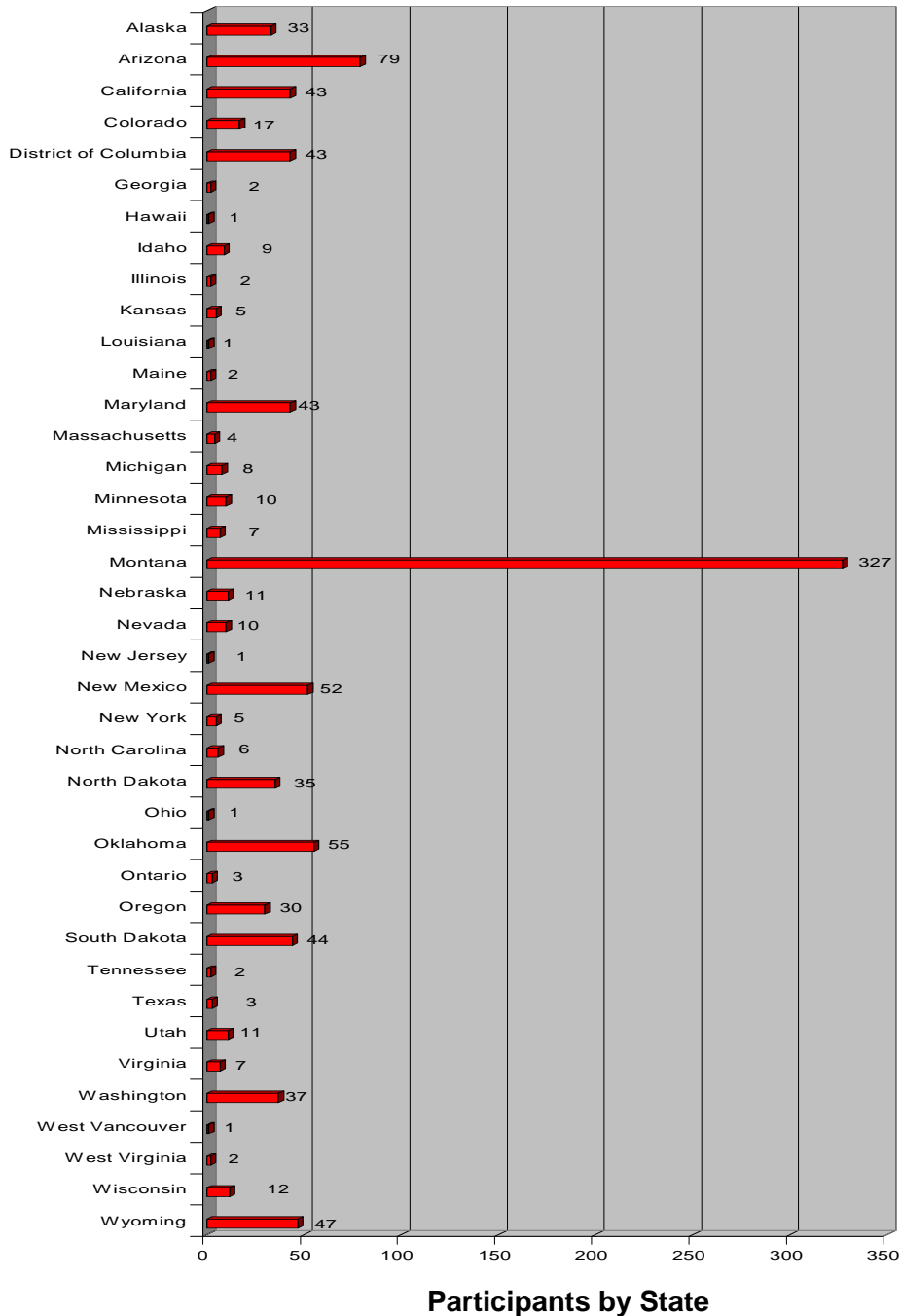
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Indian Education
- Office of Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Management

Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch

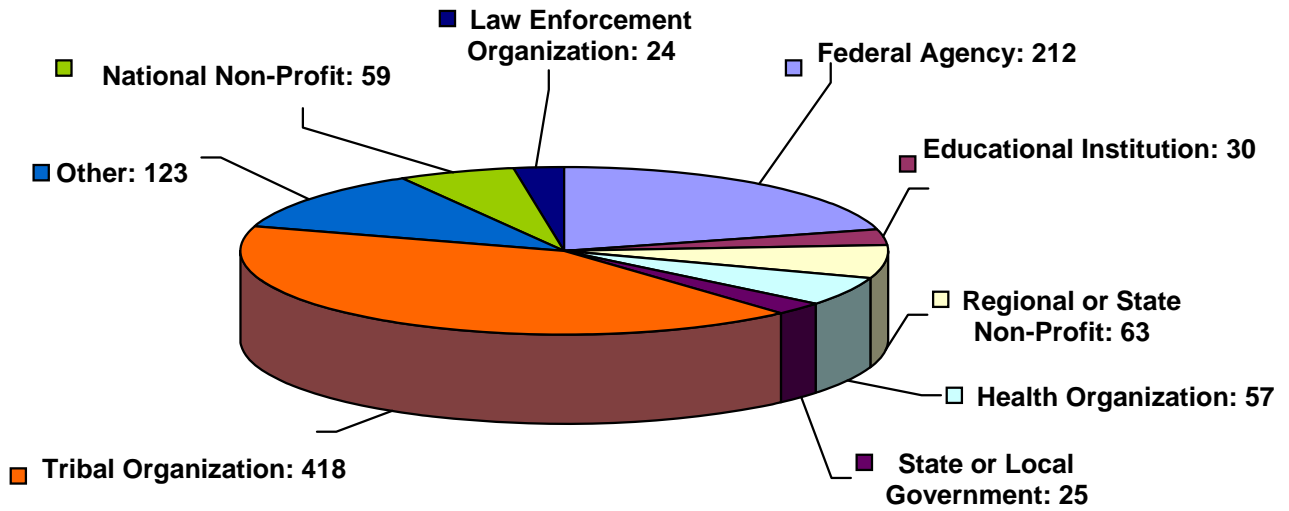
White House Office of National Drug Control Policy

Participant Overview

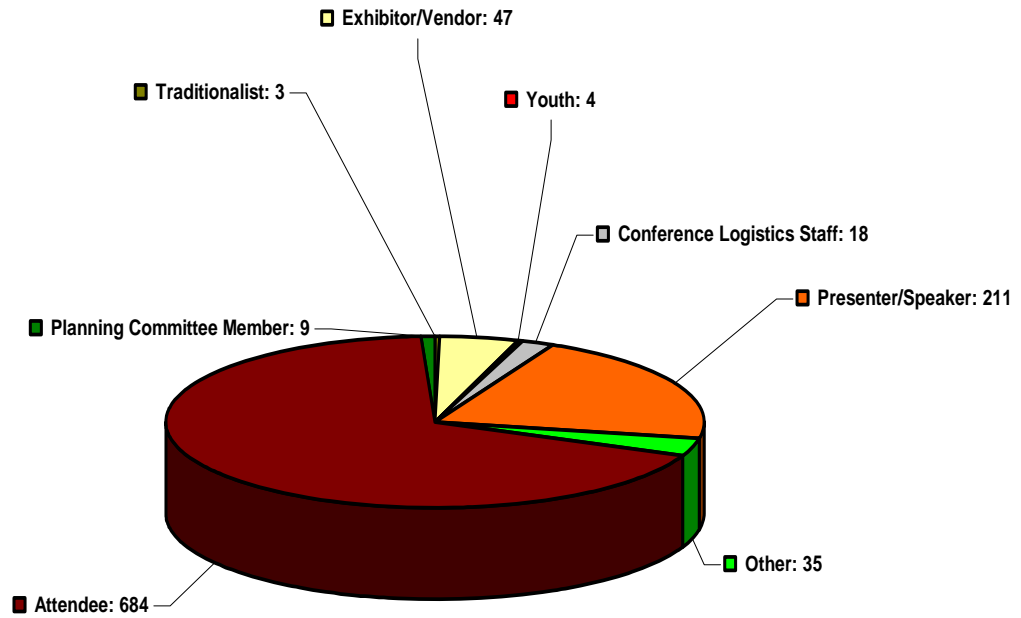
Attending the event were 1,011 participants from 37 states, the District of Columbia and two Canadian provinces. Over 41% of the participants were tribal members and/or represented tribal agencies or organizations. Tribal participants included tribal elected officials and/or representatives of tribal government and administration; tribal courts, corrections, detention and law enforcement personnel; tribal program managers and coordinators; tribal educators; and tribal medical providers including mental health, substance abuse and social services staff.



Participants by Organization Type



Participant by Conference Attendee Category



Consultation Overview

Government-to-Government Consultation Follow-up to Tribal Consultations: *Continuing the Dialogue* August 19, 2008

The Interdepartmental Tribal Justice, Safety and Wellness Consultation (TJS&W)– Session Seven was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2008.

Purpose and Goals of the Session

The TJS&W consultations were designed to create a positive, interactive dialogue between tribal leaders and Federal partners and to allow tribes to become more involved in policy making. At previous consultations, participants identified a need to discuss certain technical areas in more detail. Thus, this seventh session, *continuing the Dialog*, was scheduled and the program was developed as a follow-up to previously held consultations. The consultation began with Tribal leaders meeting in general session to begin discussion on tribal concerns with Federal officials from U.S. Departments of Justice, Health and Human Services, and Interior. Later during the meeting, work groups focused on those areas identified as needing follow-up. Work groups convened twice, during a morning and later an afternoon session, allowing participants to attend two topical work groups. The meeting concluded with work groups reporting out and follow-up discussion. Participants were advised that the format for the consultation was experimental, and participants were invited to offer feedback on the meeting structure.

Morning General Session

Co-moderators: *Jacqueline Johnson Pata, Executive Director, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and Eugenia Tyner-Dawson, Executive Director, Justice Programs Council on Native American Affairs, Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)*

Blessing

Charles Tailfeathers, Sr., Chippewa Cree

Mr. Tailfeathers thanked the participants for attending and said it was important for States and tribes to come together for wellness and healing. Mr. Tailfeathers gave the blessing in his Native language.

Local Welcome

Manuel Coversup, Speaker of the House, Crow Nation Legislative Branch

Mr. Coversup thanked the Crow Nation for helping to host the meeting. He welcomed the participants to Billings and said he appreciated their efforts to continue the dialogue of tribal consultation to find solutions to the problems that face Indian Country. Important issues related to local and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) police departments need to be addressed to meet the needs of Indian communities.

Welcome

*William W. Mercer, United States Attorney for the District of Montana
Jerry Gidner, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior*

Mr. Mercer explained that the consultation would focus on continuing the dialogue on public safety and wellness, and his remarks would raise issues for the work groups. The goal of the work groups was to evaluate existing efforts and make suggestions for improvements. The common goal for the consultation: adequate investigation of all criminal acts and prosecution of all crimes for which there is adequate proof, followed by conviction and sentencing.

Jerry Gidner, Director of the BIA pointed out that safe communities in Indian Country are necessary in order to protect children. Although there is a lack of money, there is no limit on human ingenuity, passion, creativity, or hard work in advancing community safety. The consultation allows individuals who deal with safety issues on a day-to-day basis to share their experience and become reenergized.

Work Groups by Topic

- Police Presence, Investigations, Cooperative Agreements, and Data Sharing
- Jurisdiction and Prosecution
- Prevention and Early Intervention Programs, Treatment and Rehabilitation, and Prisoner Re-entry Programs
- Victims' Services
- Juvenile Justice

A separate summary details the tribal consultation session and discussions. A copy of the summary is available at www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov.

Attendee Response to Conference Evaluation Question

Attendees were asked to answer the following question about the conference by providing a score using the scale of **5** being the **most, highest, or best** and **1** being the **least, lowest, or worst** possible score.

This conference was planned using a "collaborative" approach. How does the "combined conference" format rank in comparison to having separate, individual conferences? Does the "combined" format enhance your conference experience?

| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | No Response | AVERAGE SCORE |
|---------------------|----|----|----|---|---|-------------|---------------|
| Attendee Responses: | 66 | 32 | 16 | 7 | 3 | 11 | 4.22 |

Event Highlights

2008 IHS/SAMHSA National Behavioral Health Conference: *Partnering for Native Wellness*

2nd National BIA Conference on Child Protection and Child Welfare in Indian Country: *Celebrating Our Heritage for Future Generations*

Interdepartmental Tribal Justice, Safety & Wellness – Training and Technical Assistance

■ Plenary Session – *Underage Drinking*

The Acting Surgeon General, Rear Admiral Steven K. Galson, M.D., M.P.H., presented information on underage drinking and discussed the national campaign to address the issue. The presentation included an overview of town hall meetings held throughout the Nation, including town hall meetings held in Indian communities.

■ Plenary Session – *Alcohol Abuse*

Dr. Mark Willenbring, M.D., Director, Treatment and Recovery Research, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services discussed alcohol abuse and alcoholism within the United States, including how heavy drinking and alcoholism takes a heavy toll on the Native American community. He discussed the effectiveness of current research based prevention and treatment methods and how new research holds the promise of much more effective treatment in the future. Dr. Willenbring presented an overview of the current resource guide, "Helping Patients Who Drink Too Much: A Clinician's Guide."

■ Plenary Session – *Pathway to Hope: Healing Child Sexual Abuse followed by Steps Toward Healing* – Panel Discussion

This session featured the "Pathway to Hope: Healing Child Sexual Abuse" video developed by the Tribal Law and Policy Institute with funding from the Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice. The video presents the voices of Alaska Natives toward ending silence about child sexual abuse and strengthening Tribal community response to child victimization. Following the video, a "Steps Toward Healing" panel discussion moderated by Diane Payne, Children's Justice Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute talked about strategies to support children and adult survivors of child sexual abuse.

■ Partner Agencies' Awards Luncheon

The Awards Luncheon recognized exemplary programs, organizations, and individuals who have contributed to the health, safety, and well-being of Indian Country.

■ Pink Shawl Ceremony Luncheon: *Honoring Breast Cancer Survivors and Their Families*

Lorraine Shananaquet, Health Administrator, Gun Lake Tribe described the efforts of the Pink Shawl Project, a campaign initiated to raise awareness about breast cancer and provide support for survivors and their families.

■ Cultural Event: *Honoring Native Veterans*

Navajo Code Talkers Keith Little and Jimmy Begay described their experiences as soldiers who used their language to create a code used during World War II. Joseph Medicine Crow, Recipient of the Bronze Star with Valor and Knight of the French Legion of Honor shared his personal military experiences and emphasized how he was able to draw upon his native upbringing for strength.

■ Interactive Cultural Event: *Crow Way of Life*

A celebration and presentation of the Crow culture, spirituality, dancers, dances, songs, and children, with an inter-generational approach. Including a Crow Drum Group—*Wranglers* of the Black Lodge District on the Crow Tribal Reservation and the *Crow Way of Life Dancers*. Followed by: Jerad Stewart: "Native Pride, Nation Wide"

The complete event agenda and workshop descriptions are available at www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov.

Participant Tribal Affiliations

Apache Tribe
Arapaho Tribe
Arikara Nation
Assiniboine and Sioux
Athabaskan
Blackfeet Nation
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
Cahuilla Band of Indians
Cherokee Nation
Chevel Native Village, Kashunamit
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
Chickasaw Nation
Chippewa Cree Tribes
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Ciri
Colville Confederated Tribes
Comanche Tribe
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Confederated Tribes of Goshute
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation
Confederation of Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Crow Nation
Dakota Sioux
Delaware Nation
Dillingham Native Village Corporation
Dine' Nation
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Eastern Shoshone Tribe
Fallon Paiute Tribe
Fort Hall Indian Reservation
Fort Peck Tribes
Gidutikad Band Paiute
Gila River Reservation
Hawaiian (Native)
Hidatsa Indian Tribe
Ho-Chunk Nation
Hoopa Valley Tribe
Hopi Reservation
Hunkpapa Lakota
Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
Isleta Pueblo
Jicarilla Apache Reservation
Juaneno Band of Mission
Karuk Tribe of California
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma
Klamath Reservation
Kotlik Tribe
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe
Lakota of Cheyenne River
Lakota Sioux
Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana
Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Reservation
Lovelock Paiute Tribe
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
Lumbee Tribe
Lummi Nation
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Muscogee Creek Nation
Northern Cheyenne Reservation
Native Village of Kobuk
Native Village of Ninilchik
Native Village of Noatak
Native Village of Teller
Native Village of Unalakleet
Navajo Nation
Nez Perce Tribe
Noorvik Native Community
Northern Arapaho Tribe
Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Northern Paiute Tribe
Northern Ute Tribe
Oglala Lakota Tribe
Oglala Sioux Tribe
Ojibwe Tribe
Omaha Tribe
Oneida Indian Nation
Osage Nation
Otoe-Missouria Tribe
Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Pauma Band of Mission Indians
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Pueblo of Acoma
Pueblo of Laguna
Pueblo of Santa Clara
Pueblo of Santa Domingo
Pueblo of San Felipe
Pueblo of Zuni
Puyallup Tribe
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Redding Rancheria
Rincon San Luiseno Band of Mission Indians
Rosebud Sioux Tribe
Sac and Fox Nation
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Salish and Kootena Tribes
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Santee Sioux Tribe
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Seminole Tribe
Seneca – Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma
Seneca Nation of Indians
Shoshone Tribe
Shinnecock Indian Nation
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
Sicangu Lakota Nation
Sioux Tribe

Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe of the Lake
Traverse Reservations
Southern Cheyenne
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Spirit Lake Sioux Nation
Squaxin Island Tribe
St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
Standing Rock Lakota Tribe
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Suquamish Tribe
Three Affiliated Tribes
Tewa
Tlingit Indian Tribe
Tohono O'odham Nation
Tule River Tribe

Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians
Village of Algaaciq
Village of Ambler
Washoe / Navajo
Western Shoshone Tribe
White Clay Gros Ventre Tribe
White Earth Band of Chippewa
White Mountain Apache Tribe
Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma
Yakama Nation
Yankton Sioux Tribe
Yup'ik (ONC)
Yurok Tribe

Next Steps

Plans are underway for Session Eight. This third and final session for the year, will take place during the week of December 8 in Palm Springs, CA. The session will be held in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Victims of Crime – 11th National Indian Nations Conference: *Strengthening the Heartbeat of All of Our Relations* and the annual Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) government consultation sponsored by the Office on Violence Against Women. For information on previous Government-to-Government Consultation, Training, and Technical Assistance sessions and details about upcoming events, visit <http://www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov>.