

# TRIBAL COURT—STATE COURT FORUM

An Advisory Committee of the Judicial Council of California

## Forum E-Update

May 2023

TRIBAL COURT—STATE  
COURT FORUM

An Advisory Committee of the  
Judicial Council of California

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### IN THE NEWS

#### [Native American Women Deserve to Be Counted](#)

Elle – April 26, 2023

No one knows how many Native American women and girls are missing and murdered each year. Yet everyone concedes there is a crisis, a “hidden epidemic,” as former Democratic senator Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota has called it. Although the federal government keeps data on virtually everything, it does not collect statistics on missing and murdered Native women and girls. It has no national database where tribes can report such crimes, no way for families or tribal investigators to seek information.

#### [Federal commission hears from Alaskans on high rate of missing and murdered Indigenous people](#)

Alaska Public Media – April 26, 2023

Indigenous people in Alaska are murdered and go missing at higher rates than almost anywhere in the country. Vivian Korhuis, chief executive of Bethel-based Association of Village Council Presidents, said more than 300 Alaska Natives are on the missing and murdered registry.

#### [New podcast sheds light on abuses at Native American boarding schools: 'Justice needs to be served'](#)

People – April 26, 2023

*American Genocide: The Crimes of Native American Boarding Schools* spotlights the atrocities Indigenous children endured for decades at these schools — and how survivors are trying to heal.

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA**

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**FORUM LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS**

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

**[Oklahoma can place some tribal children in foster care without tribal sign-off, state high court rules](#)** (Requires subscription)

Oklahoman - April 29, 2023

Oklahoma can take custody of some Native American children on tribal lands without tribal input, the state Supreme Court has ruled. The decision splits from the widespread understanding of federal law and casts a cloud of uncertainty over some of Oklahoma's most vulnerable children, legal experts say. The federal Indian Child Welfare Act, passed in 1978, gives tribes exclusive rights to hear child welfare cases involving tribal citizens living on tribal reservations. In a novel ruling, the Oklahoma Supreme Court found the exclusivity does not cover children who belong to one tribal nation but live on the reservation of another. The state can assert decision-making power over the lives of those children without the consent of the reservation tribe, the court determined.

Also: [Choctaw Nation Statement Regarding S.J.W. Foster Care Case](#)

**[U.S. Department of Justice issues new guidelines for missing and murdered Indigenous people case](#)**

KOSU NPR – May 1, 2023

The U.S. Department of Justice has new guidelines as part of their strategy to combat a nationwide scourge of missing and murdered Indigenous people. They include standards on data collection, coordinating law enforcement agencies responsible for updating databases and improving law enforcement agency response rates.

**[Oklahoma Supreme Court's opinion challenging parts of the Indian Child Welfare Act is flawed, experts say](#)**

KOSU - May 02, 2023

In late April, the Oklahoma Supreme Court ruled that the state could take custody of Native children who live on a reservation other than their own. It gives the state more latitude than it has had in the past to intervene in child welfare cases without consulting the tribe, according to legal experts. Critics say the decision is flawed and dangerous.

**[Task Force Addresses Alarming Rate of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Woman](#)**

State Bar of Wisconsin – May 3, 2023

Since 2020, a Wisconsin Department of Justice task force has been working to address a criminal justice and public health crisis – the alarming number of missing or murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG) among the state's American Indian population.

**[Gov. Polis signs two bills into law that protect Native American children and graduates](#)** (includes audio)

KRDO - May 05, 2023

This week, Governor Jared Polis signed two bills into law that are specifically related to Colorado's Indigenous People's population. The first bill, SB23-211, ensures compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978. The ICWA was enacted to fight the disproportionate rate of child removal from Indigenous families.

Also: [SB23-211: Federal Indian Child Welfare Act Of 1978](#)

Also: [Colorado Passes Legislation Protecting Native American Rights](#)

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.

**[Day highlights missing and murdered Indigenous people](#)**

KUNC NPR for Northern Colorado – May 5, 2023

President Joe Biden signed a proclamation marking May 5th, 2023 as Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day. It highlights the injustice and violence that are disproportionately high among Indigenous women and others.

**[‘Searching for Savanna’ Tells the Story of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#)**

Teen Vogue – May 5, 2023

On a cloudy afternoon on February 15, 2017, a handful of Native women advocates gathered in Washington, DC. They had come to this small airless room in the Senate’s Hart Building to brief Congress on the issue of missing and murdered Native women and girls. Some of the advocates had been venturing to such rooms for decades, to present their case, educate political leaders, and fight for legislation to protect Indigenous women. There had been progress, but not nearly enough.

**[Dysfunctional Child Welfare System in Northern California Impacts Native Families](#)**

Native News Online - May 10, 2023

A civil grand jury in northern California released a report last week that alleges Humboldt County's child welfare system "routinely misses" statutory court deadlines, creating an "unnecessary amount of stress" for Native American families. The report - titled "Humboldt County Child Welfare Services and the Courts: Late Reports, Dysfunctional Systems, and Traumatized Children" - describes the grand jury's findings that the welfare system is riddled with inefficiencies, staff shortages and other workplace issues that have been present in the system for nearly a decade.

Also: [Humboldt County Child Welfare Services and the Courts: Late Reports, Dysfunctional Systems, and Traumatized Children](#)

**[Bills on MICWA, law enforcement in Lake County and Indian Education for All on Gianforte's desk](#)**

Fairfield Sun Times - May 10, 2023

The legislature passed a number of bills related to tribes in Montana that still await Gov. Greg Gianforte's signature. These included a bill establishing reporting requirements for Indian Education for All funds, a bill placing the Indian Child Welfare Act in state code and a bill reimbursing Lake County for federal criminal jurisdiction on the Flathead Reservation. A bill giving grant funds to volunteer training for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women search-and-rescue cases was signed by the governor in April.

**[While others sign off on state Indian Child Welfare Acts, Utah is waiting on SCOTUS](#)**

KUER - May 10, 2023

Some states are working to enshrine their own versions of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act ahead of the anticipated U.S. Supreme Court decision that could overturn the policy. But Utah isn't one of them. Utah attempted to pass a state version of the policy during the 2023 legislative session, but the bill never received a House vote. Passed by Congress in 1978, ICWA prioritizes placing Native American children with biological family members instead of referring them to adoptive or foster homes. It was a response to Indigenous children being removed from their homes and placed with non-Native families or in government-run boarding schools. Utah's bill would have established similar protections, and Indigenous leaders from the state's eight federally recognized tribes urged the Legislature to pass it.

**[Tracking Efforts to Pass State-Level ICWA Laws](#)** (Requires subscription)

Imprint - May 10, 2023

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was passed in 1978 as an effort to curtail the disproportionate numbers of Native children being removed from their parents and placed with white adoptive families or sent to boarding schools designed to assimilate them to white culture. When the law was passed, as many as one-third of Indigenous children were torn from their families and tribal communities by the child welfare system.

**[New list of Native boarding schools with Catholic affiliation includes Yakima school](#)**

The Sokesman-Review – May 10, 2023

A list of Native boarding schools affiliated with the Catholic Church includes more information about a boarding school operated in Yakima by the Sisters of Providence from 1889-96.

The list from Catholic Truth and Healing provides details about 87 Catholic-run Native boarding schools in 22 states. It appears on a new website compiled and refined by a group of archivists, historians, concerned Catholics and tribal citizens, according to a news release.

**[Indigenous group challenges AG Rokita on Indian Child Welfare Act](#)** (Includes video)

WNDU - May 11, 2023

A youth delegation in Goshen is calling on Attorney General Todd Rokita after challenging a federal law that protects indigenous children. The Indian Child Welfare Act protects the well-being of Indigenous children by being placed with extended families, native communities, and cultures. On Thursday, a group known as the "Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery" gathered at Waterford Mennonite Church. They issued questions to Rokita on what he's done regarding the Haaland V. Brackeen Supreme Court case, brought by Texas, Louisiana, and Indiana seeking to declare the Indian Child Welfare Act unconstitutional.

**[Congress Considers Increased Funding for Tribal Child Welfare and Court Systems](#)**

Imprint - May 12, 2023

Bipartisan legislation now before Congress would enhance funds available to tribal courts and child welfare systems, support tribal ways of adopting children and ease administrative burdens necessary to access the resources. The Tribal Family Fairness Act would increase the ability of tribes to draw down Social Security Act funds for court improvement and other social service needs. A press release describing the bill noted the legislation would also "remove long standing barriers to Federal funding to support children and families for small tribes who often have the greatest need while ensuring that larger tribes do not experience a decrease in Federal funding if more tribes participate in the program."

**['One giant crime scene': Uncovering the historical treatment of Native American children](#)** (includes video)

CNN – May 12, 2023

Bianna Golodryga speaks to co-host of the podcast "An American Genocide", Crystal Echo Hawk, one year on from an unprecedented federal investigation that revealed how Native American children were forced into assimilation at boarding schools in the United States.

**[Bills would ensure guardianship cases in tribal court are eligible for state assistance](#)**

Michigan Radio - May 14, 2023

Right now, people who become a child's legal guardian aren't eligible for state assistance if their case is in a Michigan tribal court. Two bills in the state legislature would change that. They would extend the financial benefits of the Guardianship Assistance Program to all legal guardians, regardless of what court handles their case. Jocelyn Fabry, chief judge for the Sault Saint Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, said the current law leaves many tribal court judges reluctant to finalize guardianship cases and deny families assistance. But that comes with a cost - legal cases in limbo and in some cases, longer-than-necessary stays in the foster care system. "For those families - for those kids still having to meet with the caseworkers, still having their case come to court - the uncertainty that comes with that is really significant," Fabry said.

Also: [Senate Bill 137](#)Also: [Senate Bill 138](#)**[Gov. Katie Hobbs establishes missing and murdered Indigenous people task force](#)**

Cronkite News – May 15, 2023

For generations, Indigenous people have suffered the loss of missing and murdered loved ones, an issue that is difficult to solve given incomplete data and a lack of collaboration among tribal and governmental entities. Murder is the third-leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Native women, according to a 2018 Urban Indian Health Institute report. And the report said Tucson was one of the cities with the highest number of cases of missing and murdered women and girl

**[Tribune editorial: Native American adoption protections now codified by state](#)** (Includes audio) (Includes video) (May require subscription)

Bismark Tribune - May 15, 2023

Decades-old Native American adoption rules are now part of state law. North Dakota was among a handful of states that considered legislation this year to codify provisions of the U.S. Indian Child Welfare Act. The federal law gives preference to Native American families in foster care and adoption proceedings of Native children. But some see that as race-based discrimination, and U.S. Supreme Court challenges have put the federal law in jeopardy. The North Dakota Legislature voted nearly unanimously to pass a bill that supporters say ensures Native American children grow up with strong family and cultural ties intact. Gov. Doug Burgum signed it into law, saying it ensures important protections for Native children and families will remain in place in North Dakota regardless of what happens in the federal court system.

**[The Brutal Past and Uncertain Future of Native Adoptions](#)**

New York Times – May 16, 2023

The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 sought to keep Native children in tribal communities. The Supreme Court may change that this spring.

**[The implications of the case against ICWA](#)** (Podcast)

NPR Code Switch – May 17, 2023

The Supreme Court is about to decide on a case arguing that the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) discriminates against white foster parents. Journalist Rebecca Nagle explains how this decision could reverse centuries of U.S. law protecting the rights of Indigenous nations. "Native kids have been the tip of the spear in attacks on tribal sovereignty for generations."

**[Indian Child Welfare Act: South Dakota future uncertain](#)** (Includes video)

Dakota News Now - May 18, 2023

On Native American reservations, children are the key to carrying on customs and ensuring the tribe's future existence. But a case under consideration by the US Supreme Court is raising concerns about the future of young tribal members. Of the nine South Dakota tribes, each one is unique, but there is a common belief about the children, no matter which tribe you visit. "There's a philosophy in tribes that we have to think seven generations down the road," said Gary Killsahundred, Flandreau Tribe Historian.

**[Montana acts to protect Native American priority in adopting Native children](#)** (Includes video)

Associated Press - May 23, 2023

Montana Gov. Greg Gianforte has signed legislation giving Native American families preference in fostering and adopting Native children involved with child protective services, a proactive move to protect such rights as the U.S. Supreme Court considers a case that could undercut them nationally. Gianforte signed the Montana Indian Child Welfare Act on Monday after it passed the Legislature by a wide margin.

**[The U.S. Government's Legislative Shortcomings Are To Blame for Murdered Missing Indigenous Women](#)**

New University – May 23, 2023

Indigenous women only make up 1.1% of the total U.S. population, yet their murder rate is ten times higher on reservations than the national average. In Wyoming, a report covering data from 2011 to 2020 from the state's Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Task Force found that 50% of Indigenous individuals are located within a week, and 21% stay missing for up to 30 days or more — while only 11% of white people remain missing for that long. The lack of governmental initiatives addressing these systemic issues can be attributed to the deep roots of colonialism in U.S. history, which makes this crisis difficult to fully eradicate — but there are rising grassroots efforts that help. The Murdered Missing Indigenous Women (MMIW) movement has been a strong advocate for legal action and recognition against gender-based violence towards Indigenous women.

**[Protecting Children and Healing Families, One Native Auntie at a Time](#)** (Includes video)

Imprint - May 24, 2023

When two aunties visit parents in need, there is no scolding, shame or surveillance. Instead, they set themselves to the immediate tasks at hand on these southern California reservations - at times simply pitching in to fold a pile of laundry, or patting a baby to sleep with Kumeyaay lullabies. Then there are the variety of lessons with mom and dad to nurture safe parenting that fold in traditional Indigenous teachings. Establishing family routines and healthy diets are taught alongside lessons in burning sage for cleansing, gathering herbal medicines in a family's backyard, and making basic introductions in a child's Native language. Since its formal inception in 2019, My Two Aunties has assisted hundreds of Indigenous families in California's San Diego, Imperial and Riverside counties. From its base on the Rincon Indian Reservation, the small program with a staff of three is among the many ongoing efforts in Indian Country to keep children out of foster care and ensure Indigenous families remain safe and intact.

**[Murkowski Joins 26 Senators to Reintroduce Bill Seeking Healing for Stolen Native Children and their Communities](#)** (Press release)

Office of Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator for Alaska - May 24, 2023

U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Vice Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, joined 26 senators in reintroducing S.1723, the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act, which seeks healing for stolen Native children and their communities. The bill would establish a formal commission to investigate, document, and acknowledge past injustices of the federal government's

Indian Boarding School Policies. This includes attempts to terminate Native cultures, religions, and languages; assimilation practices; and human rights violations. The commission would also develop recommendations for Congress to aid in healing of the historical and intergenerational trauma passed down in Native families and communities and provide a forum for victims to speak about personal experiences tied to these human rights violations.

**[Yurok Tribe Partners With County, Courts on ‘Culturally Informed Diversion Program’ Focused on Rehabilitation](#)**

Lost Coast Outpost – May 24, 2023

Today, the Yurok Tribe and Humboldt County Superior Court and Humboldt District Attorney’s Office signed an agreement that will allow adult Yurok citizens facing certain criminal charges an opportunity to defer prosecution and instead enroll in the Yurok Wellness Court’s comprehensive, culturally centered Wellness Diversion program.

“The primary goal of this program is to provide each participant with the ability to choose a new life path and become a contributing member of the community,” said Yurok Chief Justice Abby Abinanti. “The holistic program will help individuals confront the root cause of their irresponsible behavior and move forward in a good way.”

**[Supreme Court decision may affect long-standing tribal protections](#)**

Journal Record – May 27, 2023

The nation’s highest court could soon decide that a federal law meant to keep Indian children with their families and tribes is racist.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**[The Gladue Approach: Addressing Indigenous Overincarceration Through Sentencing Reform,](#)**

Nasrin Camilla Akbari, New York University Law Review, Vol. 98:198

In the American criminal justice system, individuals from marginalized communities routinely face longer terms and greater rates of incarceration compared to their nonmarginalized counterparts. Because the literature on mass incarceration and sentencing disparities has largely focused on the experiences of Black and Hispanic individuals, far less attention has been paid to the overincarceration of Native peoples. Yet there are clear indications that Native peoples are both overrepresented within the criminal justice system and subject to unique sentencing disparities as compared to other ethnicities. While these issues are partly motivated by traditional drivers of criminal behavior, including access barriers to housing, employment, and education, this Note argues that there is a greater systemic issue at play: the enduring legacy of colonialism. Accounting for—and correcting—this legacy in the criminal justice system is a complex task, though not an impossible one.

**[The Sacred and the Profaned: Protection of Native American Sacred Places That Have Been Desecrated](#)**

Michael D. McNally, California Law Review, Volume 111, No.2

From Standing Rock to San Francisco Peaks, Native American efforts to protect threatened sacred places in court have been troubled by what this Article identifies as the profanation principle: a presumption that places already profaned or degraded by development or pollution can no longer be sufficiently sacred to Native peoples to merit protection. When the Supreme Court of Hawai’i rejected Native Hawaiian challenges to a massive new telescope on Mauna Kea because its summit was already developed, the sole dissenting justice termed it the “the degradation principle”: a view that because eleven telescopes had already despoiled the summit, the new telescope would cause no substantial adverse impacts on natural and cultural resources.

**[The effectiveness of an ICWA Court at achieving improved ICWA implementation and outcomes : A pre-post intervention study,](#)**

Gatowski, Sophia, Summers, Alicia & Bussey, Bree, 74 Juv. & Fam. Court. J. 51

This article presents findings from a quasi-experimental study of the St. Louis County (Duluth, Minnesota) ICWA Court examining its effectiveness at achieving improved ICWA implementation and a better case process and outcomes for Indian families. Using a case file review method, cases prior to implementing the ICWA Court were compared to post-ICWA Court cases on demographics, case characteristics, application of ICWA requirements, presence of parties at hearings, achievement of child permanency outcomes, and permanency timeliness. Compared to pre-ICWA Court, this study found several

statistically significant improvements in the ICWA Court's handling of cases, including taking less time to confirm the case as an ICWA case, greater appearance of tribal representatives by the Dispositional review hearing stage, more active efforts findings, more placements with relatives at earlier stages of the case, more placement with relative outcomes when reunifications were not possible, and timelier permanency.

[Exploring Indian Child Welfare Act implementation and case outcomes](#), Summers, Alicia, 74 Juv. & Fam. Court. J. 37

Despite the passage of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) more than four decades ago, little is known about how or how well it is being implemented into practice by the state courts or how implementation may be related to improved outcomes for Indian children and families. This study explores how ICWA implementation in five state court sites is related to case outcomes. One hundred and fifty-one ICWA cases were reviewed for factors including active efforts findings, tribal presence at hearings, use of qualified expert witness (QEW) testimony, notice, and confirmation of ICWA status. Results are mixed. Specific ICWA implementation measures and aggregate measures were mostly not related to outcomes, but early implementation, such as having the tribe present at the first hearing, did appear related to timely permanency. Implications of these findings and future research directions are discussed.

[The Power of Tribal Courts in Ongoing Environmental-Tort Litigation](#), Helia Bidad, 132 Yale L.J. Forum 904

Cities, counties, and states across the country are bringing environmental and climate tort suits to hold environmental tortfeasors accountable. These cases are commonly brought in state and federal court, but the possibility of bringing these suits in tribal courts has largely been left out of the discussion. In the wake of attacks on tribal sovereignty in the form of tribal jurisdiction stripping, this Essay uses an original empirical analysis of 308 cases to understand the circumstances in which tribal-court jurisdiction currently exists for tribal members to sue nonmembers for environmental torts in tribal court. This Essay makes recommendations for how to strategically bring these suits and highlights important considerations for tribal sovereignty.

[Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta -- Rebalancing Federal-State-Tribal Power](#), Stacy Leeds, Robert J. Miller, Kevin K. Washburn, Derrick Beetso, 23 J. App. Practice & Process 47-104 (2023)

The Supreme Court's unexpected decision in *Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta* in 2022 overturned established precedent and scrambled long-settled expectations about the division of criminal jurisdiction in Indian country. In this panel discussion shortly after the decision was issued, the authors provided a "hot take" on the *Castro-Huerta* decision and discussed its impact on criminal justice in Indian country and on federal Indian law more broadly.

[Too Much History: Castro Huerta and the Problem of Change in Indian Law](#), Gregory Ablavsky, Supreme Court Law Review (forthcoming)

The Supreme Court's decision last Term in *Castro-Huerta v. Oklahoma* dramatically rewrote the rules of criminal jurisdiction in federal Indian law. For the first time since 1882, the Court judicially expanded the scope of state criminal jurisdiction in Indian country, finding that states hold jurisdiction over Indian-on-non-Indian crime concurrently with the federal government. In reaching this conclusion, the Court exemplified the subjectivism that scholars have criticized in the Court's Indian law jurisprudence for decades. The opinion distinguished or cast aside at least six prior decisions where the Court had seemingly reached the opposite conclusion, as well as concluding that the Court had already substantially limited the Court's foundational holding in *Worcester v. Georgia* (1833) that Indian country ordinarily lies outside state authority.

[Case Law on American Indians](#), Thomas P. Schlosser, American Indian Law Journal: Vol. 11: Iss. 2, Article 3 (2023)

Important cases from September 2021 through October 2022.

["The Past Got Broken Off": Classifying "Indian" in the Indian Child Welfare Act](#), Lucia Kello, JCRED, V. 36, Issue 3, 361

A more in-depth analysis of boarding schools and their aftermath provides the historical context for Annawakee's poignant assertion: because generations of American Indians "never learned how to be in a family," despite family "being their highest value," "the past got broken off." In less poetic terms, these

policies amounted to an “assault on Native identity,” inflicting intergenerational trauma that persists to this day.

[\*\*The Democratic Difficulties of \*Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta\*\*\*](#), Kristen Matoy Carlson, New Political Science May, 2023.

The Supreme Court, some commentators argue, is at its most undemocratic since the *Lochner* Era in the 1930s. They point to the Supreme Court’s majority opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, which departs from public opinion on abortion and longstanding constitutional precedence. *Dobbs*, however, is not an outlier. The Supreme Court made a similar move in *Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta*. The majority opinion questioned almost 200 years of constitutional interpretation and several decades of congressional policy to enable state governments to exercise criminal authority over non-Indians in Indian Country. This article compares the majority opinion in *Castro-Huerta* to congressional policy to explore the democratic and constitutional difficulties that can arise when the Supreme Court refuses to defer to Congress—the democratically elected and constitutionally appointed institution for making federal Indian policy. It reveals how the Court’s undemocratic turn extends beyond cases involving individual rights.

[\*\*Beyond Indian Country: The Sovereign Powers of Alaska Tribes Without Reservations\*\*](#), Mitchell Forbes, 40:1 Alaska Law Review, 171.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA) devised a land entitlement system markedly different from the Indian reservation system that prevailed in the Lower 48 states. It directed the creation of twelve, for-profit Alaska Native regional corporations and over 200 private, for-profit Alaska Native village corporations, which would receive the bulk of Native land in the state. This corporate model left nearly all tribes in Alaska without a land base.

[\*\*Native Missing Persons Cases Will Not be Solved by Police Alone The Case for Missing Persons Advocates\*\*](#), Sheena L. Gilbert et al, Journal of Interpersonal Violence, May 2023

Interviews with 25 tribal and non-tribal victim/social service providers were conducted to assess their perspectives on the factors which make Native Americans vulnerable to going missing, the barriers and challenges regarding reporting and investigating missing persons, as well as how victim/social service providers might better support the families of missing persons.

[\*\*Missing Native American Persons: Nebraska Study Details Scope of Problem, Urges Culturally Sensitive Research and Better Access to Justice\*\*](#), Department of Justice, May 2023

Building relationships between tribal and non-tribal law agencies is a key step for addressing high incidence of reported missing persons cases, NIJ-supported study finds.

[\*\*Toward Mutual Recognition: An Investigation of Oral Tradition Evidence in the United States and Canada\*\*](#), Kalae Trak, 13 Wash. J. Soc. & Env’t. Justice 54 (2023)

United States (“U.S.”) courts have long failed to recognize the value of oral traditional evidence (“OTE”) in the law. Yet, for Indigenous peoples, OTE forms the basis of many of their claims to place, property, and political power. In Canada, courts must examine Indigenous OTE on “equal footing” with other forms of admissible evidence. While legal scholars have suggested applying Canadian precedent to U.S. law regarding OTE, scholarship has generally failed to critically examine the underlying ethos of settler courts as a barrier to OTE admission and usefulness.

[\*\*Surviving Castro-Huerta: The Historical Perseverance of the Basic Policy of \*Worcester v. Georgia\* Protecting Tribal Autonomy, Notwithstanding One Supreme Court Opinion’s Errant Narrative to the Contrary\*\*](#), John P. LaVelle, 74 Mercer Law Review, 845 (Spring 2023)

*Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta* is an unprecedented attack on the autonomy of Native American nations in the United States. The Supreme Court held that Oklahoma had jurisdiction over a crime committed by a non-Indian perpetrator against an Indian victim within the Cherokee Reservation’s boundaries.

[\*\*Indigenous Boarding Schools in the United States and Canada: Potential Issues and Opportunities for Redress as the United States Government Initiates Formal Investigation\*\*](#),

Keiteyana I. Parks, 47 Am. Indian L. Rev. 37 (2023)

The development of the United States as a country is entwined with a legacy of painful efforts to eradicate the cultures and the presence of individuals deemed “improper” for the sake of land and westward

expansion. Included in this list of disgraceful efforts is the decades-long work of the federal government to assimilate American Indians into “Western” culture—in many ways quite successfully detaching them from their culture, tradition, and language.

**[Two Countries in Crisis: Man Camps and the Nightmare of Non- Indigenous Criminal Jurisdiction in the United States and Canada](#)**, Justin E. Brooks, 56 Vanderbilt Law Review 533 (2023).

Thousands of Indigenous women and girls have gone missing or have been found murdered across the United States and Canada; these disappearances and killings are so frequent and widespread that they have become known as the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Crisis (MMIW Crisis). Indigenous communities in both countries often lack the jurisdiction to prosecute violent crimes committed by non-Indigenous offenders against Indigenous victims on Indigenous land.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**[A Proclamation on Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day, 2023](#)**

**The White House – May 4, 2023**

On Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day, we remember the many lives shattered or lost, and commit to working with Native communities to find justice, keep families safe, and help them heal.

**New Tribal Dependency Representation resource page** created on Judicial Council’s JCART, [California Courts Juvenile Portal](#).

## ONLINE RESOURCES

**[Missing and Murdered Indigenous People: Bringing Loved Ones Home](#)**

**Office for Victims of Crime**

Learn about the MMIP crisis in this video. Grassroots efforts on behalf of MMIP are working to increase national awareness and understanding of the issue.

**[When a Loved One Goes Missing: Resources for Families of Missing American Indian and Alaska Native Adults](#)**

**Office for Victims of Crime**

This guide provides information and practical resources to assist family members and friends with the search for a missing adult loved one.

**[The Tribal Resource Tool](#)**

**Office for Victims of Crime**

This OVC-funded online directory features contact information for service providers throughout the Nation that offer crime victim services to American Indian and Alaska Native survivors.

**[Engaging and Supporting Native Fathers](#)**

**Capacity Building Center for Tribes**

The Engaging and Supporting Native Fathers resource list highlights resources and provides examples of programs that empower and support Native fathers.

**[Suicide Prevention Resources for Tribal Child Welfare Programs](#)**

**Capacity Building Center for Tribes**

The compiled resources in this document from the Center for Tribes can support suicide prevention efforts and tribal child welfare best practice within your program, impacting the community.

**[The Children’s Bureau’s Tribal Title IV-B Guide](#)**

**Capacity Building Center for Tribes**

the Tribal IV-B Guide was developed to help tribes understand the process. It will help tribal program staff learn about the Children’s Bureau and available funding opportunities, as well as grant applications and federal reporting requirements, no matter what their role in the process is.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WEBINARS AND TRAININGS

[American Indian Alaska Native NTDC \(Webinar\)](#)**June 6, 2023****11:00am-12:00pm**

National Training and Development Curriculum (NTDC) is a comprehensive no-cost curriculum that tackles separation, loss, grief, trauma, and differences to prepare and equip foster, adoptive, and kinship families. Who should attend: Tribes who would like to explore how NTDC can be used to support their training and retention of foster, adoptive and kinship families.

[niŕáŕp kʷu alá? - We Have Always Been Here \(Webinar\)](#)**June 7, 2023****12:00-1:30pm**

Dr. Percy Lezard engaged in an intersectional analysis of Indigeneity and gender diversity in the context of gender-based violence. They illustrated the rich history and continued resilience and teachings of 2 Spirit people in Indigenous communities. They also identified the historical and contemporary colonial practices that violently impose heteronormativity and cisnormativity upon Indigenous communities with implications for gender-based violence. Specifically, Dr. Lezard shared findings and recommendations for a reimagined future from the MMIWG2SLGBTQQIA+ National Action Plan which they co-authored including calls for inclusion to service providers and implications for violence prevention programs.

[Working Together - Why and How State Courts Should Collaborate With Tribes](#)

National Center for State Courts

June 12, 2023 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm ET

On both the individual case and policy levels, state courts must deal with child welfare, criminal justice, fish and game, and many other issues involving sovereign, indigenous populations.

In this webinar, Supreme Court justices from Washington and Michigan will discuss how state courts can develop strong working relationships with tribes, including establishing permanent collaborative forums for state, tribal and federal courts.

This webinar is sponsored by the Tribal Relations Committee of the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA).

**Moderators:**

- Chief Justice Steven Jensen, Supreme Court, South Dakota
- Mr. Corey Steel, State Court Administrator, Nebraska

**Presenters:**

- Justice Megan Cavanagh, Supreme Court, Michigan
- Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis, Supreme Court, Washington

[Child Abuse and Neglect Institute \(CANI\)](#)**National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)****June 13-16, 2023****Reno, NV**

The NCJFCJ's training for dependency court judges, the Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (CANI), provides instruction for new or experienced judges on the knowledge and skills necessary to preside over an effective child abuse and neglect court process. Participants will also receive instruction on emerging and promising practices to improve outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system.

[CSEC Action Team meeting \(Virtual Meeting\)](#)**June 14, 2023**

We are excited to announce that the next CSEC Action Team meeting will focus on better understanding and elevating the needs of youth experiencing substance use issues and CSE. Throughout this discussion we will provide some background information on substance use, hear directly from lived experience experts, as well as highlight service providers utilizing harm reduction practices as they engage with this work.

[Child Abduction Response Team \(CART\) in Indian Country \(Webinar\)](#)**National Criminal Justice Training Center****June 22, 2023****7:00 am-8:00 am**

Join us to learn the concept of a Child Abduction Response Team (CART) in Indian Country. Topics discussed will include the importance to develop a prepared response to missing, endangered or abducted children within Indian Country. The goal is to provide a level of understanding to the overall CART concept for implementation into tribal communities and Indian Country.

**[Women Are Sacred Conference 2023](#)**

**June 26-28, 2023**

**Albuquerque, NM**

The Women Are Sacred (WAS) Conference is one of the oldest and largest gatherings of advocates, survivors, Tribal domestic and sexual violence programs, Tribal community members, Tribal leadership, law enforcement, and Tribal court personnel dedicated to ending violence against Native American women and children.

**[22nd Annual NTCSA Training Conference - Champions of Child Support](#)**

**National Tribal Child Support Association (NTCSA)**

**July 9-13, 2023**

**Radisson Hotel & Conference Center Green Bay**

The annual National Tribal Child Support Association (NTCSA) training conference provides an opportunity to engage with other professionals and learn the most recent initiatives in tribal and state child support.

**[86<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference](#)**

**National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)**

**July 16-19, 2023**

**Baltimore, Maryland**

The program includes topic-specific training tracks on family law, juvenile justice, child welfare, family violence, and emerging issues, as well as general sessions led by thought leaders. Designed for a wide range of disciplines, the conference is open to all professionals who strive to improve the lives of children, families, and survivors in the court system. The conference is a venue to ask questions, trade ideas, confer with colleagues, and develop practical solutions to difficult issues while embracing the NCJFCJ's values of Compassion, Leadership, Education, and Community.

**[2023 Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement Training](#)**

**Agua Caliente Reservation in Palm Springs, California**

**September 12-14, 2023**

The [Tribal Law and Policy Institute \(TLPI\)](#) looks forward to welcoming back new and returning attendees in-person for the 2023 Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement Training (Enhancement Training). The Enhancement Training will be held September 12-14, 2023 on the Agua Caliente Reservation in Palm Springs, California.

The Enhancement Training will be oriented around the Tribal Ten Key Components and the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) National Drug Court Standards. The Enhancement Training is a unique opportunity to receive information on current drug court best practices, learn innovative approaches to substance abuse and treatment, and engage with other Healing to Wellness Courts practitioners from across the country.

This training focuses upon tribal issues, including jurisdictional and legal issues unique to Indian country; the incorporation of custom and tradition into the phases, case management, treatment curriculums, and tangential services; and the peer-to-peer sharing of successful Healing to Wellness Courts models in operation. Training topics will cover adult criminal, juvenile delinquency, family dependency, DWI/DUI, and veterans models.

For any questions or comments, please contact [Wellness@TLPI.org](mailto:Wellness@TLPI.org)

**COVID-19 SPECIFIC GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

**[NCAI Financial Relief for Tribal Nations Affected by COVID-19](#)**

With the continued spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), NCAI is committed to supporting Indian Country and lifting up our communities as we continue to combat this global pandemic. Keeping in mind the needs of our tribal nations, NCAI is awarding \$5,000 to various tribal nations that have been affected by this pandemic through NCAI's [COVID-19 Response Fund](#) for Indian Country.

**Applications guidelines are located [here](#). NCAI Contact: Christian Weaver, Vice President of Development, [cweaver@ncai.org](mailto:cweaver@ncai.org)**

**Coronavirus (COVID-19): FEMA Assistance for Tribal Nations**

On March 13, 2020, the President announced a nationwide emergency declaration in response to coronavirus (COVID-19). As a result, tribal nations have two options to receive funding under the Presidential declaration.

- FEMA assistance for tribal nations related to COVID-19, click [here](#).
- What expenses qualify as Eligible Emergency Protective Measures, click [here](#).
- An example of a Tribal Public Assistance Administrative plan, click [here](#).
- FEMA regional tribal liaison and FEMA headquarters contact information, click [here](#).
- FEMA resources located on NCAI's COVID-19 microsite, click [here](#).

### **GOLDEN STATE GRANT PROGRAM**

Attention CalWORKs families with an approved case status as of March 27 will receive a one-time Golden State Grant payment of \$600. The payment is to help families who may have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This payment is not a CalWORKs grant payment and not subject to hearing rights.

### **FEMA COVID-19 FUNERAL ASSISTANCE**

If you've have lost someone to COVID-19, FEMA may be able to help with funeral expenses starting in April 2021.

## **NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Program: Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office for Victims of Crime  
O-OVC-2023-171687**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 01, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 13, 2023**

Tribes and organizations that receive funding under the FY 2023 OVC Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Program can use their funds to—

- provide services to the family members of MMIP victims,
- generate awareness of MMIP among community members, in general, and for individual MMIP cases, and
- collaborate with Tribal, federal, and state and local officials to respond to MMIP cases.

### **Family Counseling and Support for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex+ Youth and their Families**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
FG-23-004**

**Deadline: July 3, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to prevent health and behavioral health risks (e.g., suicide, depression, homelessness, drug use, HIV) and to promote well-being for LGBTQI+ youth in the context of their families/caregivers, cultures, and communities by establishing LGBTQI+ family counseling and support programs and training providers on family counseling and support interventions.

### **Providing Support Through a National Hotline for Child Safety and Family Well-Being Concerns**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families - ACYF/CB  
HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-CA-0077**

**Deadline: July 11, 2023**

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), Children's Bureau (CB) will award one grant for up to 5 years to support a national hotline that provides essential information, referrals, and support through call, text, and chat-based technology to youth and adults who are concerned about child safety and/or family well-being.

### **Tribal Long-Term Service and Support National Resource Center**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Community Living  
HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-IELT-0046**

**Deadline: July 17, 2023**

The national resource center will address the unmet needs of tribal-specific and culturally appropriate LTSS information and guidance to tribes. The outcomes of the FOA will be to; 1) to create a network of navigators through recruitment and training that will assist tribes in the development of appropriate LTSS in response to identified, tribe-specific needs; and 2) based on documented best practices, the resource center will develop a practical and hands on toolkit for tribes to assist in implementing LTSS in their individual tribal communities.

**[Runaway and Homeless Youth-Prevention Demonstration Program \(RHY-PDP\)](#)**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children & Families - ACYF/FYSB  
HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-CY-0070  
Deadline: July 29, 2023**

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Prevention Demonstration Program (RHY-PDP) program supports the design and delivery of community-based demonstration initiatives to prevent youth and young adults from experiencing homelessness. Through development and coordination of partnerships with youth and young adult services providers, community organizations and private and public agencies the RHY-PDP will: 1) Identify young people at risk of experiencing homelessness; 2) Design and develop a comprehensive community prevention plan to prevent youth homeless; 3) Implement the robust, holistic services plan to respond to the diverse needs of youth who may be at risk of homelessness and their families.

**PREVIOUSLY REPORTED GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

**[Child Victims and Witnesses Support Materials: Outreach and Implementation Project](#)**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office for Victims of Crime  
O-OVC-2023-171724  
Grants.gov Deadline: June 05, 2023  
JustGrants Deadline: June 12, 2023**

The goal of this project is to increase access and availability of the OVC-published Child Victims and Witnesses Support Materials, fulfilling their intended purpose of supporting young victims and witnesses that interact with the justice system.

**[Field-Generated Solicitation: Increasing Options and Expanding Access for Victims of Crime](#)**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office for Victims of Crime  
O-OVC-2023-171714  
Grants.gov Deadline: June 05, 2023  
JustGrants Deadline: June 12, 2023**

The goal for this program is to generate proposals that reflect the authentic needs and challenges of the victim services field in responding to the current realities of crime victimization in our country. Specific goals for OVC include identifying innovative approaches to issues that have challenged the victim services field for years; identifying relevant and cost-effective solutions that can be replicated and sustained over time; building knowledge about what strategies may increase service options for those victims who have very few service options available to them; and enhancing the access points through which crime victims can receive the services they need.

**[National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative: Training and Technical Assistance Program](#)**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
O-BJA-2023-171749  
Grants.gov Deadline: June 05, 2023  
JustGrants Deadline: June 12, 2023**

The overall goal of the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative TTA Program is to build state and local capacities to address violent crime associated with unsubmitted SAKs, sexually motivated homicides, and corresponding crime scene evidence by supporting the needs of SAKI sites and, as resources allow, other jurisdictions engaged in community-based sexual assault reform.

[Smart Reentry: Expanding Jail Programs and Services](#)

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
O-BJA-2023-171719**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 05, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 12, 2023**

BJA seeks to fund units of local government and federally recognized Indian tribal governments to plan, implement, or expand effective reentry practices and service delivery systems within local correctional facility (nonprison) settings, including jails, and for incarcerated persons transitioning from these facilities to the community. This funding is available to support the development and provision of innovative evidence-based reentry programming and services that address the needs of individuals returning to the community from jail and that reduce recidivism for the local population. Services can be provided in a wide range of local correctional settings, including jails, halfway houses, and in the community.

[Census of Prosecutor Offices](#)

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Bureau of Justice Statistics  
O-BJS-2023-171690**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 06, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 13, 2023**

BJS seeks to administer the Census of Prosecutor Offices (CPO) through its National Survey of Prosecutor (NSP) series. BJS has collected data from state court prosecutors through a survey or census since 1990. The last census was conducted in 2007 and the last survey was conducted in 2020. The 2023 census seeks to collect data from the more than 2,330 prosecutor offices across the nation.

[Criminal Justice Technology Testing and Evaluation Center](#)

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
National Institute of Justice  
O-NIJ-2023-171681**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 06, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 20, 2023**

NIJ seeks proposals to host a Criminal Justice Technology Testing and Evaluation Center. The Center will provide testing, evaluation, and other activities to support the safety, effectiveness, efficiency, and efficacy of technologies in use or adaptable by criminal justice and juvenile justice communities.

[Integrated Services for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking](#)

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office for Victims of Crime  
O-OVC-2023-171716**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 06, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 13, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to enhance the quality and quantity of services available to assist minor victims of human trafficking.

[NICS Act Record Improvement Program](#)

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Bureau of Justice Statistics  
O-BJS-2023-171710**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 07, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 14, 2023**

This funding will assist states and tribes with finding ways to make more records available to the NICS, including records in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), criminal history record information available through the Interstate Identification Index (III), and records in the NICS Indices.

**Basic Center Program**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children & Families - ACYF/FYSB  
HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-CY-0021**

**Deadline: June 09, 2023**

The Basic Center Program (BCP) provides temporary shelter and counseling services to youth who have left home without permission of their parents or guardians, have been forced to leave home, or other homeless youth who might otherwise end up in the law enforcement or in the child welfare, mental health, or juvenile justice systems. BCPs work to establish or strengthen community-based programs that meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth and their families. BCP grant recipients provide youth under 18 years of age with emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling, and referrals for health care. BCP grant recipients can provide up to 21 days of shelter for youth and seeks to reunite young people with their families, whenever possible, or to locate appropriate alternative placements.

**Developing Future Victim Specialists to Serve American Indian/Alaska Native Victims of Crime**

**Department of Justice  
Office for Victims of Crime  
O-OVC-2023-171529**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 12, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 20, 2023**

OVC seeks to develop a workforce of victim service providers to serve American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) victims of crime in isolated locations. By identifying and training prospective victim service professionals in, or from, the communities to be served, Tribal and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) victim service programs will be better able to fill these positions in remote Indian Country and Alaska Native locations, and in turn ensure that victims in these locations get the services they need.

**Law Enforcement Core Statistics (LECS) Program**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Bureau of Justice Statistics  
O-BJS-2023-171706**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 12, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 19, 2023**

The LECS will focus on the organizational characteristics of LEAs to provide accurate and timely national statistics about the personnel, operations, policies, and procedures of federal, state, county, local, and tribal LEAs in the United States.

**Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
HRSA-23-081**

**Deadline: June 12, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to promote behavioral health integration into pediatric primary care by supporting the planning and development of statewide, regional or tribal pediatric mental health care tele-consult access programs. These networks of pediatric mental health care teams will provide tele-consultation, training, technical assistance, and care coordination support for pediatric primary care providers (PCPs) to diagnose, treat, and refer children with behavioral health conditions.

**Supporting Children, Youth, and Families Affected by the Drug Crisis: Recruiting and Developing Peer Recovery Coaches**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office for Victims of Crime  
O-OVC-2023-171726**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 12, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 20, 2023**

OVC seeks to fund one lead organization that will (1) competitively select and fund subawards to recruit, train, and deploy paid peer recovery coaches who will assist a family member or caregiver's recovery from substance misuse in order to support the well-being of youth who have experienced victimization as

a result of the drug use; (2) provide technical assistance to the selected sub awardees; and (3) assist in the development of a peer recovery coach paraprofessional program.

**Youth Violence Prevention Program**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
O-OJJDP-2023-171718**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 12, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 26, 2023**

OJJDP seeks to provide funding for applicants to develop and/or enhance strategies to prevent youth violence, including youth gang involvement and youth gang/group violence.

**Rural and Small Department Violent Crime Reduction Program**

**Department of Justice  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
O-BJA-2023-171729**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 13, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 20, 2023**

BJA seeks to support small and rural agencies in their efforts to combat violent crime.

**State-Tribal Partnerships to Implement Best Practices in Indian Child Welfare**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families - ACYF/CB  
HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-CW-0055**

**Deadline: June 13, 2023**

The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity is to create and implement intergovernmental partnership models to improve implementation of child welfare best practices that are culturally appropriate for federally recognized AI/AN children to prevent maltreatment, removal from families and communities, and improve safety, permanency, and well-being. Recipients will serve as demonstration sites to design and implement projects to effectively implement culturally appropriate best practices in Indian child welfare, including research and evaluation of improvements in child welfare practice, Indian child welfare codes, legal and judicial processes, case monitoring, case planning, data collection, in-home family preservation services, infrastructure, and systems change.

**Community Connect Grant Program**

**Department of Agriculture  
Rural Utilities Service  
RDRUS-CC-2023**

**Deadline: June 20, 2023**

The Community Connect Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible applicants that will provide service at or above the Broadband Grant Speed to all premises in rural, economically-challenged communities where broadband service does not exist.

**Reimagining Justice: Testing a New Model of Community Safety**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
O-BJA-2023-171745**

**Grants.gov Deadline: June 20, 2023**

**JustGrants Deadline: June 27, 2023**

This solicitation will fund applications proposing an innovative strategy or model to improve community safety, build trust, limit unnecessary involvement in the criminal justice system, and improve residents' perceptions of law enforcement and procedural fairness and legitimacy.

**Street Outreach Program**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children & Families - ACYF/FYSB  
HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-YO-0019**

**Deadline: June 20, 2023**

The Street Outreach Program provides street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth who have been subjected to or are at risk of being subjected to sexual abuse, prostitution, sexual exploitation, and severe forms of human trafficking in persons. These services, targeted in areas where street youth congregate, are designed to assist such youth in making healthy choices and providing them access to shelter as well as basic needs, including food, hygiene packages and information on a range of available services.

**[State-Tribal Partnerships to Implement Best Practices in Indian Child Welfare](#)**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families - ACYF/CB  
HHS-2023-ACF-ACYF-CW-0055  
Deadline: June 21, 2023**

These five year grants are intended to generate evidence for how best to effectively implement child welfare practices and ongoing active efforts to maintain AI/AN families by funding state and tribal partnerships to jointly design and operate Indian child welfare best practice implementation demonstration sites.

**[Youth Homeless Demonstration Program](#)**

**Department of Housing and Urban Development  
FR-6700-N-35  
Deadline: June 27, 2023**

NOFO Highlights HUD will select up to 25 communities to participate in the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) to develop and execute a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness.

**[Advancing Equity in Child Support](#)**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families - OCSE  
HHS-2023-ACF-OCSE-FD-0022  
Deadline: June 30, 2023**

The recipient of this grant award will examine child support guidelines, policies, and procedures to address the disproportional access to child support services.

**[Victims of Human Trafficking in Native Communities Demonstration \(VHT-NC\) Program](#)**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families-IOAS-OTIP  
HHS-2023-ACF-IOAS-OTIP-TV-0046  
Deadline: June 30, 2023**

The VHT-NC Demonstration Program's goal is to directly fund organizations that will build, expand, and sustain organizational and community capacity to deliver services to Native American (i.e., American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and/or Pacific Islanders) adults and minors who have experienced a severe form of human trafficking as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended, through the provision of direct services, assistance, and referrals. Under the VHT-NC Demonstration Program the following activities are required: 1) provision of comprehensive, culturally and linguistically responsive, case management to Native Americans who have experienced sex and labor trafficking; 2) increase identification of Native Americans who have experienced sex and labor trafficking through outreach; and 3) public awareness activities for the local community and organizations that may encounter individuals who have experienced sex and labor trafficking.

**[Initiation of a Mental Health Family Navigator Model to Promote Early Access, Engagement and Coordination of Needed Mental Health Services for Children and Adolescents](#)**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health  
PAR-23-094  
Applications accepted now**

**Deadline: July 5, 2024**

Applicants are required to develop and test the navigator model's ability to promote early access, engagement, coordination and optimization of mental health treatment and services for children and adolescents as soon as symptoms are detected. Applicants are also required to identify and test components of navigator models that drive improvements in mental health care; detect and interrogate

tailoring variables that optimize the ‘personalized match’ between the unique mental health needs of youth to the appropriate level of intensity and frequency of mental health services; and utilize emerging novel technologies to track and monitor the trajectory of clinical, functional and behavioral progress toward achieving intended services outcomes.

**[NIDA Research Center of Excellence Grant Program](#)**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

**National Institutes of Health**

**PAR-23-076**

**Open Date (Earliest Submission Date): August 25, 2023**

**Deadline: November 18, 2025**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to provide support for research Centers that (1) conduct substance use and addiction research in any area of NIDA’s mission, including the intersection of substance use/addiction and HIV, (2) foster outstanding innovative science, (3) are multidisciplinary, thematically integrated, and synergistic, and (4) serve as national resource(s) to provide educational and outreach activities to relevant research communities, educational organizations, the general public, and policy makers.