

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Administration for Children & Families

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Increasing the Capacity of Individuals, Families and Communities

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am pleased to announce that the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), an agency of the U. S. Department and Health and Human Services (DHHS) is establishing an ACF Tribal/Federal Workgroup (Workgroup) to assist and provide advice to the agency in carrying out its mission in Tribal communities.

Specifically, the Workgroup will convene to develop a draft ACF tribal consultation policy to present to tribal governments for consideration during the 2010 ACF Tribal Consultation Meeting tentatively planned for mid-September. The Workgroup will meet in Washington, DC on August 18th and 19th, followed by subsequent conference calls.

ACF is currently seeking nominations for the Workgroup. We are seeking nominations for a primary representative from each of the ACF Regions with Federally recognized tribes within their service area (Region I – Boston; Region II – New York; Region IV – Atlanta; Region V – Chicago; Region VI – Dallas; Region VII – Kansas City; Region VIII – Denver; Region IX – San Francisco; and Region X – Seattle), as well as four at-large national representatives. Because ACF funds and administers a diverse array of grant programs and contracts to expand and enhance programs to improve the quality, availability and range of children, youth and family services in local communities, we are interested in achieving a balance of representation of tribal leaders with experience or interest in community services, domestic violence, child support enforcement, head start, child care, child welfare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and other ACF-related program areas for this Workgroup.

I encourage you to submit your nominations for the Tribal/Federal Workgroup member, who will be authorized to act on your official behalf as a Tribal Leader. Your nomination should be submitted by August 6, 2010 to:

Ms. Lillian Sparks
Commissioner
Administration for Native Americans
370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW
2nd Floor West
Washington, D.C. 20447
Email: Lillian.sparks@acf.hhs.gov

ACF will fund the travel of the selected Workgroup members to attend the August meeting. Details regarding travel, location, and the agenda will be provided once the Workgroup members have been identified.

ACF Tribal/Federal Workgroup

Thank you for your continued hard work. We look forward to working with you on this very important policy.

Sincerely,

_____/x/_____
David A. Hansell
Acting Assistant Secretary
Administration for Children and Families