



July 23, 2019

**NORTHWEST  
PORTLAND  
AREA  
INDIAN  
HEALTH  
BOARD**

- Burns -Paiute Tribe
- Chehalis Tribe
- Coeur d'Alene Tribe
- Colville Tribe
- Coos, Suislaw &  
Lower Umpqua Tribe
- Coquille Tribe
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- Cowlitz Tribe
- Grand Ronde Tribe
- Hoh Tribe
- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Kalispel Tribe
- Klamath Tribe
- Kootenai Tribe
- Lower Elwha Tribe
- Lummi Tribe
- Makah Tribe
- Muckleshoot Tribe
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- Stillaguamish Tribe
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- Swinomish Tribe
- Tulalip Tribe
- Umatilla Tribe
- Upper Skagit Tribe
- Warm Springs Tribe
- Yakama Nation

2121 SW Broadway  
Suite 300  
Portland, OR 97201  
Phone: (503) 228-4185  
Fax: (503) 228-8182  
[www.npaihb.org](http://www.npaihb.org)

The Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) was formed in 1972 as a non-profit tribal organization serving forty-three federally recognized Tribes in Idaho, Oregon and Washington on health related issues; including budgets, legislation, health promotion and disease prevention. Our organization's mission is: "to eliminate health disparities and improve the quality of life of American Indians and Alaska Natives by supporting Northwest Tribes in their delivery of culturally appropriate, high quality healthcare." Retaining, practicing and sharing cultural values and traditions maintain the health and wellbeing of our Indigenous people.

This year, The NPAIHB) is hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual "Dancing in the Square" American Indian Day Celebration Friday, September 27, 2019 at Pioneer Square in downtown Portland. We are inviting you to help us promote this event by either becoming a sponsor or making a donation. Your sponsorship and donations go toward paying rental fees for the event venue; monetary donations to drum groups, youth dance groups, and any other related costs. For contribution purposes, you may make your tax deductible donation payable to the "Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board" and our 501(c) (3) tax identification number is 93-0718154. Provided is a list of different levels of sponsorship that supports our Dancing in the Square American Indian Day Celebration.



If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Mattie Tomeo-Palmanteer, at 503-416-3254

or send an e-mail to [mtomeopalmanteer@npaihb.org](mailto:mtomeopalmanteer@npaihb.org) or simply mail your contribution to the address listed below. We thank you in advance for your consideration and support of this very important effort!

Sincerely,

Joe Finkbonner, RPH, MHA  
NPAIHB, Executive Director

2019 Indian Day Committee



# 14TH ANNUAL DANCING IN THE SQUARE POW WOW

**-PIONEER SQUARE  
-DOWNTOWN PORTLAND, OR  
-SEPTEMBER 27, 2019  
-TIME: 12PM-7PM  
-GRAND ENTRY 3PM**

**-HOST DRUM: SILENT HILL  
-EMCEE: CARLOS CALICA  
-NO SPECIALS**

**PAYMENT GUARANTEED TO FIRST  
6 REGISTERED DRUMS** NO DRUM HOPPING  
(Please Register Prior to Event)  
Contact: Geo. Ann Baker at  
(503) 416-3255 [gbaker@npaihb.org](mailto:gbaker@npaihb.org)

**VENDORS & EDUCATIONAL  
BOOTHs**  
For more information please contact:  
Candice Jimenez at (503) 416-3264

**This event is FREE and open to the public. A Drug, Alcohol, Commercial Tobacco and Violence Free Event  
Sale of Sacred items are forbidden. The committee is not responsible for lost or stolen items or any travel or  
parking cost.  
For more information about the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board or the 43 Federally-recognized  
Tribes of Idaho, Oregon and Washington please visit: [www.npaihb.org](http://www.npaihb.org) 2121 SW Broadway, Suite 300,  
Portland OR, 97201 / (503) 228-4185**



**NPAIHB**  
*Indian Leadership for Indian Health*



# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



## ARENA SPONSOR

Amount Requested: \$ 6,000

YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear on banner hung on the tent canopy of the event. Your choice of TWO BOOTH SPACE in prime location for your product demonstration or promotion of your product and/or service or organization. Two FULL PAGE AD's of your organization will appear in the event program and back cover acknowledging your sponsorship.



## PLATINUM SPONSOR

Amount Requested: \$1,500

YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear on a banner hung at one entrance of the event. Your choice of ONE BOOTH SPACE in a prime location for your product demonstration or promotion of your product and/or service or organization. FULL PAGE AD of your organization will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship.



## GOLD SPONSOR

Amount Requested: \$1000

YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear on a banner hung at one entrance of the event. Your choice of ONE BOOTH SPACE in prime location for your product demonstration or promotion of your product and/or service or organization. HALF PAGE AD of your organization will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship.



## SILVER SPONSOR

Amount Requested: \$750

ONE BOOTH SPACE in prime location for your product demonstration or promotion of your product and/or service or organization. QUARTER PAGE AD of your organization will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship.



## BRONZE SPONSOR

Amount Requested: \$ 500

ONE BOOTH SPACE in prime location for your product demonstration or promotion of your product and/or service or organization. LOGO will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship.



## PROGRAM PRINTING

Amount Requested: \$2,000

YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear on a banner hung at one entrance of the event. Your choice of ONE BOOTH SPACE in prime location for your product demonstration or promotion of your product and/or service or organization. FULL PAGE AD of your organization will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship.



## FULL PAGE ADS

Amount Requested: \$ 700

YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship.



## HALF (1/2) PAGE ADS

Amount Requested: \$ 500

YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship.



## QUARTER (1/4) PAGE ADS

Amount Requested: \$ 250

YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship.



## Host Drum Sponsor— for

drummers. Amount Requested:

\$300 YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship



## TINY-TOT SPONSORSHIP -

Would include small prize, healthy snack item and monetary support  
Amount requested: \$250 YOUR NAME/ LOGO will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship



## BOTTLED WATER

Amount Requested: \$250  
YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear on the water and in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship



## LOGO RECOGNITION

Amount Requested: \$100



## Additional Drums Sponsor— for

drummers. Amount Requested: \$200 YOUR NAME/LOGO will appear in the event program acknowledging your sponsorship



Northwest Portland Area  
Indian Health Board  
Indian Leadership for Indian Health

2019 DANCING IN THE SQUARE SPONSORSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES



# 2019 DANCING IN THE SQUARE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



## SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION

14<sup>th</sup> Annual Dancing in the Square Powwow  
Friday, September 27, 2019

Pioneer Courthouse Square  
Portland, Oregon



	Arena Sponsor	\$6,000
	Platinum Sponsor	\$1,500
	Gold Sponsor	\$1,000
	Silver Level Sponsor	\$750
	Bronze Sponsor	\$500
	Program Printing	\$2,000
	Full Page Ads	\$750
	Half (1/2) Page Ads	\$500
	Quarter (1/4) Page Ads	\$250
	Tiny Tots Sponsorship	\$250
	Bottled Water	\$250
	Drum Sponsor	\$300
	Dance Sponsor	\$100
	Logo Recognition	\$
	Other Monetary Support	

Please remit this portion with your sponsorship.

Make check or money order payable to: Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

Mail to: NPAIHB, 2121 SW Broadway, Suite 300 (Attn: Mattie Tomeo-Palmanteer), Portland, OR 97201

Questions: Call 503-416-3254 or email [mtomeopalmanteer@npaihb.org](mailto:mtomeopalmanteer@npaihb.org)

Business Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

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## VA Office of Tribal Government Relations Newsletter ~ May/June/July 2019

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the VA Office of Tribal Government Relations (OTGR) newsletter.

Before offering updates, I am sad to share the news that Mr. Marshall Gover, Vietnam Veteran and former President of the Pawnee Nation, passed away during the month of July. President Gover worked tirelessly to improve the lives of Indian people and his fellow Veterans. His list of accomplishments and accolades are impressive and extensive. I was fortunate to work with him during the effort to establish Reimbursement Agreements between the VA, Indian Health Service, and Tribal Health Programs (an arrangement by which VA purchases care from the federal and tribal Indian health care systems).

President Gover was an ally and constructive critic of both the VA (which historically had a distressing track record with Vietnam Veterans) and the Indian Health Service. He saw the potential of the two systems of care to join forces on behalf of Veterans in tribal and rural communities. He was also a key advocate for developing purchased care partnerships, which provide for Veterans to receive care close to home, while also establishing an ongoing relationship and method of accessing VA healthcare. President Gover's vision and advocacy to date has resulted in every IHS facility, over 110 tribal health programs and two Urban Indian Health Programs (Oklahoma City and Tulsa) becoming VA purchased care sites.

Through these partnerships, over 10,000 Veterans from across Indian Country have been served and close to \$100 million in care has been purchased by VA from these facilities/providers. His remarkable legacy of compassion, visionary leadership and willingness to stand up for the needs of others will continue to touch many lives in the years to come. We are grateful for both his leadership and service. We offer our prayers and condolences to his family and loved ones during this difficult season of loss.

I am pleased to report that the [2018 Your Service, Our Mission: Bringing Benefits Home: Summary of Claims Events in Indian Country – a Guide for Best Practice](#), has been released. It chronicles the Indian Country claims event outreach campaign effort that VA collaborated with tribes to implement last year, but also serves as a guide or handbook for tribes who may wish to host their own claims events with local Veteran serving organizations. There is still great interest in partnering with the VA to host these events in 2019. In recent months, Veterans benefits claims events have been held in the following locations: Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians in Coarsegold, CA (the tribe also hosted Tribal Veteran Advocate Training); Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (Idabel and Durant), Eufaula, OK; St. Regis Mohawk in New York; and several tribal locations in the Southwest.

Looking forward, Cherokee Nation; Seminole Nation; Chickasaw Nation (Ardmore and Oklahoma City); Meskwaki Nation; and the Menominee Tribe are all on the VA/Tribal claims events schedule. This is just a sample of the schedule - don't hesitate to contact us for a comprehensive list of 2019 events.

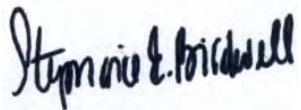
Among all the other information in this extra-large newsletter edition, you'll find two more profile interviews with staff from Indian Country who assist Veterans - both from New Mexico tribes; the Pueblo of Laguna and Mescalero Apache. I think you'll enjoy reading about their work and experience.

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We always like to hear feedback from our readers, so if you have recommendations for content, or questions, please email us at [tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov](mailto:tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov).

Happy Reading,

Stephanie

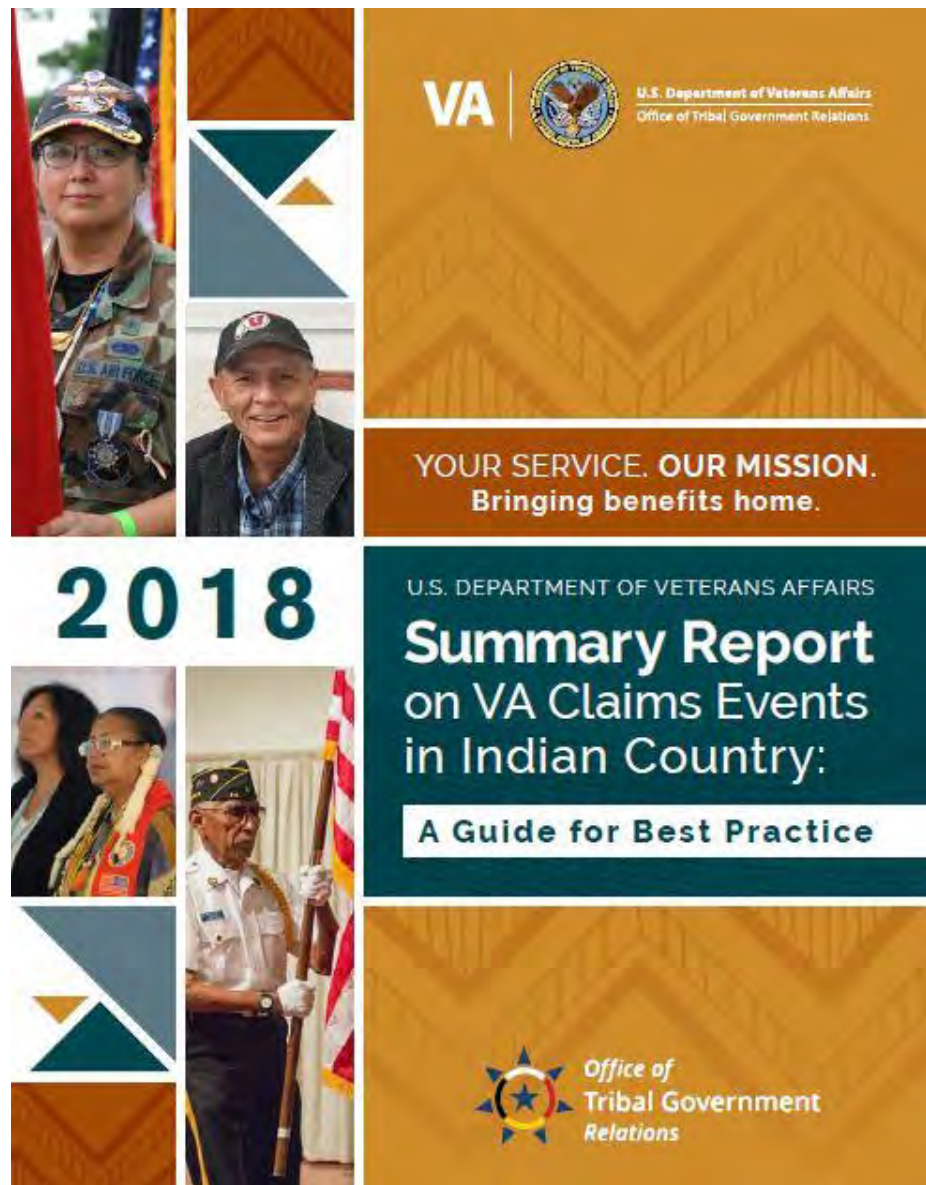




## Department of Veterans Affairs 2018 OTGR Summary Report

You can read OTGR's 2018 claims event campaign report by clicking [HERE](#) or the image below. Alternatively, email [Peter.Vicaire@va.gov](mailto:Peter.Vicaire@va.gov) and he can send a copy.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has released the **2018 OTGR Summary Report on VA Claims Events in Indian Country: A Guide for Best Practice**. The 2018 report was mailed to federally recognized tribes.





## VA reaches out to Native American Veterans at event in Flagstaff, Arizona

Here's an [article from VA Insider](#) which ran on July 15

On July 11 and 12, VA and Navajo Nation Veterans Administration hosted a VA Claims Event to assist Native American veterans. This was part of VA's nationwide campaign to roll out VA claims events collaboratively with tribal communities. The event was free and was part of the 1.5 day long Navajo Nation Veterans Summit that took place at the Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort in Flagstaff, Arizona. Monica Cabrera, Phoenix VARO public affairs officer, reported on July 11 they assisted 65 veterans.



Srey Austin, director of National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona in Phoenix, was a speaker at the event informing veterans about the services that are available to them and their families through the National Cemetery Administration. "With the focus on Veterans with presumptive disabilities and those who are pension eligible, VA is hopeful we can help Indian Country veterans access the full range of benefits they have courageously earned through their service," said Stephanie Birdwell, director, VA's Office of Tribal Government Relations.





## VA's "I Am Not Invisible" Campaign Highlights Native American Women Veterans

The full gallery of images and more information can be found on [Facebook](#) by clicking on the image below.

There are roughly two million women veterans, making up ten percent of the veteran population and growing. The I Am Not Invisible (IANI) photography project, developed in Oregon, aims to increase awareness and dialogue about women veterans, and open viewers' eyes to the myriad contributions, needs, and experiences of women who have served in the military.

In support of Women's History Month 2020, this virtual IANI exhibit celebrates and honors women Veterans who recently attended the Society of American Indian Government Employees conference (SAIGE) in Niagara Falls, NY. Department of Veterans Affairs Photographer, Gene Russell



## Tribal Veteran Wellness to Healing Court Symposium – Missoula, MT



[CLICK](#) on the image below for more information on what seems to be a great veterans training event in Missoula, MT on August 22-23.



## Representative Sharice Davids to host resource day for Kansas Veterans



Here's an [article by Mark Feuerborn](#), which ran in KSNT News on July 25.

GARDNER, Kan. (KSNT) – Kansas' 3rd Congressional District Representative wants to help the state's military veterans get jobs, education and healthcare.

The daughter of a veteran herself, Rep. Sharice Davids announced her team will host a Veterans Appreciation Day this Saturday alongside Veterans Affairs representatives in Gardner. The group will offer assistance and connections for job training, education opportunities and healthcare resources at the American Legion LeRoy Hill Post 19. Additionally, Davids said her team will "help local veterans with problems they may be having with the federal government." She mentioned troubles like backlogged benefits as an example.

While Davids represents the state's 3rd District, a spokeswoman for her team said they are open to helping veterans from across Kansas. There is no full VA medical center in the 3rd District, but [there are two in the 2nd District](#). [Interested veterans can RSVP here](#).





## Representative Sharice Davids introduces bill to help veteran-owned businesses succeed

Successful Entrepreneurship for Reservists and Veterans (SERV) Act to help Veteran-owned businesses succeed by studying barriers these businesses face, including lack of access to capital and credit.

Representative Sharice Davids introduced the Successful Entrepreneurship for Reservists and Veterans Act, a bill to help Veteran-owned businesses succeed by studying the barriers these businesses face, including lack of access to capital and credit.



“Growing up with a parent in the army, I saw firsthand the challenges our service members face when transitioning to new jobs after time in the military. There are so many Veterans in Kansas with the entrepreneurial skills it takes to run a small business, and we must do a better job at setting them up for success,” said Davids.

The Successful Entrepreneurship for Reservists and Veterans Act, or SERV Act, requires a report from the Comptroller General of the United States on the ability of veteran and reservist small business owners to access credit, a necessary part of a business’ prosperity.

“Access to capital is one of the most important first steps entrepreneurs take when starting a business, and it is also one of the biggest difficulties, especially for our Veterans. By studying the problem of access to credit for Veterans and Reservists, the Successful Entrepreneurship for Reservists and Veterans Act will be a crucial first step in identifying solutions that allow these businesses to thrive,” said Davids.

The legislation also requires the U.S. Small Business Association to develop a plan for outreach and promotion of the many programs available to Veterans, service-disabled Veterans, Reservists, and their spouses.

Davids introduced the bipartisan bill with House Small Business Committee Ranking Member Steve Chabot (R-OH). To view the bill text, click [here](#).



Department of Veterans' Affairs

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[www.oregon.gov/odva](http://www.oregon.gov/odva)

July 15, 2019

Cheryle Kennedy, Tribal Chair  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
9615 Grand Ronde Road  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Dear Chair Kennedy,

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) is pleased to announce a new initiative related to advocacy efforts for tribal veterans in Oregon. As part of ODVA's legislatively approved budget for the 2019-2021 biennium, we are adding a full time Tribal Veteran Coordinator position and have been allotted pass-through funding for eligible tribal nations. This new initiative is part of Governor Brown's efforts to better Government to Government relationships and enhance programs intended to serve Oregon's tribal veterans.

ODVA recognizes the need for tribal veteran advocates that reside within the structure of tribal governments. Tribal veterans live mostly in rural areas which can create hardships in obtaining veteran benefits that they have greatly earned by their military service. Having tribal based veteran representatives advocating for tribal veterans is the best way to accomplish connecting veterans and their family members to their earned benefits.

As part of this new initiative, all Oregon tribal nations are invited to consider expanding or creating a tribal veterans' advocacy office. The state pass-through funding could be used to offset the costs of a full or part time Tribal Veteran Service Officer position, computers or other technology, costs of outreach and transportation, or rental of office space. ODVA remains committed to providing support for tribal veterans, including assisting in training of Tribal Veteran Service Officers and providing claims assistance.

It would be an honor to appear before your tribal council to discuss this new initiative and answer any questions you may have. Please let us know by September 3, 2019, if your tribal nation is interested in this initiative and pass-through funding. Please contact Sheronne Blasi, Director of Veteran Services, at [blasia@odva.state.or.us](mailto:blasia@odva.state.or.us) or (503) 373-2249.

Respectfully,



Kelly Fitzpatrick  
Director

Serving Oregon Veterans Since 1945





## Louis Levi Oakes, last Mohawk Code Talker receives a hero's tribute when laid to rest in Akwesasne

Here's an [article written by Leslie Logan](#) from Indian Country Today on June 7

*High military honors from the US and Canada were a part of memorial services as hundreds lined the funeral route*

On Saturday, June 1, hundreds of Akwesasnoron, joined by representatives from the US military and Canadian Armed Forces laid Louis Levi Oakes, the last remaining Mohawk Code Talker from World War II to rest.

It was a service befitting a hero. It was a memorial service, military honor, and funeral procession unlike any most Native communities ever witness or experience. Route 37, the main road that runs through Akwesasne, was lined with hundreds of people, including firefighters, law enforcement and uniformed military personnel that stood at attention.

The funeral procession down Route 37, was escorted by some 200 motorcyclists, with motorcycle groups from all over New York State, including the American Legion Legacy riders, Christian Motorcyclist Association, Freedom Riders Motorcycle Club, Patriot Guard Riders, and other local groups and clubs. The rolling thunder procession rumbled beneath a giant US flag draped in an aerial display over the width of Route 37 as though marking a final finish line.

Not since after World War II, when there was a big ceremony for remains that were repatriated, has Akwesasne seen such a memorial with military honors and fanfare.



A drum song during the service. Courtesy U.S. Army.



Louis Levi Oakes, “Tahagietagwa,” Turtle Clan, was 94 when he died on the evening of May 28 at the Iakhihsotha Lodge at Akwesasne. Oakes was born Jan. 23, 1925, in St. Regis, Que., on the Canadian side of the Akwesasne Mohawk territory. Oakes joined the Army when he was 18 and served during World War II. He was immediately enlisted to serve as a code talker, once he was overheard speaking the language to another Mohawk service member. He and 17 other Mohawks used the Mohawk language as a communication strategy to elude the enemy in the War. Oakes was the last surviving Mohawk Code Talker.



Oakes joined the Army when he was 18 and served during World War II. He was immediately enlisted to serve as a code talker, once he was overheard speaking the language to another Mohawk servicemember.

Native servicemen speaking 33 different languages including Navajo, Comanche, Choctaw, and Hopi were used as Code Talkers by the U.S. military during the Second World War. The US military declassified the program in 1968, but Oakes had taken an oath of secrecy and took that oath seriously, never speaking about his role until nearly 30 years after the program was declassified.

The US Congress passed the Code Talkers Recognition Act in 2008 to honor their service.





Oakes received a service with full military honors. A team of nine soldiers from the 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry served as military pallbearers. An honor guard rendered a rifle volley of seven fires, shot three times in a 21-gun salute. The Fort Drum Scottish brigadiers came to honor him. The Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry Highlanders branch of the Canadian Armed Forces were present. The bagpipes played, the bugles trumpeted Taps, and the United States flag was folded and presented to Oakes' eldest daughter Diane. The US military 10th Mountain Division from Fort Drum gave full military honors and representatives from numerous American Legions and Posts attended.



There was a military flyover of five military helicopters from Fort Drum: Three Blackhawk helicopters and two CH-47 Chinook helicopters flew directly over the grave site.

Peter Garrow is the manager of self-government negotiations with Canada for Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and was involved in honoring vets, including Oakes, from Akwesasne in a ceremony in 2018. He told *Indian Country Today* that there were so many things about the service, the military honors, the procession that filled him with pride. "It was heartwarming. I was so elated, almost moved to tears to witness all of that firsthand," said Garrow. "I've seen different flybys with their jets, Blue Angels, but having a tribute like this to a quiet man was such a huge honor. I was awestruck and moved."

Garrow said someone in the community took a video of the military flyover. He said as the choppers were flying along the St. Regis River, there was a whole flock of Canada geese that flew up as if to greet them. "You see the flyover over the river and then the geese came up. The geese looked as if they were rising up to greet the flyover as if joining in the tribute to Levi," said Garrow. "That was impressive, everything was just fitting."

John Miller, Lt. Col., Commander 3rd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment with the 10th Mountain Division said that the 10th Mountain Division wanted to honor Oakes in a special way. He told reporters, "In combat, helicopters bring soldiers



home, home from battle, home to where they belong. Today we helped bring Mr. Oakes home."

Oakes earned the Congressional Silver Medal, the third-highest American military honor and the Silver Star, the combat decoration for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States. He was also presented with the New York State Liberty Medal — the highest civilian honor bestowed by New York State upon individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts and achievements. He was inducted into the New York State Senate Veteran's Hall of Fame. The Canadian House of Commons honored him in Parliament, as did the Assembly of First Nations. Quebec Liberal MP Marc Miller visited Oakes at his home and presented him with a medal of honor for his service.



Akwesasne Mohawk Code Talker Louis Levi Oakes receiving the Congressional Silver Medal from U.S. Congresswoman Elise Stefanick (NY-21) and American Legion Post #1479 Commander Michael "Goon" Cook on Onerahtohkó:wa/May 28, 2016. (Courtesy Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe)

MP Miller delivered a eulogy in Mohawk and called Oakes his hero. "The story of Levi Oakes is an exceptional one, but an important reminder to me that when Canada, when the United States, needed First Nations most, they were the first to stand up and be counted. The statistics bear this out as we know that Indigenous people had the highest proportion of participation to their populations than any other," said Miller. "The story of Levi Oakes is also a reminder that he used his language to save us while the country he served, as well as the one that counted him as a citizen, consciously and unconsciously attempted to destroy that same language. It is a reminder to me that we need to face this bitter truth and learn from this grotesque error as we try to vitalize indigenous languages."





It should be noted that Native men who served in World War II did so voluntarily because they were not granted US citizenship. Garrow explained, “We didn’t have to serve because we weren’t even considered citizens.”

Peter “PJ” Herne, legal policy analyst for Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, and Marine Corps veteran, said that First Nations men who had joined and served in the Canadian armed forces had to apply for Canadian citizenship and renounce their Native status. They were denied benefits that were routinely available to all other Canadians once they came home from service. “They had to apply for any benefits, and in order to do that, (you) had to give up your Native status. It was this way until 1956,” Herne said. “Many people who wanted to serve, turned it down because it meant they’d lose their Native citizenship.”

It was the same way in the US, up until 1924 when US citizenship was granted to Native Americans via the Snyder Act. Historically, Native Americans have had the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups. In many cases they returned as warriors, some decorated and recognized with valor. Yet many faced discrimination in housing, employment, education, land rights, water rights, and didn’t have the right to vote.

Herne harkened back to the words of Sen. McCain who remarked upon Native American veterans who had been denied full rights and participation in American society and were treated as second class citizens: “And still they serve,” he said.

The immense show of recognition and the military involvement in Oakes’ funeral services was significant not only to the Oakes family but to Akwesasne as a whole. Herne said that it showed a level of recognition to Levi for his contributions as a Code Talker, to his generation for their service, and underscored the importance of the Mohawk language itself for its role in defending against the enemy in war. “To finally have the world give him that recognition was great,” said Herne. “Militarily and historically, his service puts Akwesasne on the map.”

“People only just now are beginning to know and understand the contributions of Native people,” said Garrow. “Going through what he faced in the war was horrendous. But he was very proud knowing that he represented the Mohawk people in the war effort.” In Indian Country and across First Nations in Canada, Native people will know, remember and celebrate the Code Talkers and their contributions for the greater good of all. And if the US military and Canadian armed forces’ involvement in Oakes’ memorial service is any indication, hopefully, Native peoples’ military contributions, commitment, and legacy will take their rightful place in the annals of history.

## Yakama Nation event honors women veterans



This [article by Tammy Ayer](#) ran in the Yakima Herald on May 17.

Virginia Beavert appreciated the help, but cheerfully insisted she could stand on her own behind the lectern on the Legends Casino events center stage. “I’m 97 now,” she said, pausing for enthusiastic applause as the [Yakama Nation](#) honored women veterans in a special gathering Friday. “And I can still get up off my chair. I do tai chi. I try to keep active and keep myself going. “I just want to say I’m happy to be here. Thank you for honoring me — the tribe and all of you people. Thank you.”

Beavert — whose Native name is Tuxámshish — was a particularly revered guest among many special guests. She served in the WACs, or Women’s Army Corps, during World War II. Her decision to serve was inspired by several male cousins who joined during the war. She also is a teacher and author. Her most recent book, “The Gift of Knowledge — Ttnúwit Átawish Nch’inch’imamí,” came out in 2018. Many are familiar with her expertise and work with Ichiskíin, also known as Sahaptin, the language spoken by the Yakama people in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Her stepfather, Alexander Saluskin, or Chief Wi-ya-wikt, citing his poor health, in the 1970s encouraged her to return to school to help him complete his life’s work, “[The Sahaptin Practical Dictionary for Yakama,](#)” according to a [profile of her](#) on the Central Washington University website.



For her and other Native women, military service not only offered many opportunities, it made sense. It was important. “They used to ask me, why do you think Indians join the Army? They’re not supposed to go to war anymore,” Beavert said. “I said it was to protect my homeland. My own language. My own family. And that’s the way I felt.” The event acknowledging the achievements of female veterans began with members of the [Yakama Warriors Association](#) leading a procession of veterans into the events center. Anthony Washines, who served in the Marine Corps, was master of ceremonies. Along with





the presentation of colors, several speakers and special honors for female veterans, guests could check out informational booths and enjoyed a salmon luncheon.

Washines invited the crowd, estimated at about 200, to participate in a round dance all around the expansive floor, with singing and drumming by students from the Yakama Nation Tribal School. Shawn Scabbyrobe led the drums. “Join in the celebration,” Washines said. “Take it away, Tribal School!” JoDe Goudy, chairman of the Yakama Nation Tribal Council, offered welcoming comments. Tribal Council passed a resolution proclaiming May 17, 2019, as Honor Women Veterans Day, he noted. Susan Jim read the proclamation to the crowd.

Before the event began, photos and names of Native women who served in the Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines and as commissioned officers scrolled on two big screens framing the stage. Along with Beavert’s name and photo were those of Cecelia Jack, Michelle A. Hoptowitz, Amber Rae Hill-Terry, Shirley Moses, Mary Diavolikis, Michelle Huber, Wynona “Noni” Woolf, Amber Rae Hill-Terry, Delphine Allen-Rose and many others. Also among the names was Lori Ann Piestewa, an Army soldier who died on March 23, 2003, in the Iraq War. A Hopi, she was the first Native woman to die in combat while serving in the U.S. military and the first woman in the U.S. military who died in the Iraq War.

Piestewa Peak in Arizona is named in her honor. “In the process, they removed a derogatory name for (Native) women and honored a hero,” said Davis Washines. He introduced Piestewa’s mother, Priscilla “Percy” Baca, and two children, Brandon Whiterock and Carla Piestewa, who sat among the special guests on the stage. They received a plaque from the Yakama Nation and other gifts.

After the presentation, Piestewa’s son spoke. “It’s just truly greatly humbling to be here. Just the environment and the energy here is just so amazing. Being welcomed to the Yakama Nation is just awesome,” Whiterock said. “I just want to thank all veterans, woman veterans, everyone here for serving.”

Throughout the two hours before the noon lunch, Steve Ganuelas sat in the risers with his wife of 59 years, Linnea. Though a member of the Yakama Warriors Association, the Korean War veteran wasn’t wearing his Warriors jacket or hat, he noted. Several members and others stopped to shake his hand. “I think it’s great,” he said of the event.

Ganuelas hummed along as Loren Corpuz performed the Marine Corps song on his trumpet, accompanied by John Smith on snare drum. With the end of the song came the Corps battle cry. “Oorah!” he shouted.



## 14th Annual New Mexico VA Gourd Dance revitalizes the human spirit

Here's an [article from Vantage Point](#) which ran on July 25

The Gourd Dance, also known as the “The Warriors Dance,” is believed to originate with the Kiowa or the Comanche tribes. It symbolizes the story of warriors that come together as one to honor those who have served our great country. The dance is centered around Grandfather Drum, the heartbeat of Mother Earth, and a metal rattle that the dancers use to accompany the drum beat. Their opposite hand holds a fan made of feathers, usually those of an eagle.



*This year marks the 14th annual Gourd Dance held on the parade grounds at the Albuquerque VA facility. The Gourd Dance symbolizes the story of warriors that come together as one to honor those who have served our great country.*

This time-honored tradition has become part of the New Mexico VA Health Care System (NMVAHCS) in Albuquerque. This year marks the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Gourd Dance held on the parade grounds at the Albuquerque VA facility. Many in attendance were from tribes near and far.

“We’re honoring all veterans that never received their honors when they returned home,” said Leonard Anthony, who served as Master of Ceremonies. Tilford Brown, NMVAHCS American Indian Program Manager, describes the dance as entertaining but also a spiritual event. “It is a place where one can feel at ease as the ceremonial songs are being sung,” said Brown.

There are many symbolic rituals that are done during the ceremony. When one is entering the circle, they must enter clockwise and exit in clockwise. The counter-clockwise movement opposes the natural world. During the gathering, some spectators placed sage in a pot at the base of the staff. As the sage smolders, the





person is cleansed of any negative thoughts while offering up prayers for loved ones.



*The Warrior Dance also includes a tradition of eating a meal with family and friends consisting of bread, beans, red chili, and cold watermelon.*

“As one looks on at the ceremonial dances and listens to the beat of the drums, you feel a sense of peace and calmness,” said Brown. “The rhythmic sounds of the drum, the sage that lingered in the air and the sense of feeling like you are home, all provide a feel for native culture.”

“The event is similar to a warrior dance I had witnessed in the past,” said Miss Indian Piedra Vista Alana Davis, who attended the Gourd Dance for the first time.

“The Gourd Dance is very sacred to me and my family.” Davis and her family traveled from Farmington, New Mexico to attend.

The Warrior Dance also includes a tradition of eating a meal with family and friends consisting of bread, beans, red chili, and cold watermelon. “Overall the dance, brings a sense of belonging to something greater than oneself,” said Brown. “This was felt throughout the parade grounds.”

Special thanks to Brown, NMVAHCS American Indian Program Committee and the EEO Special Emphasis Program Committee for putting together a memorable event.



## Cherokee Nation to seek veterans cemetery funding

Here's an article from Chad Hunter which ran in the [Cherokee Phoenix](#) on June 17.

Hoping to establish a Cherokee Nation veterans cemetery, tribal policymakers agreed June 10 to apply for federal grant funding. "I have mentioned this to some veteran friends, and they're very excited about it," Dist. 13 Tribal Councilor Buel Anglen said. "They just want to know where it's going to be."

The Tribal Council unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the CN Office of Veterans Affairs to seek from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs grant funding to cover costs associated with design and planning of a cemetery. The tribe will express interest prior to a July 1 "planning phase" deadline, CN Veterans Affairs Director Barbara Foreman said.

"This is just preliminary," she said. "It's like a pre-app. The only thing they're wanting from us is something from our council and chief." An early site considered for the cemetery was near Cherokee Trails Golf Course, Sequoyah High School and the tribe's Cultural Grounds in Tahlequah. Unimpressed with that site, councilors removed from the proposal any reference to a cemetery location.

"This is my district," Dist. 3 Tribal Councilor David Walkingstick said. "I grew up in that area my whole entire life. I'm not really excited about the location. I think it's a great concept, a great idea. But, I can't pass this with the location it's in right now." At-Large Tribal Councilor Mary Baker Shaw agreed.

"I think this is a fantastic idea, but that was before I saw the location," she said. "I'm horrified we're going to put a cemetery possibly by our school where our kids go. I'm sorry, I think this is a terrible location." Councilors also amended the resolution to include only "Cherokee veterans," a move Foreman said will likely lessen the tribe's chance to receive a portion of the \$45 million available in grant funding.

"We can apply for either way you choose," she said. "But what they've told us so far is that if we apply for a national cemetery and we open it for all veterans, we would be higher on the priority list to be funded. If we just go to strictly tribal, it will drop us down quite a bit." Councilors were adamant that a CN cemetery should be limited to Cherokees.

"I love the idea of us having a national cemetery," Dist. 14 Tribal Councilor Keith Austin said. "I don't love the idea of us committing ourselves to care for non-tribal citizens from now until eternity with tribal dollars." Tribal Speaker Joe Byrd acknowledged that limiting the cemetery could reduce grant chances, but like others, expressed concern over serving "all tribes, all non-tribal members."

"I'm excited about this national cemetery for Cherokees with a different site," he said.



Cherokee veterans honored. CN citizens and veterans honored in June with the tribe's Medal of Patriotism were Billy Cecil, Ashley Rutherford, John Cochran and Marvin Winton.

A U.S. Army veteran, Cecil, of Park Hill, served from 1966-69. He spent three years in Germany. "I just want to thank the Cherokees for all their recognition," Cecil said at the June 10 meeting. "I'm very proud to be a Cherokee."

Vietnam veteran Rutherford, of Burleson, Texas, served in the Army from 1965-69. A military policeman and squad leader, he achieved rank as an E-5 sergeant. "On behalf of my family - a large number of them who are members of the tribe - I thank you for this," Rutherford said. "It's an honor for them and me."

Vietnam veteran Cochran, of Catoosa, served in the Army's 4th Infantry Division from 1968-72. "It's a privilege to serve in the U.S. military," Cochran said, "and a privilege to serve our tribe and nation."

Winton, of Amarillo, Texas, served in the U.S. Marine Corps during peace time from 1953-56. "I go to a VA hospital in Amarillo named and dedicated to Thomas E. Creek, an 18-year-old who was killed in Vietnam and received the Congressional Medal of Honor for it," Winton said. "We love our country. We will raise our hands and give our lives as a human sacrifice if necessary."

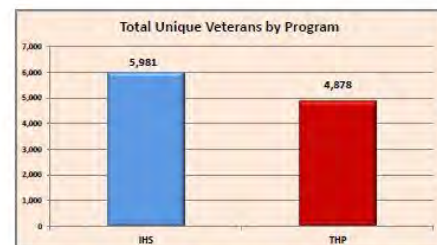
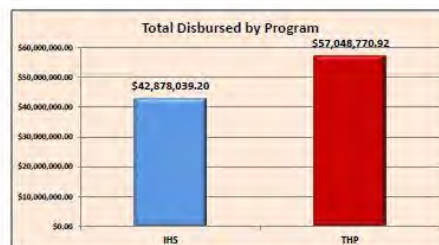


## VA Reimburses almost \$100 Million to IHS and Tribal Health Programs

Tribal health programs interested in entering into a reimbursement agreement with VA for serving veterans should send an initial note of interest to: [tribal.agreements@va.gov](mailto:tribal.agreements@va.gov)

### Indian Health Service/Tribal Health Program

National Data				
Total Disbursement for IHS/THP Program Agreement Date to FYTD	Total Disbursement by Program - Agreement Date to FYTD			Total Unique Veterans for IHS/THP Program Agreement Date to FYTD
	Program	Total Disbursed	Total Unique Veterans	
\$99,926,810.12	IHS	\$42,878,039.20	5,981	10,516
	THP	\$57,048,770.92	4,878	
Total Disbursement - Out of System Ret repayments (only)				
\$38,427.00	Total Disbursement of Out of System Ret repayments (only) - included in National Data			Total Unique Veterans - Out of System Ret repayments (only)
	Program	Total Disbursed	Total Unique Veterans	
	IHS	\$22,021.00	972	1,382
	THP	\$16,406.00	410	



Please note: data for unique Veterans cannot be added across fiscal years - individual Veterans may receive care during multiple fiscal years. Adding across fiscal years will result in double-counting of these Veterans.





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## Legacy of Navajo Code Talker Fleming Begaye Sr. honored at funeral

Here's a great [article written by Shondiin Silversmith](#), which ran in the Arizona Republic on May 17.

With his casket wrapped in an American flag, hundreds of people gathered inside the Potter's House Chinle Christian Center on a sunny day to honor Fleming Begaye Sr. The church filled with praise and stories that celebrated Begaye's life. Begaye served as a Navajo Code Talker from 1943 to 1945. He fought in the Battle of Tarawa and Battle of Tinian and was later awarded the Congressional Silver Medal. [He died May 10 at the age of 97.](#)

Begaye was honored with a military funeral and burial Friday. His casket was brought into the church carried by seven Marines. He was later buried in the family plot near his family farm in Salt Water Canyon, Arizona. During the burial, two Marines folded the flag that covered his casket, while the others fired three volleys in Begaye's honor. Begaye's daughter, Veronica Walter, was presented with the flag.

Begaye's granddaughter, Theodosia Ott, said it was a hard day and that she'll miss her grandpa's hugs the most. But she said she was thankful for all the wonderful stories that were shared.

Three Navajo Code Talkers were present at the funeral: Thomas H. Begay, Samuel F. Sandoval and Peter MacDonald. There are only seven living Code Talkers.

MacDonald also shared stories about Begaye's experiences as a Code Talker. One story was from when Begaye landed on the island of Tarawa on Nov. 20, 1943.

Begaye's landing craft was blown up before he reached the beach, MacDonald said, and he flew through the air before landing in the ocean. Begaye lost his helmet, backpack and rifle in the water. He picked up a helmet and rifle from a fallen comrade and rejoined his company.

Three days later, Begaye and others were searching the beach for wounded Marines. He found a foxhole with three Navajo Code Talkers in it, MacDonald said. "I made a joke, he said, 'I didn't know Navajos live on this island,'" MacDonald said. "He was a very good storyteller with a good sense of humor." Sandoval didn't talk during the funeral service, but afterward, in an interview with *The Arizona Republic*, he said he knew Begaye since 1943. They were a part of the second group of Navajo Code Talkers to enter the Marine Corps.

"There was 60 of us that went in together. He was one of them," Sandoval said. "We went through basic training together, and that's how I know him real well." The first group made up 200 words, he added. The second group made up more than 800 words. "We stuck together the whole time," Sandoval said. "I know all the boys that I went out with."



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Sandoval said Begaye was a kind man and recalled times he would stop by Begaye's house to talk and visit his store after work.

"He was a very comical guy," he said. "Never going to forget it." Navajo President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, Second Lady Dottie Lizer and Navajo Nation Speaker Seth Damon attended the funeral service, each offering kind words about Begaye and to the family. They presented the family with a Navajo Nation Flag, a Pendleton blanket and the proclamation to have the flags flown half-staff on the Navajo Nation on May 17.

The Navajo Code Talkers have done and are doing great things for the Navajo Nation and the Navajo people, Nez said. "What a legacy."

### **Always her cheii**

For his granddaughter Theodosia Ott, Begaye will always be her cheii (Navajo for "grandpa"). "It's really hard coming through that door and not seeing him sitting here," Ott said as she patted a cushion of the brown couch in Begaye's living room. "That's the hardest part for us because he always sat here and greeted us."

"He was a very simple person. He didn't like people to make a fuss out of him," Ott said during an interview with *The Republic* at Begaye's home in Chinle. Ott said her grandfather would often come and stay at her home in Phoenix during winter because it was too cold for him on the Navajo Nation. It was during one of those visits that she asked him if she could record a video of him singing the Marine's Hymn in Navajo. He agreed, saying it would be good to do before he forgot all the words.

"He was just really sweet all the time," Ott said.

Ott said Begaye suffered from PTSD from his time serving in the military. He didn't like to sleep in the bedroom, she said. He would only sleep on the couch in his own home or when he stayed with her. It was hard for him to watch movies about war, and he'd often request the movie be changed.

Sometimes at night he would have nightmares, Ott said, and the family would often sit with him until he felt better. She remembers one night at her house she sat on the floor next to him and rubbed his back until he woke up. Once he did, she said he would grab her hand. "I didn't want him to think that he was alone or to feel scared," Ott said.

Begaye often told stories from his Code Talker days. Begaye enlisted on March 26, 1943, in Santa Fe, N.M., while he was still in boarding school in Fort Wingate, N.M., Ott said. While at school he heard that the U.S. Marine Corps was looking for Navajo men who spoke and understood the language. He had no idea they were going to be Code Talkers. He did share stories from his time as a Code Talker, Ott said, although it wasn't until she was around 12 or 13, when Ott thinks something happened that made him start talking about it more.

One story he often shared was about how he was saved from being shot in a foxhole by a Japanese soldier. Begaye was Christian, and when he left for the war his high school



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girlfriend gave him a small, pocket-sized Bible to take with him. When he was surrounded inside a foxhole, Ott said he recalled turning around and seeing a Japanese soldier pointing his gun at him.

He got so scared he put his hand on the Bible in his pocket and prayed to be saved, Ott said, and he closed his eyes because he thought the soldier was going to shoot him. After hearing a few gunshots, Ott said Begaye opened his eyes and saw the soldier fall over. "These three men came running and said, 'Are you alright, chief?'" Ott said, and they pulled him out of the foxhole. "He said that the biggest relief just came over him because he thought he was dead."

Another story was how many of the Navajo Code Talkers would communicate, in Navajo, late at night on the radio when they were bored or lonely in their foxholes. Often Japanese soldiers would listen to them, Ott said. Begaye said they would then start mimicking what they were saying in Navajo, which would make them all laugh.

He was thankful that he made it out of there, Ott said. Begaye was injured twice. He was hit in the back by shrapnel and shot on his side. Ott said he didn't remember what happened when he got shot, but he woke up in a medical facility in Germany for surgery. After surgery, he was transferred to Hawaii for rehabilitation. After his rehabilitation, he returned home.

After returning from the war, Ott said her grandfather reunited with his high school girlfriend, Helen, who waited for him while he was fighting in the war. The two married in August 1945 and had three children. Ott's mother, Veronica Walter, is the only surviving child. Begaye has seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Ott said her grandmother didn't like to openly show affection in the couple's relationship, but everyone knew that she loved him.

"The way I knew that she loved him is that she always made him stay by her side during the last four years of her life," she said. Her grandmother died in 2008 at the age of 84. She had a hospital bed set up in the living room of the home, and Ott said her grandfather slept right by her every night. "She always needed him right there by her side," Ott said. She remembers how her grandmother was in the bed, and she would often put out her hand reaching for her husband. When he wasn't within her reach, she'd use a stick next to her bed to nudge him.

### **Begaye's corner and a Tódókosh farmer**

Growing up, Ott remembers her grandfather as a reserved man, but a hard worker. He worked as a counselor at a boarding school in Nazhlini, Arizona, and it was there that he got the idea to open a gas station in Chinle. "He really just put Chinle on the market, there was nothing out here," Ott said. It was a 24-by-24 shack, she said of the store, and they set up a gas pump. At night, there would be people driving through and ring the bell, turn on the switch and gas up. They'd often leave the money on the pump.





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It eventually evolved into what became known as Begaye's corner, which had a large two-story building with offices, a car repair shop and a gas station. The Bureau of Indian Affairs named Begaye small businessman of the year in 1970, Ott said, and he really enjoyed being a businessman. The store closed in the late 1980s. Begaye was also a great farmer, Ott said. The family has a farm in an area known as Tódókosh, east of Many Farms, Arizona. The farm has over 65 fruit trees, including apple, peach, plum, pear, apricot and cherry.

"The whole area was always clean. I don't know how he did it," she said. "It was like his job. He'd always be out here." Begaye stopped working on the farm 10 to 15 years ago, and now it's managed by the family, but Ott's sister Terry Oliver stays on the farm tending to the trees, cattle and chickens.

Ott's brother, Trent Nez, took care of Begaye and lived with him for the past five years. Just before he passed away, Nez said his grandfather asked him to plant a tree for each year he was alive. "So, I'll be planting 97 trees," he said. He'll also be planting a tree for each year his grandmother lived, per his grandfather's request.

Nez and Ott learned everything about planting and tending to the farm from their grandfather. They grew up spending their summers on the farm, working, planting, playing in the trees along the wash and eating the fruit off the trees. Nez said he remembers his grandfather often took an apple from the tree and used his knife to peel off the skin. "When you got that peeled apple, you felt special."



## Rep. Ruben Gallego Introduces Resolution to Recognize Native American Veterans

WASHINGTON, DC – Ahead of Memorial Day, Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-Ariz.) introduced a resolution to honor and recognize the military service and contributions of Native American veterans. Native American veterans have served with distinction in the United States military in every major conflict for over 200 years.

The resolution can be found [here](#).

### **Rep. Gallego released the following statement:**

"American Indians and Alaska Natives have long gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to our country, serving in our Armed Forces at higher rates than any other demographic group despite the harm Indigenous communities have suffered at the hands of the federal government since our nation's founding. "I fought alongside Native service members throughout my time in Iraq. I am proud to introduce this resolution this Memorial Day to recognize and honor Native American veterans' incredible bravery, patriotism, and sacrifice in service to our nation."



## Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and VA make tribal veterans home loans easier to get

Here's [an article by June Lailani Upham](#) which ran in Char-Koosta News on June 20



PABLO — The process for eligible Confederated Salish and Kootenai veterans, active-duty military to apply for a Veterans Affairs home loan on federal trust land got easier two years ago when CSKT signed a memorandum of understanding with U.S. the Department Veterans Affairs.

Buying homes on reservation lands held in trust by the federal government is difficult across Indian Country. Most banks do not write mortgages for reservation homes because they can't hold the property as collateral as they normally would if individuals owned the property.

### CSKT and Department of Veterans Affairs MOU

The MOU signed on July 13, 2017 by CSKT states that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is authorized under 38 U.S. Code 3761 to establish a program of direct loans for Native Americans living on trust lands; and CSKT Tribal Council has jurisdiction over Native veterans living on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

The agreement states “the VA loans for qualified CSKT tribal veterans may be for purchase, construction or improvement of homes on trust lands to the extent funds are available and subject to terms and conditions by the VA.”

Because tribal lands are held in federal trust and cannot be sold or owned by non-tribal members or entities, the MOU allows CSKT tribal member veterans to use land, home and any improvements on their property as collateral for the VA loan. The property will remain under tribal control, but the monetary value will be owed to the VA should the borrower wish to resell the land or is foreclosed on. Through the CSKT VA MOU agents and staff of the VA are permitted to enter on tribal trust lands to carry out actions from the VA to evaluate the advisability of the loan and to monitor any purchase, construction, or improvements carried out using the proceeds of the loan.

CSKT will assist the VA in efforts “to manage the home loan program in finding qualified substitute purchasers if the initial buyer is unable to his or her obligation under the law, carrying out evictions, assuring that mortgages and other legal instruments can be properly recorded and otherwise assuring that the program is operated in a responsible and prudent manner.”



CHAD-KOOSTA NEWS

## Native American VA Direct Home Loan

Bill Haines, the VA Denver Regional Loan Officer held a workshop at the CSKT Tribal Council Chambers for veterans to learn, ask questions, with the guidance to apply for a Native American Direct Loan earlier this month.

Haines went over income eligibility; credit, bankruptcy and prior foreclosure; verifications; Indian Health Services available funds for water/septic and water quality testing; responsibilities of the buyer; and advantages.

The NADL has been in existence since 1992 to allowing veterans to borrow at a low interest rate without a down payment. However, there is a small 1.25 percent fee Native American Veterans must pay to obtain VA's direct loan to purchase a home. The funding fee to refinance a prior VA loan is a minimal 0.50 percent. Borrowers have the option to finance the VA funding fee or pay it in cash, but the funding fee must be paid at the time of loan closing.

You never have to pay the funding fee if you are a veteran receiving VA compensation for a service-connected disability, or a veteran who would be entitled to receive compensation for a service-connected disability if you did not receive retirement or active duty pay; or a surviving spouse of a Veteran who died in service or from a service-connected disability.

To learn more, call toll-free Bill Haines, VA Team Lead, Native American Direct Loan Coordinator, Denver Regional Loan Center at 1-888-349-7541, Option 1; or email [lgyemail@va.gov](mailto:lgyemail@va.gov); or visit [www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans](http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans) for more information about the Native American Direct Home Loan Program (NADL).

Salish Kootenai Housing Authority Affordable Home Ownership coordinator Mary Driscoll may also assist in NADL application guidance. Contact Driscoll at (406) 675-4491, ext. 1517; or email her at [mdriscoll@skha.org](mailto:mdriscoll@skha.org).





## Native American veterans statue planned for Riverside National Cemetery

Here's an article by Matt Kristoffersen which ran in the [Press Enterprise on May 18](#)

Tall, bronze and stoic, the centerpiece statue of the proposed American Indian Veterans Memorial will one day overlook Riverside National Cemetery with an almost regal aura. But until a cemetery committee raises nearly \$2 million to build the memorial, it will only see the inside of a storage unit.

The statue — a 1 1/2 ton, 12-foot tall, sculpture of a Native American draped in an American flag titled “The Gift” — is being finished [at a Berkeley studio](#). But the surrounding plaza is still at least one year away from opening. Sculptor A. Thomas Schomberg, creator of the cemetery’s Prisoner of War and Missing in Action memorials said the memorial will commemorate Native American service members from as early as the Revolutionary War. “This memorial is so important because it acknowledges their service,” he said. “We’re very proud to have been involved in this and we’re very proud that it’s going to this fabulous cemetery in Riverside.”

The statue will make a brief holiday appearance at the cemetery. Memorial Honor Detail and Native American veteran motorcycle riders will escort “The Gift” on Sunday, May 26, to its temporary home next to the cemetery’s amphitheater, where it will stay for the annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 27. Afterwards, actor and Native American motivational speaker Saginaw Grant, who played Chief Big Bear in [the 2013 film, “The Lone Ranger.”](#) will bless the statue. It will then be stored until the Riverside National Cemetery Support Committee collects the money it needs.



Paul Adkins, chairman of the Riverside National Cemetery Support Committee, stands at the site near the cemetery’s entrance, where a long-awaited American Indian Veterans Memorial is planned. “The Gift” will be the centerpiece of the memorial. (Photo by Will Lester, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin/SCNG)



Support Committee Chairman Paul Adkins said the memorial — the only one of its kind in the United States — is long overdue. “It should have happened 100 years ago,” Adkins said. “(Native Americans) served our nation like everyone else, regardless of race, creed or color.”

Adkins hopes that bringing the statue to the cemetery before the rest is built will encourage more donations. Because the monument receives no government funding, his team has been fundraising since 2006.

Recently the committee gathered most of the \$500,000 needed to construct “The Gift.” The effort included an attempt [to convince South Korean Maj. Gen. Shin Kyong Soo](#) to contribute in 2016. While he did not give, the committee [has successfully reached out](#) to several tribes in Southern California, such as the Morongo Band of Mission Indians and the San Manuel Bands of Mission Indians.

But Adkins still has to locate a sizable sum of money: His team must raise over triple what they have already spent on the statue to begin construction of the surrounding memorial. Sharron Savage, chairwoman of the [American Indian and Alaskan Native Veterans Memorial Committee](#), said 10 percent of the cost will go to a trust fund to pay for future memorial repairs. She added that the cemetery is the perfect location because of the connection Native Americans have with the area.





“This is holy ground at the Riverside National Cemetery,” Savage said. “This was where indigenous populations blessed the land as part of their culture.”

When the statue arrives, it will join three others — the Prisoner of War and Missing in Action memorial, the Medal of Honor memorial and the Veterans memorial — already spread across the cemetery grounds. Savage said “The Gift” is the most recent in a long list of proposed monuments that the committee would like to build, pending government approval.

Supporters say the memorial is a crucial step in recognizing the military service of American Indians nationwide. Bo Mazzetti, tribal council chairman of the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians in San Diego County and honorary chairman of the Veterans Memorial Committee stressed the importance of “The Gift.”

“The monument is significant in that it gets people to think about the American Indians and their involvement in all the past wars,” the Navy veteran said. “It’s an honor to help defend your country and it’s also an honor to represent your nation and your tribe.”

## On D-Day, one Native American is left standing for the hundreds who fought

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE  
MONITOR



Here’s a great article by Harald E.L. Prins and Bunny McBride, which ran in the [Christian Science Monitor](#) on June 6.

**Charles Shay may be the last living Native American World War II veteran who participated in D-Day. His return to the theater of war is a chance to honor the 500 Native American and First Nations soldiers who also served.**

The flag of the Penobscot Indian Nation flies above the low dunes at Omaha Beach in Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer. At the base of the flagpole stands a sculptured granite turtle. This monument is the focus of a tribute to the 175 Native American soldiers who struggled up this shore on D-Day 75 years ago. On Wednesday, a delegation representing numerous tribal nations gathered here for a commemorative ceremony led by Charles Norman Shay, the World War II combat veteran for whom the small memorial park is named.



The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE  
MONITOR



*World War II veteran Charles Shay, a member of the Penobscot Indian Nation, presides over a commemorative gathering on June 5 to honor fallen Native veterans buried at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial, Colleville-sur-Mer, France. (photo by Bunny McBride)*

“We are gathered here at the turtle monument to ensure that the great sacrifices made by Native American nations in the Second World War are no longer ignored and never forgotten,” Mr. Shay told the large crowd of observers. A 94-year-old elder of the Penobscot Indian Nation in Maine, he was among a total of some 500 American and Canadian Indian soldiers who invaded Normandy in boats, parachutes, and gliders in 1944. Mr. Shay “represents *all* American Indians well,” says Lanny Asepermy, a Comanche tribal historian and decorated Vietnam War veteran who is here with a delegation of Comanche code talker relatives.

French and American soldiers, including troops of the 1st Infantry Division in which Mr. Shay served, stood at attention at the Charles Shay Indian Memorial. A procession of Native Americans took position, and town Mayor Philippe Laillier spoke movingly about how Mr. Shay, as a young soldier, felt protected on D-Day under the “maternal wing” of his mother’s prayers and the spirit of the turtle’s shell.

The Penobscot veteran was one of up to 50,000 North American Indians who served in World War II. As a 19-year-old combat medic attached to an assault platoon storming Omaha Beach at dawn, Private Shay treated countless wounded soldiers, including many whom he rescued from drowning in the rising tide. For gallantry displayed on the beach that day, he was awarded the Silver Star. He served in subsequent key battles in France, Belgium, and Germany until he was captured after crossing the Rhine just weeks before peace was restored.

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MONITOR



After his first pilgrimage back to Omaha Beach 12 years ago, Mr. Shay was inducted into the Legion of Honor by French President Nicolas Sarkozy. Since then, the Penobscot elder has committed himself to drawing attention to sacrifices made by North American Indian soldiers and their communities.

This year, close to 100 Native Americans representing more than 20 tribal communities across the U.S. have descended upon Normandy with Mr. Shay to mark the anniversary of the Allied invasion of German-occupied France. He is a key figure in a dozen Native American commemorative events being held in this week of remembrance.

At an event on Monday, the Penobscot veteran stood at the center of a ceremony at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial in Colleville-sur-Mer. In this 172-acre burial ground, at least 28 of the white marble crosses among more than 9,300 headstones mark the graves of Native Americans who died in the Battle of Normandy, beginning on D-Day.

For this ceremony, some 30 Native American men and women, half of whom served in more recent wars, carried spectacular eagle feather staffs or colorful flags representing their tribes. They hoisted them high as Mr. Shay, erect and solemn, read aloud the names of the Native American soldiers buried here. Traditionally-dressed women stepped forward in beaded moccasins to perform an historic dance, as Justin Young of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Affiliated Tribes drummed and sang. Then the group moved through the cemetery to place flowers at the 28 Native graves. Several Native American veterans performed a brief blessing at each headstone, touching it with an eagle feather and sprinkling sacred tobacco at its base.



*Native American veterans on Omaha Beach on June 3, at the conclusion of the D-Day commemoration at the Charles Shay Memorial and turtle monument, just prior to sprinkling sacred tobacco into the sea, a ritual that cannot be photographed.*

(Photo by Harald E.L. Prins)

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE  
MONITOR



At yet another event, Mr. Shay spoke to a crowd about freedom: “What I do care about is the price of freedom – a simple seven-letter word. *Seven* is a sacred number in my Penobscot culture, as it is in many Native American traditions and numerous other cultures across the globe. *Liberty* also has seven letters. These hallowed words represent our inherent dignity and inalienable natural right as human beings, regardless of our race, nationality, or religion. Treasure them, for these precious concepts remind us of great sacrifices and inspire us to remain forever vigilant.”

Among World War II veterans still alive, Mr. Shay is likely the last survivor of the 500 North American Indian warriors who dropped from the night sky or landed on the beaches on D-Day. Commenting on this, Penobscot tribal historian James Francis says, “Looking at the ‘Faith, Purity, Valor’ motto on the Penobscot flag I carried in the Turtle Monument ceremony, I thought how Charles especially exemplifies valor. It’s fitting that he is the last Native American veteran on hand to close the D-Day chapter of the biggest war ever fought on the planet.”

Thursday, Mr. Shay put all the praise he receives into perspective at the major event of the week, presided over by presidents Emmanuel Macron and Donald Trump with an audience of about 12,000. While he and other veterans sat on stage waiting for the presidents to arrive, [a short film about D-Day](#) played on several large screens, sending Mr. Shay’s voice across the cemetery: “I am not a hero. I just did my job. The real heroes are laying here in the cemetery. These are our heroes and we should never forget them.”



(Photo by Harald E.L. Prins)





## Veterans are Praising Spokane VA Staff for Housing Assistance and Support Programs

By Bret Bowers, Public Affairs Officer  
Mann-Grandstaff VAMC, Spokane, WA  
June 2019

Life after the military becomes a new mission for all Veterans, including Joseph Harrison, a former active duty Army Air Defense Artilleryman (OIF-OEF), who later, received training as a combat medic during his stint in the Army National Guard. He succeeded and quickly rose through the ranks with specialized training and rapid promotions.

"I wish I would have stayed in, because I would have been much more mature because even though I was 26 when I got out, I felt like I was still 20. The Army and combat weren't that bad," smiled this Native American Veteran now enrolled at Spokane Community College and starting his life over through the VA's Tribal HUD-VASH program.

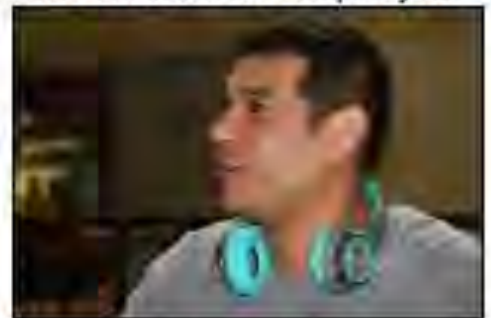
HUD-VASH stands for the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and VA Supported Housing (VASH) program to assist Veterans and their families.

Thankfully, the program is designed to get Veterans the help they need to get back on track. Since separating from the military, Harrison has overcome brushes with the law, substance abuse, and difficulty maintaining relationships. He is doing so now, by staying committed to the goals he set for himself. But he admits, he "isn't doing it alone."

He continues to receive support from VA mental health professional Heidi Stewart, who is also Harrison's Tribal HUD-VASH Case Manager. "There are going to be people out there who say they want to help Veterans, but Heidi goes well beyond that standard," he said.

"Thanks to Heidi and VA, my life and outlook are way better now," he smiled, while taking a break from classes teaching him to become an Information Technology (IT) network manager - to meet with Heidi in the SCC Student "Lair". "I have so much more in front of me now, including an amazing girlfriend, a beautiful 18-month old Son, and another baby on the way together."

Joseph's personal drive coupled with VA case management, are keeping him looking forward rather than the rear-view mirror. "We all go through rough patches, but to my fellow Veterans, I say if you want it, you can take it. Give VA another shot at helping you."







In 2018, Joseph began seeing what success looked like with VA. He and his girlfriend attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual American Indian Veterans Advisory Council's Veterans Memorial and Honoring Ceremony at Spokane's Mann-Grandstaff VAMC. He was there taking part in honoring and assisting fellow Veterans and their families. He also helped Heidi share information and give-aways with event attendees.

Then, Heidi helped find a suitable place Joseph wanted to live. Most recently, he joined Heidi for her Tribal HUD-VASH celebration in the Veterans Healing Garden at the medical center, honoring Veterans who also say they're lives have changed immensely "for the better... because of VA."

Nationwide, there are 30 Tribal HUD-VASH programs. MCVAMC has two staff (including Heidi) who assist Veterans. Some live on the reservations in Nespelem and Wellpinit, WA and others on the Lapwai and Plummer, ID reservations. For the Spokane Tribal HUD-VASH program, Heidi is also authorized to help Native American Veterans from other Tribe's achieve their goals and dreams through housing and support.



Tribal HUD-VASH is currently benefitting Joseph and 20+ other Veterans in the Spokane area in need of housing assistance and support to prevent former military men and women from the cycle of homelessness, despair, and substance abuse. Instead, Stewart works to develop a respectful relationship with Veterans to support them towards gainful employment, housing, and VA health care.



At MCVAMC's recent Tribal HUD-VASH Celebration in May, Stewart and Harrison were joined by dozens of other Veterans, the Spokane Indian Housing Authority, and VA leadership – to further encourage the success Veterans are finding through VA.

Melissa Richardson, a former Naval Aviation Warfare specialist described moving to Spokane in the winter and living out of her vehicle – until she met Heidi.

"I never planned to get married and then become homeless with a child, fearing I would lose my daughter. If it weren't for Heidi and HUD-VASH, we would have been forced to live in a storage unit," described Richardson, wiping away her tears. "Heidi found us an apartment. She gave us hope. The VA is so much more than inpatient care."







At the celebration, another Veteran named "Ralph" praised the VA for "saving my life." He survived heart surgery and is effectively managing his diabetes – after having used VA services in Spokane, Seattle, and Wisconsin. "No matter where I've been, VA has helped me and that's why I'm here to thank the VA."

Office of Native American Program's HUD representative, Greg Roe remains impressed with what he is seeing. "This is a personally inspiring event – reminding us why we do the work that we do to – to help Veterans get back on their feet and feeling good about themselves and whatever tomorrow may bring."



Navy Veteran "Pistol Pete" of the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho, describes HUD-VASH and Stewart as "blessings in our lives, because without Heidi, I wouldn't be here today. I believe the Creator looks after those who do good things for other people, and that's what I'm doing now," he said.

HUD-VASH is one of three programs whereby VA is helping Veterans with a Continuum of Care that supports emergency, contract residential/transitional, or permanent housing. Veterans are required to meet with their case managers at a minimum of once a month.

The support is part of VA's Behavioral Health Service which assists Veterans with their mental health, substance abuse prevention, employment support, and work with VA community partners to end homelessness. "We are happy to have housing vouchers available for eligible Veterans," explained Dr. Quinn Bastian, Chief, BHS who added, "and, we're honored to serve those with wounds that may not be visible but are willing to step forward and allow VA to help them."

For Harrison and the others enrolled in HUD-VASH, that's not a problem at all. He's looking well into the future with hopes of becoming a cyber operations technician with the Department of Justice or large corporation. "I don't have a huge support network around me, but what I do have is a positive outlook, the love of a woman and our child, and I have Heidi to thank for reminding me of the traits so many Vets must carry with us going forward in life: integrity, loyalty, honor, and respect."





## Honoring Those Who Served at the Gathering of Warriors Veteran Summit

Here's an article by Ruth Zhang, Public Affairs Specialist, VA Portland Health Care System



*Johnathan Courtney, Army Combat Veteran and guest speaker, and wife Emily Courtney attended the 2019 Gathering of Warriors Veteran Summit.*

The seventh annual *Gathering of Warriors Veterans Summit* hosted by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Native Wellness Institute, and VA Office of Tribal Government Relations held July 11-12, 2019 brought together hundreds of individuals from different communities at the Uyxat Powwow Grounds in Grande Ronde, Oregon.

The event honored those who served and gave Veterans, families, and community members the opportunity to connect with one another and learn about Veteran-related resources and programs.

Guest speaker Johnathan Courtney, Army Combat Veteran, shared his story of healing and how he struggled to find himself when he came home from the Iraq War. He said if it wasn't for the help of his wife Emily, he wouldn't be where he is today. With her help and support he was able to connect with caring providers within the VA and a support network with community organizations.



“It starts with vets helping vets and family care,” said Courtney, now Chairman of the Health and Wellness Committee for the State of Oregon Veterans of Foreign Wars and a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. He hopes that by sharing his story of healing with fellow Veterans that it will encourage them or someone they know to reach out for help if they need it and learn about resources available. “Many Veterans don’t reach out for support and we are trying to change that here,” he said.



*Veterans of all eras were recognized and honored for their service to the nation during the opening ceremony on July 11, 2019*

Other guest speakers, representing different tribes and organizations, shared their stories of healing over the two-day period including Gold Star families who were given a special honor at the event. Gold Star families are relatives of service members who have fallen during a conflict.

VA staff members participated in a panel discussion to help answer questions and share information about VA services. VA Portland Health Care System panelist members included Sarah Suniga, Women Veterans Program Manager, PhD, and Valdez Bravo, Administrative Director for Primary Care Division.

Other panelist members included Kurtis Harris, Assistant Coach Public Contact Team for the VA Portland Regional Office, Jeffrey Applegate, Assistant Director of Willamette National Cemetery, and Kelly Fitzpatrick, Oregon State Department of Veterans Affairs Director.



Additionally, VA Portland Health Care System staff from the My HealtheVet Program and Suicide Prevention team tabled at the event. “It’s a great honor to connect with Veterans in this community,” said Terry Bentley, Tribal Government Relations Specialist for VA Office of Tribal Relations and member of the Karuk Tribe of California. Bentley has participated in this event since it first started seven years ago. She said she feels privileged to partner with tribal and community organizations to make it all come together and encourages anyone who served in the military or who knows someone who served in the military to participate next year.



“This event is about helping our Veterans and encouraging them to come forward to see what’s available,” said Reyn Leno, Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran, member of Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and past chairman of the Oregon Department of Veteran’s Affairs Advisory Committee. “Even if we help just one Veteran during this event I think that in itself is a success.”





For information about next year's event please contact Terry Bentley at 541-440-1271 or email [terry.bentley@va.gov](mailto:terry.bentley@va.gov).

If you are a Veteran interested in learning about VA services, please contact us:

<b>VA Crisis Line</b>	<b>800-273-8255 Press 1</b>
<b>VA Health Care Benefits or Application Questions</b>	877-222-8387
<b>Agent Orange Help Line</b>	800-749-8387 Press 3
<b>Billing</b>	866-400-1238 Press 2
<b>Benefits (Claim status, pension, disability, education, home loan, survivor assistance, compensation)</b>	800-827-1000
<b>Burial Benefits</b>	800-535-1117
<b>Caregiver Support</b>	855-260-3274
<b>Education and GI Bill Benefits</b>	888-442-4551
<b>Employment (Helps Veterans and transitioning military service members find federal careers)</b>	855-824-8387
<b>Homeless Veterans (Veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless)</b>	877-424-3838 (24-hour hotline for homeless vets)
<b>Home Loan Program</b>	877-827-3702
<b>Insurance and TSGLI/SGLI</b>	800-419-1473
<b>Intimate Partner Violence (Call to Safety 24/7 Crisis Line)</b>	888-235-5333
<b>MISSION Act General Information</b>	503-220-8262 Press 6
<b>Office of Tribal Government Relations (The OTGR team works to strengthen and build closer relations between the VA, tribal governments and other key federal, state, private and non-profit partners in an effort to effectively and respectfully serve Veterans across Indian Country)</b>	202-461-7400 – DC 541-440-1271 – Regional Representative from OR
<b>Tobacco Quitline</b>	855-784-8838
<b>Women Veterans Call Center</b>	855-829-6636 (Call or text)
<b>Vet Center Call Center (Confidential call center for combat Veterans and families to talk about military experience or any other issues facing in readjustment to civilian life)</b>	877-927-8387
<b>My HealtheVet (Send secure messages to your provider, refill prescriptions, keep track of appointments, and download your health records)</b>	877-327-0022 (National helpdesk) <a href="http://www.myhealth.va.gov">www.myhealth.va.gov</a>

## Sheridan VA Opens Sweat Lodge



Here's an [article by Ryan Patterson](#), which ran in the Sheridan Press on July 5

SHERIDAN — Near the eastern edge of the Sheridan Veteran Affairs Medical Center campus, an area sits slightly removed from the bustling complex of buildings. The quiet parcel of land offers a peaceful respite with a view overlooking the north end of town. A Native American sacred circle lies on a portion of the land. Native American elders blessed the circle, which includes a teepee constructed in August 2018. The land recently received another addition: a sweat lodge.



The lodge will help provide traditional spiritual and healing services and is likely the first sweat lodge at a Wyoming VA. Other VA locations with sweat lodges in the area include Salt Lake City and Helena, Montana. The sweat lodge exterior is composed of materials that include tarps and blankets. It is supported by willow branches, and rocks hold down the outer covering, which allows the lodge to be sealed during the ceremony.

VA chaplain Derek Schultz said the process to open a fully operational sweat lodge took about three years. The lodge received its first use Sunday, as elders from the Arapaho Tribe led a ceremony that included 16 participants and lasted about five hours. Schultz provided water between rounds and checked on the participants, which he called an interesting, educational experience. For now, sweat lodge participants can only be inpatient veterans at the VA, though Schultz hopes it will eventually be available to all veterans.

“There’s an opportunity to really reach out to our Native American veterans and provide them the chance to connect with their spirituality, connect with their tradition, to help them go through the process of whatever they might be wrestling with,” Schultz said. “...We want to make sure that we honor them in their tradition as well as their service.”



VA voluntary service program assistant Brad Fauber helped coordinate efforts to construct the lodge, which was erected over the course of one day last week. It was the first structure used but actually the second lodge built at the VA. A sweat lodge was built on campus late last year but needed to be rebuilt after damage from strong winds. Going forward, volunteers will help with safety and precautionary measures. Sweat lodge temperatures can reach high levels, so participants must pass a physical and go through medical screenings beforehand.

Schultz said there will be at least one sweat per month led by tribal elders. Other options at the site include a medicine wheel, drumming circle and talking circle inside the teepee.

Neither Schultz nor Fauber — who is part Cherokee — have participated in a sweat ceremony, and they said the most rewarding aspect of the process involved learning about the history behind sweat lodges and rituals of different tribes.

“It was so educational just to sit and listen to them tell their stories and tell about their tribe,” Schultz said. “It was a part of western America that I didn’t have ... that opportunity to experience that. It was very affirming in a lot of ways.”

The VA worked with the Helena Indian Alliance in spreading the word and seeking out tribes to coordinate performing a sweat every month, something that will continue going forward.

Venessa Sandoval, executive assistant at the Helena Indian Alliance, (HIA) said the organization became involved in the sweat lodge process about a year ago and discussed how the program would work.

The HIA also found the appropriate people to provide construction materials and build the lodge. Sandoval said it was challenging to sort out logistics, language and details, but the end reward was worth the effort. “I think [veterans] are just happy that they have that service available,” Sandoval said. “... It’s a healing process ... If a Native American wants a Native American traditional healing service, it’s there.”

Schultz, who leads the non-denominational VA chapel, said the sweat lodge represents an important element to the spiritual and holistic health aspects of veterans residing at the VA.

“We want to understand them so we can help them in their journey become more healthy and more whole,” Schultz said. “...Years back, [sweat lodges were] kind of lacking, but now we have something that’s meaningful.” The sweat lodge represents a small yet important addition for veterans and could help them handle life’s trials and tribulations.





## VA extends Agent Orange presumption to Blue Navy Veterans



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 5, 2019

### VA extends Agent Orange presumption to 'Blue Water Navy' Veterans *Eligible Veterans may now be entitled to disability compensation benefits*

**WASHINGTON** — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is preparing to process Agent Orange exposure claims for "[Blue Water Navy Veterans](#)" who served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975.

These Veterans may be eligible for presumption of herbicide exposure through [Public Law 116-23, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019](#), which was signed into law June 25, 2019, and goes into effect Jan. 1, 2020. They may also qualify for a presumption of service connection if they have a disease that is recognized as being associated with herbicide exposure.

The bipartisan Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act gives VA until Jan. 1, 2020, to begin deciding Blue Water Navy related claims. By staying claims decisions until that date, VA is complying with the law that Congress wrote and passed.

"VA is dedicated to ensuring that all Veterans receive the benefits they have earned," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "We are working to ensure that we have the proper resources in place to meet the needs of our Blue Water Veteran community and minimize the impact on all Veterans filing for disability compensation."

Blue Water Navy Veterans are encouraged to submit disability compensation claims for conditions presumed to be related to Agent Orange exposure. Veterans over age 85 or with life-threatening illnesses will have priority in claims processing.

Veterans who previously were denied for an Agent Orange related presumptive condition can file a new claim based on the change in law. Eligible survivors of deceased Blue Water Navy Veterans also may benefit from the new law and may file claims for benefits based on the Veterans' service.

The new law affects Veterans who served on a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia, as defined in [Public Law 116-23](#). An estimated 420,000 to 580,000 Vietnam-era Veterans may be considered Blue Water Navy Veterans.

To qualify, under the new law, these Veterans must have a disease associated with herbicide exposure, as listed in [38 Code of Federal Regulations](#) section 3.308(e).

Agent Orange presumptive conditions are:



- AL amyloidosis
- Chloracne or similar acneform disease
- Chronic B-cell leukemias
- Diabetes mellitus Type 2
- Hodgkin lymphoma, formerly known as Hodgkin's disease
- Ischemic heart disease
- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, formerly known as Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Parkinson's disease
- Peripheral neuropathy, early-onset
- Porphyria cutanea tarda
- Prostate cancer
- Respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx or trachea)

Soft-tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma or mesothelioma).

For more information about Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam waters (Blue Water Navy Veterans), visit <https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/vietnam-waters/>. The updated web links will be live at 4 p.m. EST. Please disregard the content prior to the update.

Veterans seeking more information should contact their [Veterans Service Officer](#), call VA's toll-free number at 800-827-1000 or visit the [VA Blue Water Navy Agent Orange website](#).

###

## The Warrior Tradition Documentary



**PBS**

"The Warrior Tradition" documentary will have its world premiere at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC on October 29, 2019. It will be broadcast nationally on PBS on Veterans Day, November 11, 2019. A website with bonus videos and the full film will be available at the time of the broadcast. You can access several promos here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ta8wah8ayyw9k5q/AAAUZuvPavA283R666xpa4bja?dl=0> – or by clicking on the image below. (You'll need a Dropbox account)

*The Warrior Tradition* tells the astonishing, heartbreaking, inspiring, and largely-untold story of Native Americans in the United States military. Why do they do it? Why would Indian men and women put their lives on the line for the very government that took their homelands? The film chronicles the accounts of Native American warriors from their own points of view – stories of service and pain, of courage and fear.





This one-hour documentary is a co-production of WNED-TV, Buffalo/Toronto and Florentine Films/Hott Productions, Inc. Produced and directed by Lawrence Hott, written by Ken Chowder, Edited by Rikk Desgres. Cinematography by David Litz, Sound by Mark Henry. John Grant is executive producer for WNED.

It has been made possible by a major grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting: A private corporation funded by the American People. With additional funding by The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, Independent Health and Arizona Humanities.



## VA Secretary Robert Wilkie on Native America Calling

Here's a [LINK](#) to hear Secretary Wilkie's radio interview on June 21

### NATIVE AMERICA CALLING

YOUR NATIONAL ELECTRONIC TALKING CIRCLE

ABOUT ARCHIVE STATIONS SUPPORT CONTACT







**VA**



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health Administration  
Member Services

## Indian Health Services | Tribal Health Program Training Schedule

**Overview** Indian Health Services training is offered monthly to provide an overview of Indian Health Services (IHS) and the Tribal Health Program enrollment and eligibility verification process. The Veterans Health Administration Office of Community Care, Office of Tribal Government Relations, and VA medical centers work together to implement the Tribal Reimbursement Agreements Program. The Tribal Reimbursement Agreements Program provides a means for Indian Health Services (IHS) and Tribal Health Programs (THP) facilities to receive reimbursement from the VA for direct care services provided to eligible American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans. This program is part of a larger effort set forth in the Department of Veteran Affairs and IHS Memorandum of Understanding signed in October 2010 to improve access to care and care coordination for our nation's Native Veterans.

Date/Time	Date:	Time:
	January 15, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	February 19, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	March 19, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	April 16, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	May 21, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	June 18, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	July 16, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	August 20, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	September 17, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	October 15, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	November 19, 2019	2-3:00pm EST
	December 17, 2019	2-3:00pm EST

**Modality** Virtual via [Skype](#) and Audio from Vant's line (800) 767-1750 access code 67117

**Sponsor** VHA Member Services Enterprise Support Services Training Department

**Target Audience** Tribal Health Facility staff (Non-VA).

**Registration** By Invite

**Contact** If you have any questions, please contact [VHAMSESSTrainingTeamA@va.gov](mailto:VHAMSESSTrainingTeamA@va.gov).



May 17, 2016

Greetings,

My name is Martin Duarte, Master Gunnery Sergeant, USMC, (Retired). I work for Wounded Warriors Family Support (WWFS) in the programs department. I am the coordinator for Native American Veterans Support, Transition and Respite (NAVSTaR) program. This program ensures that Native American veterans, especially those who are combat wounded, are helped in a meaningful way.

If your Tribe is in need of a vehicle, please provide me with the below requested information so I may vet your request through our administrative process.

1. Location of Tribe so we can find the closes Ford dealership.
2. Closest Veterans Affairs Office, i.e distance (mileage) from the Reservation.
3. Number of Native American Veterans in tribe.
4. Number of Veterans that the tribe transports at one time to their appointments, this will give us and idea on the size of the vehicle.
5. What type of vehicle will meet your requirements (i.e. 4x4 or 4x2).
6. Tribe W9 (Tribe Identification Number and Certification).
7. Tribes major challenges assisting Veterans.

**Administrative Note:**

Please be advise that if Wounded Warriors Family Support is able to support the request, the tribe will be responsible for titling the vehicle, insurance, gas, and regular maintenance.

WWFS is a national organization that supports and advocates for our nation's Veterans wounded warriors. WWFS has donated many vehicles nation-wide to other tribal veteran-related programs. If any questions or concerns should arise pertaining to this matter, I may be reach via my cell phone at (760) 405-7777 or by e-mail at [martin.duarte@wwfs.org](mailto:martin.duarte@wwfs.org).

Sincerely,

*Martin Duarte*

Martin Duarte  
Assistant Program Director/ Outreach

920 S 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 250 Omaha, Nebraska 68114 Phone (402) 932-7036 Fax (402) 916-4399



**Q & A: Veteran Service Officers and Veterans Program Leadership and Staff:  
Serving the Men and Women Who Served Us**

**Patrick Aragon, Pueblo of Laguna**

*Please share a little about yourself, your tribe and program.*

I was born and raised here at the Pueblo of Laguna. My tribal affiliation is ½ Laguna and ½ San Felipe Pueblos. I earned my associates degree from New Mexico State University and worked here as a Benefits Specialist with the Pueblo of Laguna Benefits Services Program since 2015, but I previously worked with the Pueblo in other areas. When I first started in this position, my goal was to assist Veterans here in the community. It's been a heck of a ride with a lot of learning. I've never had a day where the team is not learning something new and we're fortunate to have a wonderful staff. We look at whole family dynamic in addition to the Veteran. We inform Veterans of what benefits they're eligible for, but also look at the spouse and any dependents. We inquire about their health insurance status, housing and nutrition needs. We assess their situation and determine everything they might be qualified to receive, then we help.



All of us who work here in the office are cross trained in providing Veterans services from across the spectrum of potential resources. We not only work with VA benefits, but also with the State Income Support Division (which includes everything from Food Stamps, Medicaid, TANF, Medicare Savings Program and General Assistance), Social Security benefits, Unemployment Insurance along with Tribal programs including LIHEAP, Utilities, and Housing services.





***Are you a Veteran or do you have family/extended family members who served?***

No I'm not. My dad served in the Navy and I have a number of uncles who served in the Navy and the Marines. Both of my grandfathers served during World War 2 and my uncles served in Vietnam

***Approximately how many Veterans live within or near the community? Do you have an idea as to era of service, gender?***

Our database currently lists 433 Vets that our program served but we know that there are more. We work to reach Veterans through our outreach efforts. We have a benefits navigator who conducts the outreach for our office.

***Are you a service officer? Are you affiliated with a national Veteran Service Organization?***

Yes. I'm registered with the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO). Last year I became a Veterans Service Officer. We all took the training and are familiar with paperwork required to submit claims

***Why are service officers important, how do they help Veterans?***

Service officers are trained and can help the Veteran particular population navigate VA services, benefits and claims. That said, our program also looks at other services Veteran is eligible for since the Veteran can receive benefits and services beyond just what VA offers. We want to include everything that might be out there for them, so we look at the federal and state benefits side. We even help with license plates, the driver's license process... we have to be informed about eligibility for a wide variety of programs and services, which means we wear many hats.

***What has been the best part of your job? What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your job?***

The best part would have to be how people are so grateful for what we've done for their family when everything comes together. The staff I work with, we never say "I don't know" or "I can't do that.." we'll do the research, and work to provide information that will steer the Veteran and their family in a positive direction. We feel this is our community and if we were in the position of needing assistance, we would want to be able to come into the benefits office and receive help and direction.



The people I work with they are so supportive of what we do. The community members recognize what we do for our people.

The most challenging part is reaching a younger generation of Veterans. Getting them to come into our office, attend our events isn't easy, but we'd like to try and get all of them.

***Can you share what your experience has been working with VA?***

We work with the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Regional office located in Albuquerque. Our interactions with both the federal and the State of New Mexico Department of Veterans Services have been good. We've been able to collaborate and build good relationships with folks who provide updates and clarification to any questions we have for them. We work on keeping up a rapport with their offices, in fact, we are all on a first name basis now.

This past month we had a Veterans health event where we had a number of providers that came in from VA and other benefits program offices. This year is kicking off really well. We had booths from over 30 different organizations. The VA and these organizations understand we are in a position to help Veterans based on our program's location right in the community. The Pueblo of Laguna is situated in a rural area, away from the city. We have Veterans who don't have means of transportation to Regional Office so we also help with getting them to appointments as needed.

***Is there anything else you'd like to share?***

Our program is unique and diverse in how we handle different situations, working with a diverse group of people, including Veterans, families, other clients and program service lines. We've assisted families who run into hard times and are down on their luck. Ours is a solid program, we look at the entire family dynamic and our staff goes above and beyond our position descriptions. I enjoy coming to work every day. Everyone is so helpful, we get along really well, communicate really well, share different ideas. Our focus is on how we do more for our community. We look at our community first, then how we can better ourselves through training and networking with other agencies and providers contributes to our success.

If you would like to reach out to Patrick to learn more about the work of the Pueblo of Laguna Benefits Services Program, he may be reached via email at:

[paragon@pol-nsn.gov](mailto:paragon@pol-nsn.gov)



**Q & A: Veteran Service Officers, Veterans Program Leadership and Staff:  
Serving the Men and Women Who Served Us**

**Kelton Starr, Mescalero Apache Tribe**

***Please share a little about yourself, your tribe and program***

My name is Kelton C. Starr and I'm Mescalero Apache from Mescalero, New Mexico. I'm also Tlingit from Angoon, Alaska. My father is Alaska Native while my mother is Mescalero Apache.



***Are you a Veteran or do you have family/extended family members who served?***

I'm a US Army Veteran and served during the Gulf War era. I'm currently the education director for our tribe. My father served for 8 years including service in Vietnam. When his Vietnam tour was done, he went home to Alaska. My mother went to school in Alaska, met my father and then he re-enlisted for 4 more years. My grandfather on my father's side was a Korean War Veteran, my great-great grandfather on my father's side served during World War 1, then my great-great-great grandfather was an Apache Scout. On my mother's side, I had a great-great grandfather serve during World War 1. I also had several aunts and uncles serve during Vietnam and I've had cousins gone off to Iraq and Afghanistan, serving in both the Army and Marines.

***How long have you worked serving the Veterans of this community?***

I've been working for 12 years helping out my father here and there. He's the one who got me going in this direction. He introduced me to the New Mexico Department of Veteran Service, Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) and a lot of the state VSOs saw my father for a long time and helped him out when they came to Mescalero. Through my father, they started setting up ongoing meetings here with NMDVS and the VA out of Albuquerque.



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***Tell us about the work you do – what does a day in your life look like?***



I assist Veterans with their claims when they come in anytime day or night, even if we receive calls in the evening. I also work with the Albuquerque and El Paso VA hospitals and a small VA Community Based Outreach Clinic out of Alamogordo, New Mexico that has 4-5 patient rooms. I help with referrals to those VA health care facilities but I also assist Veterans with deciphering their paperwork, helping to clarify questions, and I look for ways to assist them with travel and per diem – inquiries to that effect. I also help gather their medical paperwork, assist with medical records requests through Indian Health Service and surrounding community hospitals located in the area. Sometimes I assist with coordinating treatment for individuals struggling with substance abuse issues or even PTSD. Sometimes I help Veterans pursuing VA home loans (or on tribal lands, it's called the VA Native American Direct Loan, NADL). Back in 2014, Mescalero was the 13<sup>th</sup> tribe in New Mexico to sign a NADL MOU with the VA, which opened the door for Veterans living at Mescalero to access to the VA home loan. Back to transportation, we came across an organization called “Wounded Warriors Family Support (WWFS)” which donated a brand new 2017 Ford Explorer to help and assist with transportation for Veterans. The WWFS also donated \$10,000 for us to get office equipment, pay for vehicle maintenance and repairs, basically to assist with off-setting the operating costs of running a Veterans services program here at Mescalero.

***Approximately how many Veterans live within or near the community?***

We have 200 Native American Veterans in Lincoln County and Otero Counties. Of that total, we see anywhere from 60 to 90 Veterans.

***Are you a service officer?***

Yes. I became accredited back in 2014. I was trained through NMDVS and then with the VA in 2015. The NMDVS contracts with the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO) to provide the training and in 2017, I received a letter from the VA Office of General Counsel recognizing me as a service officer accredited to assist Veterans with their claims.

***Are you affiliated with a national Veteran Service Organization?***

Well, here in the state, with NMDVS and nationally, NACVSO. I'm working with the tribal council and tribal president on developing the Mescalero Veterans Association resolution. We want to get the Association chartered by the Mescalero Apache Tribal Council and for it to serve as an umbrella entity for all other Veteran



organizations within the tribe, now and into the future. Once we get this chartered and adopted, the possibilities for the tribe to receive additional funding and grants from the state and federal government becomes more promising.

### ***Why are service officers important, how do they help Veterans?***

Veteran Service Officers are very important because accurate information that is communicated to the Veteran is crucial in making them aware of what their benefits are and what they are entitled to as Veterans. VSOs are trained, they know the VA ropes and understand how to continue to work with the VA in reference to making sure the Vet has all the proper documentation organized so the VSO can make things happen for Veterans. A lot of Veterans give up or are frustrated. Once I got my official accreditation in 2014, I had individuals with claims that were over 10 years old come to me for help. We got their paperwork done, got them situated and they got \$10,000 – \$12,000 in back pay. I had a Veteran with an older, pending claim use his benefit towards his wife’s funeral expenses. I had another individual, a Korean War Vet, where we had a hard time with his claim, but he was so thankful for the support. He earned it, stuck with it for the long haul. We’ve been able to help get Veterans disability ratings up to 60%, then another up to 50%, which translates to additional income for the Veteran. We’ve had 7 or 8 that got up to 100 % service connected disability. Another prime example is we had a VA rep come down and we went to lunch. During lunch, I called over one of our fellow Veterans (he was on his lunch break from work). I introduced the two of them and it turns out the Vet had a Purple Heart. He had been out of the service for several years but there was no claim on him and he wasn’t getting any disability at all. He ended up getting back pay, which was pretty high up there and he was very thankful after that experience.

The word got out about our office helping so more and more Veterans came forward. We were able to get them up there with their service connected rating and get their foot in the door. Shows you how training the VSOs paid off and how important they are in assisting Veterans with getting their claims approved by the VA. I attend training as much as possible when it’s offered.

### ***What has been the best part of your job?***

Having the Vets come in and helping them out. When they throw an envelope on my desk, then start smiling because they got what they were asking for and I know I played a role in helping them get there. Maybe they started off sullen, having given up and thinking nobody cares and no one would help them but then, they have hope in their eyes. Don’t have any words to express enough gratitude, they can’t say thank you enough.



***What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your job?***

Getting some of the access and waiting for calls back here and there. I call VA or NMDVS to get records, requesting DD 214s. Also, with outreach, sometimes connecting with the Veterans takes shaking the bushes and encouraging them to come in.

***What do you think of the VA?***

I think VA has an overload or influx of Veterans, so questions and claims can slip through the cracks here and there, that's the hard part. When you're working claims and then have to wait for records and documents, the turn-around time is extensive, but understandable because there is so much going on across VA, and not everyone will be happy. I see a lot of the complaints and comments on Facebook. Sometimes you hear about more complaints than satisfied individuals, so the good is the hard part to see. I understand, but there is a lot of frustration regarding various items here and there, the processing time and how the appointments are scheduled. I see the frustration. I haven't yet had TRIP training and I don't have PIV access, which is what VSOs need to track Veteran claim status. I do work on helping Veterans get their e-benefits accounts established, so they can track their own and look at their claim, but quite a few of them think it's a big hassle to set the account up so they end up waiting for NMDVS or VA individuals to come out and do it instead.

***Is there anything else you'd like to share?***




I appreciate this opportunity to share the TVR or TVSO experience of reaching out and getting out there to bring in the Veterans, from the tribal perspective. I'm grateful and thankful for the support of the tribes, the federal VA and NMDVS, it's been really awesome. It's been helpful and important to make sure Mescalero isn't forgotten about, or Angoon.

If you would like to contact Kelton about his work with the Veterans from Mescalero Apache, he can be reached via email at: [kstarrmat@yahoo.com](mailto:kstarrmat@yahoo.com)



## OTGR Eastern Region


(AL; CT; FL; LA; MA; ME; MI; NC; NY; RI; SC; )

U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

Your Service. Our Mission.

VA WILL BE HOLDING A  
**Bringing VA Benefits Home event** in your hometown.



### During the event, you can:

- ✓ Speak with a VA representative
- ✓ Get answers to VA claim and benefits questions
- ✓ File your claim
- ✓ Get same-day decisions when you share complete information



### EVENT DATE & TIME/S:

Friday, August 2. 10:00- 4:30

### LOCATION:

Sac & Fox Tribal Center - East Conference Room  
349 Meskwaki Rd. Tama, IA

### POINT OF CONTACT:

Peter Vicaire - Peter.Vicaire@va.gov

### PHONE NUMBER:

612-558-7744



## Free Legal Assistance for Veterans

### How the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) Can Help:

The NYLAG Veterans Practice provides free legal services to New York City veterans who cannot afford to hire a private attorney. We are committed to helping our clients secure the compensation and benefits they earned through their dedicated service to our country. Through our holistic care model, we help veterans and households with veterans access the legal services they need to achieve economic security. Additionally, we coordinate with local veteran organizations to facilitate appropriate referrals for other non-legal services.

### Our Services

- **Veterans Benefits:** Service Connected Disability Compensation, Non-Service Connected Pension, Survivor Benefits, Total Disability Individual Unemployability (TDIU), Discharge Upgrades
- **Housing:** Eviction Prevention, Landlord Disputes, Unsafe or Hazardous Housing Conditions
- **Public Benefits:** Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security Disability (SSDI), Supplemental Security Insurance (SSI), SNAP (Food Stamps)
- **Advance Planning:** Last Wills and Testaments, Medical Advance Directives, Powers of Attorney
- **Consumer Protection:** Debt Matters, Bankruptcy, Mortgage and Foreclosure Issues
- **Financial Counseling:** Managing Debt or Dealing with Debt Collection, Improving Credit Scores, Student Loan Debt, Identity Theft, Financial Budgeting

For a consultation, please call the Veterans Practice intake line at

**(212) 946-0343** or email us at [vethelp@nylag.org](mailto:vethelp@nylag.org)

*\*Our ability to provide representation is based on different factors, depending on the legal issue.*



**NYLAG**  
NEW YORK LEGAL ASSISTANCE GROUP



## OTGR Southern Plains Region

(KS; OK; TX)

# ETVA

East Texas Veterans Alliance

## 2019 STAND DOWN

FOR HOMELESS VETERANS AND VETERANS IN NEED

Wednesday, July 31, 2019 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

Armed Forces Reserve Center 13592 Highway 31 West of Greenbriar Rd Tyler, TX 75709

**\*\*\*VALID MILITARY IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED\*\*\***

*GOBUS Transportation services will be provided for veterans that live outside the city limits*

*24hr Notice Required Please contact 1-800-590-3371 or contact ETVA if you live within the city limits*

For More Information: Please contact ETVA at 903-747-8007

Email: [etxvetsalliance@gmail.com](mailto:etxvetsalliance@gmail.com)

## ALL SERVICES WILL BE FREE OF CHARGE



- Haircut/Stylist
- Housing /Legal Information
- Employment Resources
- Meals and Refreshments
- Veterans Benefits Counselors
- Medical and Health Assessments

And more !





## OKC CHOCTAW/INTER-TRIBAL VETERANS ASSOCIATION POST 319 & CVA MONTHLY MEETING

**WHEN:** 1<sup>ST</sup> Saturday of each month

**WHERE:** Choctaw Alliance Center  
5320 S Young's Blvd, OKC OK 73119

**TIME:** 1000 am – 1200 pm

**WHO:** All Native Veterans in the surrounding OKC  
area

**OUR MISSION:** To foster camaraderie among native  
veterans who served honorably. To serve our veterans  
and our communities in any which way we can. To  
advocate for all native veterans.

**VISON:** Ensure that native veterans are respected for  
their service, always receive their earned entitlements,  
and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved  
ones have made on behalf of this great country.

**POC:** POST COMMANDER-Harold Marris

**PHONE:** 405-326-2621 or 405-456-4845

**EMAIL:** chatachafa@live.com

## Native American Combat Veterans Group

### **Starts:**

On-Going Open Group

### **Meets:**

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays

### **Location:**

Norman First American  
United Methodist Church  
1950 Beaumont Drive,  
Norman, Oklahoma, 73071

### **Time:**

1:00 p.m.



### **Purpose:**

This group provides the opportunity for Native American Combat Veterans to get together to transform the way PTSD impacts their life.

### **Eligibility:**

Combat Veteran with DD214. Call for Billy Grimes at (405) 456-5184.

### **Contact:**

Call for Billy Grimes at (405) 456-5184.

**This is your time! It is an HONOR to serve you.**



## OTGR Southwest Region

(AZ; CO; NM; UT)

O'ODHAM VETERANS CELEBRATION COMMITTEE AND  
AMERICAN LEGION CONRADO F. BILDUCIA POST 124

PRESENTS

A VETERANS BENEFIT EVENT

# SAVE THE DATE

October 5, 2019

08:30 TO 13:00



Pascua Yaqui Tribe's Itom Hiapsi Bldg  
9405 South Avenida Del Yaqui  
Guadalupe, Arizona 85283  
POC: Ralph Cota 602-615-1555



VETERANS STAND DOWN  
JOIN US FOR A "YOORI TAEWAI" (DAY OF HEALING)

VA agencies will be present

**MUST SHOW PROOF OF MILITARY SERVICE**

All Veterans and their Families,  
Veterans Widows and Widowers  
are Welcome



Continental Breakfast & Hot Noon Meal

THANKS AUXILIARY 124, PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE and  
Arizona Department of Veterans Services

FOR SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS  
A Drug and Alcohol Free Event

Veterans Service Organizations  
will be present



Funded by Arizona Department of Veterans Services

6/20



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Save the Date

Friday, November 8, 2019

8a - 4p

Isleta Hotel and Casino

**Native American Veterans  
Health and Wellness Symposium  
2019**



Sponsored by the  
Albuquerque Area Indian Health Service  
New Mexico VA Healthcare System  
AARP New Mexico

Hosted by the  
The Pueblo of Isleta Veterans Association

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## **ATTENTION!!!**

### **AZ Native American Veterans Settlement Fund**

2019 is the last year to apply for the AZ Native American Tax Settlement Fund (NASF). The NASF was established on July 1, 2016 to refund Arizona income tax erroneously withheld from Native Americans who served in the military while claiming tribal land as their domicile.

To submit a claim, you must have served on active duty military between 1977 to 2005. This includes all living and deceased AZ Native American Veterans.

Last day to apply is December 31, 2019. So act now to submit your application form. The form can be obtained from the AZ Department of Veterans' Services website: [www.dvs.az.gov](http://www.dvs.az.gov) or contact the Hopi Veterans Services at (928) 734-3461 to obtain the application.

## **APPLY TODAY!**

## **APPLY FOR VA BENEFIT CLAIMS WEB CAMERA SESSION**

Veterans and Widows of Veterans can now apply for VA disability compensation or pension claims at our office.

Using web camera technology, an Arizona Department of Veterans' Services Benefits Officer will speak directly with you to apply for VA claims.

Please bring a copy of your military discharge document (DD Form 214); an ID card; social security card; marriage and/or divorce documents; birth and/or death certificates; and any financial award letters.

**Who:** Veterans and Widows of Veterans

**How:** Call (928) 734-3461 or 734-3462 to schedule an appointment.

**Where:** Hopi Veterans Services office  
Tribal Complex DATS Building, First Floor  
Kykotsmovi, AZ.

**Why:** To qualify for the VA benefits you earned!



**Thank you for your service.**

**Now let us serve you.**



**APPLY FOR YOUR VA BENEFITS TODAY!**



## OTGR Western Region

(AK; CA; ID; NV; OR; WA)

### Economic Investment Initiative:

### Puget Sound 2019

**YOU'RE INVITED**

The Department of Veterans Affairs invites you to a three-day event

to help those who serve or have served in uniform find continued success in civilian life. Events will connect Veterans, service members and their families with health care, education, employment and benefits resources.



#### South Puget Sound Community College

2011 Mottman Road, SW  
Olympia, WA 98512

**August 6-8, 2019**



#### **BENEFITS FAIR**

*(August 6-8 | 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)*  
Helping Veterans find resources and register for the benefits and health care they have earned



#### **TOWN HALL**

*(August 6 | 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.)*  
Raising awareness of key initiatives and addressing important concerns by facilitating conversations between leaders and the Veteran community



#### **HEALTH SERVICES**

*(August 6-8 | 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)*  
Providing onsite health evaluation, care and counseling



#### **CLAIMS CLINIC**

*(August 6-7 | 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.)*  
Assisting transitioning service members and Veterans to file claims for service-connected conditions



#### **JOB FAIR**

*(August 8 | 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)*  
Connecting Veterans with employers from the Pacific Northwest VA and beyond



#### **WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS**

*(August 6-8 | 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)*  
Covering topics, such as education, housing, VA benefits and services, employment and healthcare

For details and to register, visit <https://eiinitiativepugetsound.eventbrite.com>.  
If you have any questions, please email [EIinitiative.vbaco@va.gov](mailto:EIinitiative.vbaco@va.gov).

# SAVE THE DATE

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!

## 10th Annual **THRIVE** Conference



**June 22-26, 2020 Portland, OR**

# #WeNeedYouthere

**Contact Information:**

Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board -THRIVE Project

Paige Smith, Project Coordinator

Ph: 503-416-3306

Email: [psmith@npaih.org](mailto:psmith@npaih.org)

Website: <http://www.npaihb.org/thrive/>



**WHO:** For American Indian and Alaska Native Youth 13-19 years old

**WHERE:** PSU Native American Student and Community Center - Portland, OR

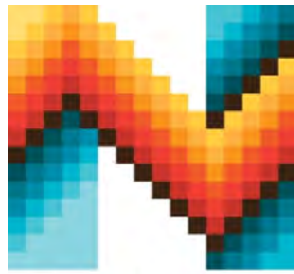
**WHAT:** This conference is made up of four to five interactive workshop tracks!

**WHY:** Participants will...

- \* Build protective factors through creative self-expression using traditional learning strategies!
- \* Connect with other Native youth!
- \* Learn about healthy behaviors and develop healthy coping skills!
- \* Embrace their culture pride and enhance their resiliency.

**REGISTRATION IS FREE AND  
WILL OPEN THE FIRST WEEK OF  
APRIL!**





WERNATIVE

# WE R NATIVE CURRICULUM TRAINING

**AUGUST 28, 2019**

**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

**Registration Required:**

**[bit.ly/2P2k87h](https://bit.ly/2P2k87h)**



# TRAINING AGENDA

This abbreviated, 1-Day Training is open to all educators, youth workers, and counselors who would like to implement We R Native in their schools or programs. Additional online training and technical assistance will be scheduled following the training. See registration form for training pre-requisites.

## AGENDA

	TIME
• Training Introduction	8:00–9:00
• Values Clarification & Group Agreements	9:00–10:00
• Curriculum Review	10:00–11:00
• Program Implementation & Preparation	11:00–12:15
• Lunch	12:15–1:00
• Cultural Affirmation & Inclusion	1:00–1:30
• Classroom Management	1:30–2:15
• Answering Difficult Questions	2:15–3:00
• Planning for Implementation	3:00–4:00
• Closing & Next Steps	4:00–5:00

Breakfast & Lunch Provided

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For more details, contact us at (512) 827-7101 or at [Info@NicoleTrevino.com](mailto:Info@NicoleTrevino.com). This training is provided free of charge by the Healthy Native Youth Program.



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
Funding Opportunities



**AUGUST 2019**

Greetings! The NPAIHB - Funding Opportunity is our commitment to the health and well-being of our tribal members.

\*PLEASE NOTE: **New funding opportunities** will be available Friday/Monday (*unless there are no "New" relevant grant announcements*).

Please see the **"New" Funding Opportunity Information provided in this "color code"**.



### **National Endowment for the Humanities' Summer Stipends program**

**DEADLINE:** September 25, 2019

**AMOUNT:** \$6,000

**DESCRIPTION:** The National Endowment for the Humanities' Summer Stipends program aims to stimulate new research in the humanities and its publication. The program works to accomplish this goal by:

Providing small awards to individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both.

Supporting projects at any stage of development, but most especially early-stage research and late-stage writing in which small awards are most effective

Furthering the NEH's commitment to diversity and inclusion in the humanities by encouraging applications from independent scholars and faculty at Hispanic Serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, tribal colleges and universities, and community colleges

Summer Stipends support continuous full-time work on a humanities project for a period of two consecutive months. NEH funds may support recipients' compensation, travel, and other costs related to the proposed scholarly research.

Summer Stipends are awarded to individual scholars. Organizations are not eligible to apply.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/summer-stipends>

**(WASHINGTON)**



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
Funding Opportunities



**AUGUST 2019**

**Kitsap Community Foundation Announces \$90,000 in New Funding for Behavioral Health, Health Equity Programs**

**DEADLINE:** September 27, 2019

**AMOUNT:** Grant amounts will range between \$5,000 and \$15,000, and priority will be given to proposals that serve underserved communities, including people of color, low-income populations, rural populations, and children who have experienced adverse childhood experiences. Grant funds must be used during the 2020 calendar year.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Kitsap Community Foundation in Silverdale, Washington, has announced that it has an additional \$90,000 to award in 2019 to small and medium-sized 501(c)(3) organizations doing work in the fields of behavioral health and health equity in Kitsap and North Mason counties. The new grant money was made available by Premera Blue Cross as part of Premera's Social Impact Program.

Recognizing the important connection between behavioral health and overall health, Premera Blue Cross launched the program with the aim of supporting behavioral health issues, particularly in underserved communities. The program currently supports sixty-four evidence-based programs and pilot projects with the potential for significant impact in Washington state and Alaska, and the focus of those programs and pilot's, for the most part, is on prevention rather than intervention. Indeed, the foundation and Premera believe that by addressing behavioral health issues — especially for populations where community health data consistently shows treatment disparities exist — overall community health will improve.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <https://www.kitsapfoundation.org/apply-for-a-grant>

**Karma for Cara Foundation Invites Applications for Youth Service Project Grants**

**DEADLINE:** October 1, 2019

**AMOUNT:** To that end, the foundation is inviting applications for its micro-grant program. Through the program, grants of up to \$1,000 will be awarded to students 18 years of age and under to complete a project that benefits their communities.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Karma for Cara Foundation was established by 21-year-old Cara Becker and her family while Cara was being treated for leukemia. Created in Cara's hospital room, what began as a couple of blood drives grew quickly, and the foundation now supports young citizen leaders nationwide. Grants are intended to serve as a bridge between ideas and action, helping young citizen leaders execute and magnify their initiatives to help repair the world. Examples of fundable projects include transforming a vacant lot into a community garden, rebuilding a school playground, or helping senior citizens ready their home for winter.

The foundation requests that applicants applying on behalf of an entire class or student group designate a maximum of three student leaders to be the main points of contact for the project.

To be eligible, all students participating in the project must be 18 years of age or younger.

**WEBSITE:** <https://karmaforcara.org/apply-for-a-microgrant>





NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
Funding Opportunities



**AUGUST 2019**

**Research Education: Short Courses on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias for the Behavioral and Social Sciences -Department of Health and Human Services/National Institutes of Health**

**DEADLINE:** Oct 15, 2019 Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m., ET, on the listed application due date.

**AMOUNT:** \$150,000 x 3 awards

**DESCRIPTION:** The goal of this FOA is to support short courses geared to behavioral and social scientists who have existing expertise in aging research and can make research contributions in Alzheimer's disease and Alzheimer's disease-related dementias (AD/ADRD) with additional knowledge about the disease and related research resources. Fields of behavioral and social science research relevant for this FOA are health economics, labor economics, health services research, healthcare policy, public policy, demography, sociology, social epidemiology, psychology, and social neuroscience. Priority areas of focus include, but are not limited to, the following: dementia care; dementia caregiver research; cognitive and dementia epidemiology; behavioral and social pathways of AD/ADRD; role of social, contextual, environmental, and institutional factors in AD/ADRD; early psychological changes preceding AD/ADRD onset; prevention of AD/ADRD; disparities in AD/ADRD or dementia-related outcomes; and research resources and methods for studying the determinants and impact of AD/ADRD.

**WEBSITE:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-20-031.html>

**Stimulating Innovations in Behavioral Intervention Research for Cancer Prevention and Control (R21 Clinical Trial Optional) – PAR-19-309 NIH**

**DEADLINE:** Standard dates apply, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates. The first standard application due date for this FOA is October 16, 2019. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**AMOUNT:** The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year. Award Project Period: The maximum project period is 2 years.

**DESCRIPTION:** The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to provide support for the development of innovative interventions that improve cancer-related health behaviors across diverse racial/ethnic populations. Specifically, this FOA is intended to stimulate research aimed at 1) testing new theories and conceptual frameworks; 2) developing and evaluating novel strategies to improve cancer-related health behaviors; 3) investigating multi-level and multi-behavioral approaches; and 4) utilizing innovative research designs, methodologies, and technologies. The cancer-related health behaviors to be targeted are diet, obesity, physical activity and sedentary behavior, smoking, sleep and circadian dysfunction, alcohol use, and/or adherence to cancer-related medical regimens. Research can involve several stages of the cancer continuum and any phase of the translational spectrum.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-19-309.html# Section II. Award 1>



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
Funding Opportunities



**AUGUST 2019**

**Implementation Research on Hypertension Control to Prevent Dementia and Cognitive Decline (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Optional) - NIH RFA-AG-20-028**

**DEADLINE:** October 22, 2019, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates. No late applications will be accepted for this funding opportunity announcement. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**AMOUNT:** For the R61 planning phase, the combined budget for direct costs for up to two years may not exceed \$500,000. For the R33 phase, budgets may go over \$500,000. Award Project Period: The project period is limited to 5 years, which includes up to 2 years of the R61 phase, followed by up to 4 years of the R33 phase.

**DESCRIPTION:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications proposing to conduct research involving pragmatic clinical trials on dissemination and implementation of practical approaches to hypertension treatment and control strategies among older adults with multimorbidity in order to prevent sequelae, including mild cognitive impairment and dementia. The research will: (1) be designed to address practical hypertension treatment questions faced by older adults with multimorbidity and their clinicians, (2) include broad and diverse populations, and (3) be conducted in real-world settings. These trials are intended to produce results that can be directly adopted by healthcare systems for rapid translation.

This FOA will support pilot research to test the feasibility of implementing care interventions (R61 phase) that, if successful, can transition to an R33 phase for implementation of large pragmatic trials. The transition from the R61 to the R33 phase of the award will be administratively reviewed and determined by successful completion of the go/no-go criteria that are specified for the R61 phase.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-20-028.html#\\_Section\\_II\\_Award\\_1](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-20-028.html#_Section_II_Award_1)

**Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program - HRSA-20-029 | Office of Rural Health Policy**

**DEADLINE:** 07/19/2019 to 10/28/2019

**AMOUNT:** N/A

**DESCRIPTION:** This notice announces the opportunity to apply for funding under the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program (RESEP). This grant program is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) and was developed in consultation with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Indian Health Service (IHS).

The purpose of this program is to: inform and educate the public about services offered through the RESEP program; disseminate information on radiogenic diseases and the importance of early detection; screen eligible individuals for cancer and other radiogenic diseases; provide appropriate referrals for medical treatment; and facilitate putative applicants in the documentation of Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) claims.



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
Funding Opportunities



**AUGUST 2019**

**WEBSITE/LINK:**

<https://www.hrsa.gov/ruralhealth/programopportunities/fundingopportunities/default.aspx?id=d996ee98-b7b5-457b-b455-ccb9926a64d5>

**Specialized Housing and Services for Victims of Human Trafficking - Department of Housing and Urban Development**

**DEADLINE:** Oct 30, 2019 Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m., ET, on the listed application due date.

**AMOUNT:** \$1,000,000

**DESCRIPTION:** Housing and Services: The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) have partnered under this NOFA to address human trafficking that occurs within communities. The purpose of this program is to enhance the quality and quantity of safe housing and specialized services available to assist victims of human trafficking, as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended. This includes specialized housing and services that are enhanced by a collaborative and coordinated community response that engages appropriate community resources. Organizations that demonstrate the ability to provide safe housing options and client-focused services for victims of human trafficking that result in obtaining and remaining in permanent housing situations with the necessary supportive services to ensure participant success for housing retention, that includes obtaining the necessary income to promote self-sufficiency, are encouraged to apply for this funding. Technical Assistance: This NOFA includes up to \$1 million for a technical assistance provider that has experience in assisting HUD-funded and DOJ-funded organizations in the areas of housing and services specifically for victims of human trafficking.

**WEBSITE/LINK:**

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/fundingopps](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/fundingopps)

**Toshiba America Invites Applications for Grade 6-12 Science Projects**

**DEADLINE:** November 1, 2019

**AMOUNT:** Through the program, grants of at least \$5,000 will be awarded in support of teacher-led projects with the potential to provide students with opportunities to "do science" in ways that increase their engagement with the subject matter and improve their learning.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Toshiba America Foundation is accepting grant applications from grade 6-12 teachers for innovative science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) projects. The foundation strongly encourages projects planned and led by individual teachers or teams of teachers for their own classrooms. Note: the foundation supports project-based learning and does not consider requests for computers, laptops, or tablets. For complete program guidelines, information about past recipients, and application instructions, see the Toshiba America Foundation website.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>





NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
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**AUGUST 2019**

**Systems for Action: Systems and Services Research to Build a Culture of Health**

**DEADLINE:** November 06, 2019, 3:00 p.m. ET

**AMOUNT:** This call for proposals will support studies that can be completed over a 36-month period with up to \$500,000 in total funding from RWJF. Up to four awards will be selected for funding under this solicitation.

**DESCRIPTION:** Systems for Action (S4A) is a signature research program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) that helps to build the evidence base for a Culture of Health by rigorously testing new ways of connecting the nation's fragmented medical, social, and public health systems. Studies conducted through the S4A program test innovative mechanisms for aligning delivery and financing systems for medical, social, and public health services, with a focus on the effects of these mechanisms on health and health equity. S4A uses a wide research lens that includes and extends beyond medical care and public health to incorporate social service systems—such as housing, transportation; education; employment; food and nutrition assistance; child and family support; criminal and juvenile justice; and economic and community development.

Research studies supported through S4A must: 1) focus on solutions to high-priority system alignment problems that involve medical, social, and public health services; 2) test the effectiveness of these solutions using rigorous scientific methods; and 3) engage stakeholders from medical, social, and public health systems in the design and conduct of the research, so that findings can be readily used in practice.

Studies funded through the S4A program must test a specific system alignment mechanism that engages all three of the broad sectors referenced in this call for proposals (CFP), including medical care, public health, and social services. These sectors are defined in greater detail below. The S4A Research Agenda uses the term “system alignment mechanism” broadly to include any action that an organization, network, or community may undertake to reduce fragmentation and improve coordination in the delivery of medical, social, and public health services.

**WEBSITE:** [https://www.rwjf.org/content/rwjf/en/library/funding-opportunities/2019/systems-for-action-systems-and-services-research-to-build-a-culture-of-health.html?rid=0034400001rm5idAAA&et\\_cid=1797900](https://www.rwjf.org/content/rwjf/en/library/funding-opportunities/2019/systems-for-action-systems-and-services-research-to-build-a-culture-of-health.html?rid=0034400001rm5idAAA&et_cid=1797900)

**Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program - Department of Health and Human Services\Health Resources and Services Administration**

**DEADLINE:** Nov 08, 2019

**AMOUNT:** \$235,000

**DESCRIPTION:** This notice announces the opportunity to apply for funding under the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program. The purpose of this program is to support comprehensive and coordinated state and territory EHDI systems of care [1] so families with newborns, infants, and young children up to 3 years of age [2] who are deaf or hard-of-hearing (DHH) [3] receive appropriate and timely services that include hearing screening [4], diagnosis, and early intervention (EI). [1] For the purposes of this NOFO, the EHDI system of care refers to families, consumers, providers, services, and programs that work towards developing coordinated and comprehensive state and territory systems so that families with newborns, infants, and young children who are deaf or hard of hearing



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
Funding Opportunities



**AUGUST 2019**

receive appropriate and timely services that include hearing screening, diagnosis, and intervention. [2] For the purposes of this funding opportunity, “children” are defined as all newborns, infants, and young children up to the age of 3. [3] For the purposes of this funding opportunity, “deaf” and “hard of hearing” or “DHH” are used in this document to represent the entire spectrum of children with varying hearing levels (from mild to profound) and laterality, and is intended to be inclusive of those who have other disabilities and/or conditions. [4] For the purposes of this funding opportunity, the term hearing screening refers to the process of initial screening, diagnosis, and enrollment into early intervention (EI) services.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=318268>

**HRSA-20-026 Rural Health Network Development Planning Program - Department of Health and Human Services/Health Resources and Services Administration**

**DEADLINE:** Nov 29, 2019

**AMOUNT:** \$2,000,000

**DESCRIPTION:** This notice announces the opportunity to apply for funding under the Rural Health Network Development Planning Program (“Network Planning”). The purpose of the Network Planning program is to assist in the development of an integrated health care network, specifically with network participants who do not have a history of formal collaborative efforts. Network Planning goals are: (i) to achieve efficiencies; (ii) to expand access to, coordinate, and improve the quality of essential health care services; and (iii) to strengthen the rural health care system as a whole.

**WEBSITE/LINK:**

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=315914>

**Collaborative Minority Health and Health Disparities Research with Tribal Epidemiology Centers (R01) - DHHS/NIH**

**DEADLINE:** Dec 04, 2019

**AMOUNT:** \$350,000

**DESCRIPTION:** The purpose of this initiative is to support collaborative research between Tribal Epidemiology Centers and extramural investigators on topics related to minority health and health disparities in American Indian / Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-484.html>

**Native Voices Rising**

**DEADLINE:** (See website.)

**AMOUNT:** Grants may range from \$5,000-15,000, with a typical grant size of \$10,000. From 2013-2015, Native Voices Rising has funded 43 organizations for a total of \$410,000. The availability of funds in future years will depend upon the success of ongoing fundraising efforts.



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
Funding Opportunities



**AUGUST 2019**

EXCLUSIONS (what we do NOT fund)

We are **UNABLE** to support the following:

- Organizations that are not based in the United States
- Grantmaking or re-granting institutions
- Capital campaigns, construction or renovation programs, endowments
- Scholarship funds or other aid to individuals
- Research or fellowships
- Land trusts/land acquisitions
- Government sponsored programs or programs undertaken by tax-supported institutions
- Films, books or other stand-alone documentation projects,
- Emergency funding

**DESCRIPTION:** Native Voices Rising, a grantmaking collaborative led by Common Counsel Foundation and Native Americans in Philanthropy, is designed to support organizing, advocacy and civic engagement in American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities.

Research on the state of Native-led organizing and advocacy in the U.S. is now available. The NVR report, “A Case for Native-led Change” provides recommendations for funders interested in providing support to Native-led organizations. It provides case studies highlighting strong organizations, identifies issue areas that are the focus of attention by Native groups and reveals the tactics Native organizations employ while seeking change.

Native Voices Rising establishes a mechanism for funders to invest in organizations led by Native people through a grantmaking vehicle whose decision makers are also members of Native communities.

From 2013, Native Voices Rising has provided close to \$1 million to Native-led organizations.

Before applying to Native Voices Rising, please review the following questions to determine whether you meet our funding guidelines:

1. Is your organization based in and serving a Native community or population?
2. Does your organization have a strong set of leaders and board members comprised of 51% Native Americans, who represent and are accountable to the community that is served?
3. Does your organization have a leadership development or political education program for Native community members?
4. Does your organization engage Native community members in determining priorities and the focus of its programs?
5. Does your organization engage a significant number of community members to take collective action to promote public policy or campaign for corporate accountability to address your communities’ problems?
6. Do you have IRS 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt status, 7871 Designation or a fiscal sponsor who does?

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <http://www.nativevoicesrising.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/NVR-Proposal-Guidelines-2019.pdf>





NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
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**AUGUST 2019**

**Intervention Research to Improve Native American Health (R01 Clinical Trial Optional) - NIH**

**DEADLINE:** May 14, 2020, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**AMOUNT:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The total project period may not exceed 5 years.

**DESCRIPTION:** NIMHD leads scientific research to improve minority health and reduce health disparities, to realize an America in which all populations will have an equal opportunity to live long, healthy, and productive lives. To accomplish this, NIMHD raises national awareness about the prevalence and impact of health disparities and disseminates effective individual-, community-, and population-level interventions to reduce and encourage elimination of health disparities. NIMHD is interested in projects including, but not limited to, the following:

Interventions derived from local culture in strategies, process, implementation, and evaluation.

Projects that directly address methodological issues inherent in research in small populations such as those in many native communities.

Culturally-leveraged community-based interventions focused on existing practices that support strengths and resilience factors that may be applicable and useful in other communities.

Projects that document efficacy and monetize traditional healing interventions for coverage by insurance.

Projects that develop innovative approaches to the provision of non-stigmatizing and resilience supportive prevention and treatment interventions.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-496.html# Section II. Award 1>

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**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - Office of Policy Development and Research Authority to Accept Unsolicited Proposals for Research Partnerships Notice/FR-6300-N-USP**

**DEADLINE:** N/A

**AMOUNT:** HUD is making approximately \$1 million available for Research Partnerships. Additional funds may become available for award as a result of HUD's efforts to recapture unused funds or use carryover funds. Use of these funds will be subject to statutory constraints.



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
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**AUGUST 2019**

**DESCRIPTION:** This notice announces that HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) has the authority to accept unsolicited research proposals that address current research priorities. In accordance with statutory requirements, the research proposals must be submitted by eligible applicants and provide cost sharing for at least 50 percent of total project cost from philanthropic entities or Federal, state or local government agencies. This notice announces that HUD is accepting research proposals and provides a general description of information that should be included in any research proposal.

The Department is interested in increasing participation of Minority Serving Institutions of higher education and Historically Black Colleges and Universities in all program areas. Therefore, HUD encourages eligible entities that are not themselves MSIs or HBCUs to develop partnerships with MSIs and HBCUs.

**DATES:** Proposals may be submitted at any time and will be evaluated as they are received. Available funds will be awarded as proposals are received, evaluated, and approved, until funds are exhausted. Unsolicited proposal - A valid unsolicited proposal must: (1) Be innovative and unique; (2) Be independently originated and developed by the offeror; (3) Be prepared without Federal Government supervision, endorsement, direction, or direct Federal Government involvement; (4) Include sufficient detail to permit a determination that Federal Government support could be worthwhile and the proposed work could benefit the agency's research and development or other mission responsibilities; (5) Not be an advance proposal for a known agency requirement that can be acquired by competitive methods; (6) Not be a result of a previous competitive announcement; and (7) Not be a concept paper.

**WEBSITE/LINK:**

[https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/SPM/documents/FY2019\\_UnsolicitedProposalForResearchPartnerships-USP.pdf](https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/SPM/documents/FY2019_UnsolicitedProposalForResearchPartnerships-USP.pdf)

**DECEMBER 2019**

**Collaborative Minority Health and Health Disparities Research with Tribal Epidemiology Centers (R01) - National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health, Tribal Health Research Office, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

**DEADLINE:** Dec 4, 2019

**AMOUNT: Award ceiling:** \$350,000 per year

**Project period:** 4 years

**DESCRIPTION:** This program provides funding to support collaborative research between Tribal Epidemiology Centers and extramural investigators on topics related to minority health and health disparities in American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations.



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
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**AUGUST 2019**

Research projects may be observational or intervention studies (not clinical trials) and are expected to use data that have been or are currently being collected by the Tribal Epidemiology Centers. Primary data collection may be used to supplement existing data. Research study samples may consist exclusively of AI/AN populations or may include non-AI/AN populations as appropriate to address a specific research question.

A list of specific areas of research interest is provided on the program website.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-17-484.html>

**NOVEMBER 2019**

**Elder Maltreatment Survey: Data Collection Assistance**

Technical assistance for American Indian tribes, Alaskan villages, and Hawaiian homesteads in the collection of local data on elder abuse.

Geographic coverage: Nationwide

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

Sponsor: National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative

**Honor the Earth Native Food Security Grants**

Grants to Native organizations working to create food security utilizing traditional seeds, foods, and growing methods.

Geographic coverage: Nationwide

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

Sponsor: Honor the Earth

**Tribal Forensic Healthcare Training Opportunities**

Live, online, and clinical training courses related to the identification, collection, and preservation of medical forensic evidence obtained during the treatment of victims of sexual and domestic violence.

Geographic coverage: Nationwide

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

Sponsors: Indian Health Service, Indian Health Service Division of Behavioral Health, and International Association of Forensic Nurses

**FOR YOUTH: Community Changemaker Grants - Health Policy Fellowship (NIHB)**

**DEADLINE:** N/A

**AMOUNT:** Everyone whose applications are accepted will receive \$250.

**DESCRIPTION: Strong. Resilient. Engaged.** Indigenous people are all of the above and more. So, when you see something in your community that needs to change, step up and act. When you are ready to do this, the National Indian Health Board has got your back.

**Make a difference:** NIHB offers Community Changemaker Grants to assist Native youth in advocating for the health of our communities.





NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
Funding Opportunities



**AUGUST 2019**

**Community Changemaker Grants are small amounts of money (\$250) that can help supercharge a youth-led health event. They are open to American Indian and Alaska Native youth ages 14-24 years old.**

**Getting Started:**

Brainstorm an idea with your friends

Contact NIHB with any questions

Plan a health-related event

Apply for an NIHB Community Changemaker Grant

Use funding from the grant to enhance your event

Send NIHB 1-2 paragraphs (w/ a few pictures or a short video) about your event

NIHB will use the info you send about your event to inspire others to make a difference

**How to Use Community Changemaker Funding**

Some will use Community Changemaker funding to buy T-shirts for a suicide prevention walk they organize. Others will use this funding to offer snacks and drinks at a round dance where participants learn about healthy foods. Some might even use the grant to cover the cost of a band to play at an event they organize on healthy relationships. Got a vision? We can help.

**WEBSITE/LINK:** [https://www.nihb.org/for\\_youth/changemaker\\_grants.php](https://www.nihb.org/for_youth/changemaker_grants.php)

# NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA

## INDIAN HEALTH BOARD

October 22 - 24, 2019

### Wildhorse Resort & Casino

46510 Wildhorse Blvd  
Pendleton, OR 97801

Individuals guests must call WRC directly at:

**Reservations: 1.800.654.9453**

Rooms block rooms reserved under  
**“Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board”**  
Hotel rooms starting at \$93.00 per night plus 8% occupancy  
taxes.

Please call by **September 29, 2019** to receive the group rate.  
Reservations received after this date will be accepted on a space  
available basis and at the regular room rate.

(Per Diem: \$55.00; Mileage: .585)

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Griggs, Executive  
Assistant at (503) 416-3269 or email: [lgriggs@npaihb.org](mailto:lgriggs@npaihb.org)



QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING  
Wildhorse Casino Resort  
46510 Wildhorse Blvd  
Pendleton, OR 97801



October 22-24, 2019

**AGENDA**

**MONDAY OCTOBER 21, 2019**

9:00– 11:00 AM | CHAP Meeting  
2:00-5:00 PM | Director's Meeting

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019**

7:30 AM | **Executive Committee Meeting**

9:00 AM | Call to Order  
Invocation  
Welcome  
Posting of Flags  
Roll Call

9:15-12:00 P | PAO Area Directors Report  
NPAIHB Executive Directors Report  
NPAIHB Committee Updates  
Legislative Updates

General Session

2:00 PM | **LUNCH**  
Committee Meetings (*working lunch*)

- New Delegates
- Elders
- Veterans
- Public Health
- Behavioral Health
- Personnel
- Legislative/Resolution
- Youth
- Oral Health

1:45 – 4:30 PM | General Session

4:30 PM | Executive Session



## WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23, 2019

9:00 AM	Call to Order Invocation
9:15 – 12:00 PM	General Session
12:00 PM	<b>LUNCH – On your own</b>
1:30 – 5:00 PM	General Session

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019

8:30 AM	Call to Order Invocation
8:45 AM	Chairman's Report
9:00 AM	Committee Reports: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Elders</li><li>2. Veterans</li><li>3. Public Health</li><li>4. Behavioral Health</li><li>5. Personnel</li><li>6. Legislative/Resolution</li><li>7. Youth</li><li>8. Oral Health</li></ol>
10:30 -12:00 PM	Unfinished/New Business <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Approval of Minutes</li><li>2. Finance Report</li><li>3. Resolutions</li><li>4. Future Board Meeting Sites:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>January 21- 23, 2020 ~ Marysville, WA hosted by Tulalip</i></li><li>• <i>April 21-23, 2020 ~ Grand Mound, WA hosted by Chehalis</i></li><li>• <i>July, 21-23, 2020 Ft. Hall, ID hosted by Shoshone-Bannock</i></li><li>• <i>October 20-22, 2020 Grand Ronde, OR hosted by Grand Ronde</i></li></ul></li></ol>
12:00 PM	Adjourn



## “Response Circles” Funding Request for the Northwest Tribes

This form is to be used when requesting funding for an activity, event, or training that is associated with domestic & sexual violence prevention. The funds may be used for: meeting expenses, materials and supplies for activities, incentives, travel, and training fees. Funds may not be used for wages, food, or promotional clothing items i.e. t-shirts. Page 2 includes opportunities that can be funded. About \$11,000 is available for these requests by the Northwest Tribes and will be available until the money runs out. **Requests can be submitted through August 15, 2019.**

### NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD

- Burns –Paiute Tribe
- Chehalis Tribe
- Coeur d’Alene Tribe
- Colville Tribe
- Coos, Suislaw &  
Lower Umpqua Tribe
- Coquille Tribe
- Cow Creek Tribe
- Cowlitz Tribe
- Grand Ronde Tribe
- Hoh Tribe
- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe
- Kalispel Tribe
- Klamath Tribe
- Kootenai Tribe
- Lower Elwha Tribe
- Lummi Tribe
- Makah Tribe
- Muckleshoot Tribe
- Nez Perce Tribe
- Nisqually Tribe
- Nooksack Tribe
- NW Band of Shoshoni Tribe
- Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
- Puyallup Tribe
- Quileute Tribe
- Quinault Tribe
- Samish Indian Nation
- Sauk-Suiattle Tribe
- Shoalwater Bay Tribe
- Shoshone-Bannock Tribe
- Siletz Tribe
- Skokomish Tribe
- Snoqualmie Tribe
- Spokane Tribe
- Squaxin Island Tribe
- Stllaguamish Tribe
- Suquamish Tribe
- Swinomish Tribe
- Tulalip Tribe
- Umatilla Tribe
- Upper Skagit Tribe
- Warm Springs Tribe
- Yakama Nation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tribe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Briefly describe the activity, event, training that the funds will be used for:</b>
<b>Total Amount For Request (\$1,600 max)</b>
*Please be sure your total request includes all your needs including: indirect, travel, lodging, per diem, registration fees, internet, supplies, print materials, incentives, honoraria, stipends, trainer fees and travel, and/or facility costs. ** Funds may not be used for wages, food, or promotional clothing items i.e. t-shirts.

\*Depending on the event/training chosen NPAIHB staff may ask you to provide a short evaluation, survey, or post-description of the event/training. Please fax this document to 503-228-8182, Attn: Paige, or email [psmith@npaihb.org](mailto:psmith@npaihb.org). If you have any further questions, please call Paige Smith: (503) 228-4185 ext. 306.

2121 SW Broadway  
 Suite 300  
 Portland, OR 97201  
 Phone: (503) 228-4185  
 Fax: (503) 228-8182  
[www.npaihb.org](http://www.npaihb.org)

### *List of Upcoming Opportunities for Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention*

- At your own pace Online Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner's training <http://www.forensicnurses.org/?page=40HourSANE>
- August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 – American Indian/Alaska Native focused Suicide Prevention Trainings for Crime Victim Advocates – Denver, CO [https://edc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9MIPcrG3gzSWqQl](https://edc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9MIPcrG3gzSWqQl)
- August 23, 2019 – Summit Series on Youth and Violence: Accessibility – San Francisco, CA <https://www.ocadsv.org/take-action/calendar/event/143725>
- August 27-30, 2019 – Advanced Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Training – Orlando, FL <http://nicp.net/event/orlando-fl-august-27-302019/>
- September 5-8, 2019 – 24<sup>th</sup> International summit on violence, abuse and trauma across the lifespan – San Diego, CA <https://www.ivatcenters.org/san-diego-summit>
- September 23-27, 2019 – Core DV/SA Advocacy Training – Bend, OR <https://www.ocadsv.org/take-action/calendar/event/143729>
- November, 2019 - Promoting Employment opportunities for survivors of trafficking training institute – TBD, <https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/resources-events/events/>
- Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Toolkit – training on your own, check out
- \*<https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/sartkit/about.html>

### *Websites to find more opportunities & dates*

- National Center on Domestic & Sexual Violence - [http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd\\_upcomingtrainings.html](http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd_upcomingtrainings.html)
- Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations, Support, Training, Access and Resources (SAFESTAR) - <http://www.safestar.net/training/>
- International Assoc. of Forensic Nurses - <http://www.forensicnurses.org/?page=registerforSANE>
- IHS Tribal Forensic Healthcare <http://tribalforensichealthcare.site-ym.com>
- Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence - <https://idvsa.org/>
- Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force - <http://oregonsatf.org/calendar/trainings/>
- Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence - <https://www.ocadsv.org/>
- Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence - <https://wscadv.org/>
- Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs - <http://www.wcsap.org/>



# Suicide among American Indians & Alaska Natives in Oregon

A review of death certificates from 2013-2017

Issued May 2019



Suicide is the **7th** leading cause of death for AI/ANs in Oregon, and the **2nd** leading cause of death for AI/ANs ages 10-24.

94

There were **94** suicide deaths among AI/ANs in Oregon during 2013-2017.

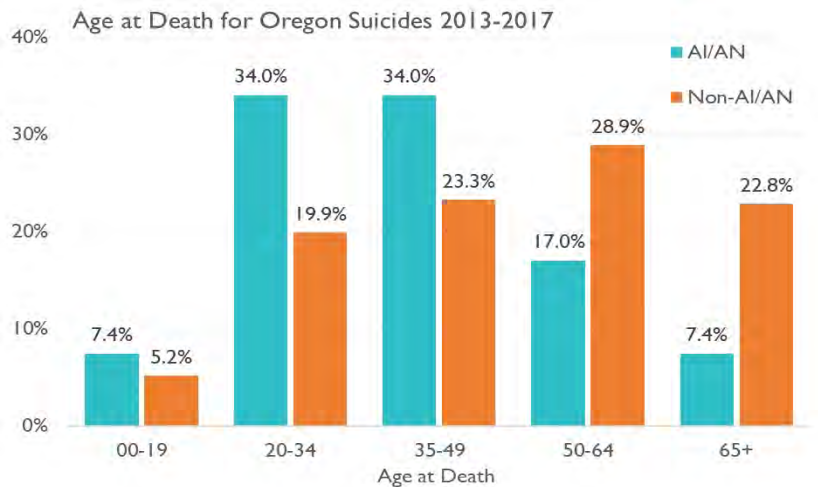


**73%** of AI/AN suicide deaths were male.

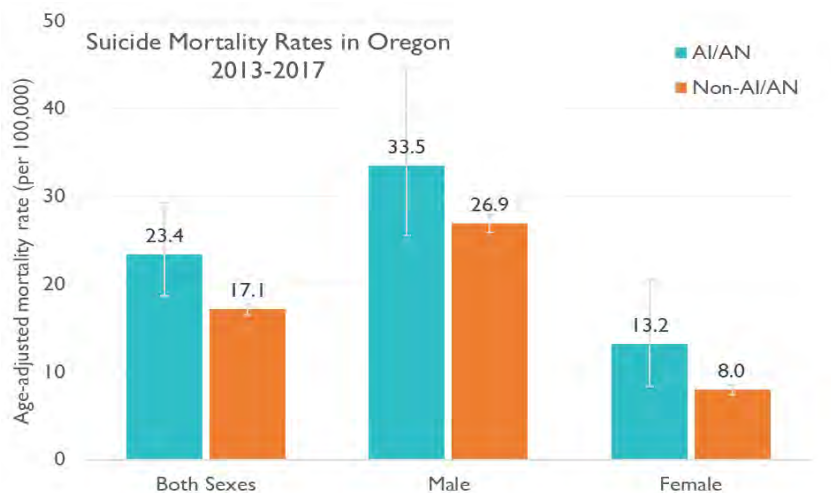


**43%** of AI/AN suicide deaths were by firearm, **35%** were by hanging/strangulation, and **16%** were from self-poisoning.

**41.4%** of AI/AN deaths in Oregon occurred among people younger than 35 years of age.



The suicide mortality rate for AI/ANs in Oregon was **1.4 times higher** than the rate for non-AI/ANs. While males had a higher suicide rate than females, AI/AN females had a larger disparity in suicide rates (1.7 times higher than non-AI/ANs).



The suicide mortality rate for AI/ANs in Oregon decreased from 2002 to 2006. Since 2007, the suicide rate has **nearly tripled**.



# WE ARE CONNECTED. we need you here.

American Indian and Alaska Native communities have always represented unity and resilience.

We must continue this tradition, and our connections can help our generations thrive.

Each one of us is a gift, and our stories are shared across generations.

## Resources for Suicide Prevention



[www.npaihb.org/thrive](http://www.npaihb.org/thrive)

**THRIVE** (Tribal Health: Reaching out InVolves Everyone) is the suicide prevention project at the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. THRIVE provides suicide prevention training, media material development, and technical assistance to Tribes in the Pacific Northwest in order to increase knowledge and awareness about suicide among Tribal community members, improve intertribal and interagency communication about suicide prevention and treatment, and encourage tribal health programs to track, prevent, and treat suicide.

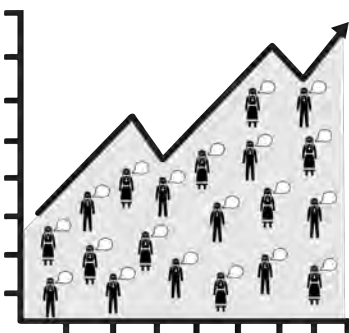
THRIVE provides ASIST and QPR trainings, and works to increase tribal capacity to prevent suicide using the *Zero Suicide Model*, the *Healing of the Canoe* curriculum, and other evidence-based interventions.

THRIVE has developed many social marketing and media products for tribal suicide prevention. These products can be found at <http://www.npaihb.org/social-marketing-campaigns>.

For more information about THRIVE, contact: Colbie Caughlan at [ccaughlan@npaihb.org](mailto:ccaughlan@npaihb.org) or 503-228-4185



## About the Data



[www.npaihb.org/ideanw](http://www.npaihb.org/ideanw)

AI/ANs are often misclassified as another race in health data systems, and this makes it difficult to accurately measure and report on outcomes like suicide. NPAIHB's **IDEA-NW** project works to reduce AI/AN misclassification in public health data systems and provide Northwest Tribes with accurate health data.

The project corrects inaccurate race data for AI/ANs through record linkages with vital records and other data systems. Without this correction, the data used for the publication would have under-counted AI/AN suicides by 12 deaths and underestimated the age-adjusted rate by 15%.

For more information about IDEA-NW, contact: [ideanw@npaihb.org](mailto:ideanw@npaihb.org) or 503-416-3261

- Data Source: Death certificates from the Oregon Center for Health Statistics (2013-2017), corrected for AI/AN misclassification by the IDEA-NW Project
- Suicide deaths include records with the following ICD-10 codes for underlying cause of death: X60-X84, Y87.0
- The data presented may not be comparable to information published by state or federal agencies due to differences in how we identify AI/AN individuals.

This publication was produced by NPAIHB's IDEA-NW and THRIVE projects, and was developed with funding support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Cooperative Agreement Number NU58DP006385), the Indian Health Service's Methamphetamine & Suicide Prevention Initiative, and by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (Grant Number SM61780). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC, IHS, SAMHSA, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

## For Your Awareness

### Free Idaho Grant TA Workshop, September 5 – 6, 2019

HRSA's Office of Regional Operations (ORO) Region 10 will host a FREE, two-day Grant Technical Assistance Workshop in collaboration with Idaho State University (ISU), the Idaho Primary Care Association (PCA), and the Southeast Idaho Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Participants may register for one of the three following tracks:

- **Track 1: HRSA Grant Writing Basics:** Sessions are designed to provide a basic understanding of the grant writing and grant management process. Sessions will include topics on an overview of HRSA, writing response grant applications, objective review committees, and grant closeout. This track is most appropriate for the novice or entry-level grant professional.
- **Track 2: Grant Integrity and Compliance:** Sessions are designed to provide a comprehensive overview of federal financial requirements, budgeting and financial management, and reporting and record keeping. This track is most appropriate for the seasoned grant professional.
- **Track 3: Administration and Human Capital:** Sessions are designed to provide a comprehensive overview of human resource management, collaboration, and delivering on proposed outcomes. This track is most appropriate for the seasoned grant professional.

This year, we will use a mock grant submission and Notice of Funding Opportunity to enhance the learning environment.

**\*Note, participating in this event does not guarantee award of a HRSA grant.**

#### Event Details

<b>Location</b>	Idaho State University 1311 E. Central Drive, Meridian, Idaho 83642
<b>Days</b>	September 5, 2019 8:00 AM PST – 4:00 PM MST  September 6, 2019 9:00 AM PST – 2:30 PM MST
<b>Target Audience</b>	This workshop is for all eligible HRSA applicants and grantees

#### How to Register

Each participant will register and attend one track. We strongly encourage organizations interested in multiple tracks send multiple staff. Note, registration for this event is FREE.

Track	Sessions (September 5, 2019 – September 6, 2019)
<b>To register for Track 1: HRSA Grant Writing Basics</b> , please click <a href="#">here</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session 1.1: Applying to HRSA Grants</li> <li>• Session 1.2: Understanding NOFO Requirements</li> <li>• Session 1.3: Data and Analytics</li> <li>• Session 1.4: Objective Review Committees</li> <li>• Session 1.5: Understanding the Closeout Process</li> </ul>



<p><b>To register for Track 2: Grant Integrity and Compliance</b>, please click <a href="#">here</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session 2.1: Understanding Grant Compliance and Federal Financial Management Requirements</li> <li>• Session 2.2: Budgeting I: Budgeting Basics for Federal Grants</li> <li>• Session 2.3: Budgeting II: Financial Management</li> <li>• Session 2.4: Reporting and Record Keeping</li> <li>• Session 2.5: Grant Closeout and the Federal Financial Report</li> </ul>
<p><b>To register for Track 3: Administration and Human Capital</b>, please click <a href="#">here</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session 3.1: Creating Team-based Approaches to Prepare for HRSA grants</li> <li>• Session 3.2: Administration and Management of HRSA grants</li> <li>• Session 3.3: Budget Architecture 101 for the Non-Financial Manager</li> <li>• Administration and Evaluation Wrap Up</li> <li>• Session 3.4: Managing for Outcomes</li> <li>• Session 3.5: Preparing for and Managing the Grant Closeout Process</li> </ul>

Join us for our upcoming webinars and events

- **Get Ready and Get Set: Applying for HRSA Grants Virtual Webinar**- July 23, 2019, Click [here](#) to register!
- **Writing for Grant Success Virtual Webinar** –August 20, 2019, Click [here](#) to register!
- **Oregon Grant Technical Assistance In-Person Workshop** – September 12-13, 2019
  - Click [here](#) to register for Track 1: HRSA Grant Writing Basics
  - Click [here](#) to register for Track 2: Grant Integrity and Compliance
  - Click [here](#) to register for Track 3: Administration and Human Capital

HRSA'S Office of Regional Operation, Region 10 presents:

### Applying for HRSA Grants Technical Assistance Workshop

**Save the Date: September 5-6, 2019**

**EVENT OBJECTIVES**

- Hear from subject matter experts on grant writing and grant management
- Promote HRSA resources, programs and funding opportunities
- Build sustainable partnerships to improve health and wellness

Register for Track 1: HRSA Grant Writing Basics: [Here](#)  
 Register for Track 2: Grant Integrity and Compliance: [Here](#)  
 Register for Track 3: Administration and Human Capital: [Here](#)

**Location**  
 Idaho State University-Meridian  
 1311 E. Central Drive  
 Meridian, ID 83642

**HRSA**  
 Office of Regional Operations  
*In partnership with*

Idaho State UNIVERSITY | IDAHO PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION | SOUTHWEST IDAHO AHEC

This event is for all eligible HRSA grantees. For more information, contact Aphrodyll Antoine at 206-615-2058 or via email at RegionX@hrsa.gov

Prepared by Office of Regional Operations (ORO)  
 Region 10 (Seattle)



# 2019 Idaho Indian Child Welfare Conference

## October 29-30, 2019

Save the Date! Mark your Calendars!

Registration information coming soon.

### Shoshone-Bannock Hotel and Event Center

777 Bannock Trail  
Fort Hall, ID 83203  
208-238-4800

For more information please contact:

Malissa Poog or Cheri Outcalt,

Shoshone-Bannock Social Services

@ 208-478-3863

malissa.poog@sb-thhs.com

cheri.outcalt@sb-thhs.com

Robin Sanchez,

Casey Family Programs

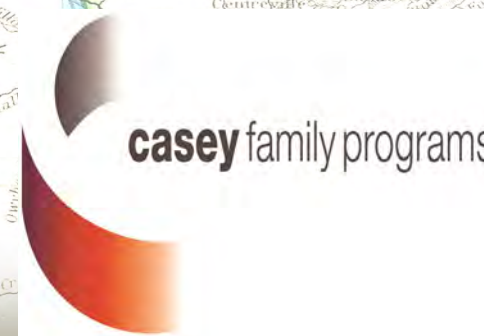
@ 208-350-7458

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Presented by: Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Casey Family Programs & The Idaho Dept. of Health & Welfare