

2023 Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement Training

Celebrating 25 Years of Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts

September 12–14, 2023

Renaissance Palm Springs Hotel

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Reservation

This training is approved by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

7:00am – 8:00am	Registration / Check-In	Ballroom Foyer
8:30am – 8:45am	Opening	Catalina / Madera/ Pasadena
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Law and Policy Institute 	
8:45am – 9:45am	Plenary	Catalina / Madera/ Pasadena
	Twenty-Five Years of Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Joseph Flies-Away, CAB Member, Community and Nation Building Facilitator</i> 	
	<p>Plenary Description: Healing to Wellness Courts have been operating in Tribal Nations for more than 25 years. Healing to Wellness Courts stem from drug courts, which were first funded in 1995 by the Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Assistance – Drug Court Program Office. In these 25+ years, Tribal Nations have developed Adult, Juvenile, Family, and Veteran’s Healing to Wellness Courts, many times giving them their own Tribal name. As each Nation is different, each Healing to Wellness Court is unique and culturally accordant with the people and communities who designed it. This session will highlight this development. Conference attendees will hear stories from Wellness Court pioneers and practitioners and collectively envision what the next 25 years will bring.</p>	
9:45am – 10:00am	Break (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)	
10:00am – 11:15am	1st Breakout – Session A	

A4 - Mentor Courts	Overview of Tribal Law and Policy Institute’s Mentor Court Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alyssa Harrold, Tribal Wellness Court Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute</i> • <i>Kristina Pacheco, Tribal Wellness Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute</i> <p>Session Description: An overview on healing to wellness programs and why a peer-to-peer learning program specific for Tribal Justice systems is necessary to promote healing and advancement in Healing to Wellness Courts. The session will cover how the program began, the future of the program, and how Tribes can apply and the benefits of working with the mentor courts.</p>	Ventura
11:15am – 11:30am	Break (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)	
11:30 am – 12:45pm	2nd Breakout – Session B	
B4 - Mentor Courts	Tulalip Healing to Wellness Program: The First Program to be Recognized as Both a Tribal Law and Policy Institute Mentor Court and All Rise Mentor Court Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Peter Boome, Associate Judge, Tulalip Tribes</i> <p>Session Description: TBD</p>	Ventura
12:45pm – 2:15pm	Lunch (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)	
2:15pm – 3:30pm	3rd Breakout – Session C	
C4 - Mentor Courts	The Decolonization of Language in Your Healing to Wellness Program: A Guide to Using Language and Culture as the Foundation of Your Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alyssa Harrold, Tribal Wellness Court Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute</i> • <i>Matthew Lesky, Attorney, Court Administrator, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Court</i> <p>Session Description: This presentation will focus on how to utilize your cultural values, language, and community mission within your program. Presenters will be focusing on how to write or adapt manuals to remove the federal language and focus more on traditional values within the best practice model. Audience members will hear real examples from this approach in programming and how participants respond to removing federal language from requirements and</p>	Ventura

focusing more on traditional activities and engagement as a measurement for success.

3:30pm – 3:45pm Break (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)

3:45pm – 5:00pm 4th Breakout – Session D

D4 - Mentor Courts **Bernalillo County Metro Court Urban Native American Healing to Wellness Court: Changing Lives Through Traditional Healing** **Ventura**

- *Hon. Renee Torres, Judge, Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court*
- *Cayla Sanderson, Program Manager, Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court*
- *Arianna Chavarria, Probation Officer, Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court*
- *Vicki Johnston, Case Manager Supervisor, Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court*
- *Jered Lee, Traditional Wellness Program Coordinator, First Nations Community Healthsource*
- *Elizabeth Gerlach, Behavioral Health Treatment Provider, First Nations Community Healthsource*

Session Description: This session will provide information about how the Urban Native American Healing to Wellness Program meets the needs of a diverse Native Population in an urban setting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. An overview of the program will be provided detailing how the participant enters the program and progresses through graduation. The Healing to Wellness team will share how they utilize their role to help create a community like atmosphere for the participants. The presentation will focus on the team’s success in providing traditional healing methods that have resulted in the program’s success.

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

7:00am – 8:00am	Registration / Check-In	Ballroom Foyer
8:30am – 8:45am	Opening	Catalina / Madera/ Pasadena
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Law and Policy Institute 	
8:45am – 9:45am	Plenary	
	Safety Considerations in Celebrating 25 Years of Tribal Healing to Wellness	Catalina / Madera/ Pasadena
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tanya Grassel-Krietlow, South Dakota Network FAST Grant Manager, FAST Tribal Sexual Assault Initiative</i> • <i>Gayle Thom, Retired Federal Bureau of Investigation</i> 	
	<p>Plenary Description: As we celebrate 25 years of Healing to Wellness, what is more central to enhancing the capacity of healing and wellness than the safety of Wellness Court professionals and other service providers? Planning for victims’ and survivors’ freedom from violence is a critical component for service providers. However, the safety of adults, juveniles, family, veterans, and DUI/DWI Healing to Wellness Court professionals is also a vital part of overall safety planning. Yet personal safety can be a complex matter. Training, research, and evaluation often focus solely on the safety of victims and survivors we are privileged to serve. Without addressing personal safety of all Tribal justice professional/other service providers, are we missing the true impact of striving to build a deeper and more comprehensively resilient perspective of safety for all involved in the justice realm? Simple steps will be presented that all court and service providers can use in their everyday lives. These are not meant to be all-encompassing—simply thought-provoking to help promote conversation and understanding of what additional training might be helpful. Our goal is to provide hope and inspiration by offering these simple steps attendees can use in their everyday lives. Informal and formal research is included in the presentation regarding safety considerations; as well as information from the Sexual Assault Forensic-Medical and Advocacy Services for the Tribes initiative that is funded by the Office on Violence Against Women.</p>	
9:45am – 10:00am	Break (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)	
10:00am – 11:15am	1st Breakout – Session E	

E4 - Mentor Courts Bridging the Gap between American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans Residing in “Legal Deserts” and Legal Service Providers in Other Locations Ventura

- *Andrea Seielstad,, National American Indian Court Judges Association, Consultant; Professor of Law and Director of Clinical Programs, University of Dayton, School of Law*
- *Regina Begay-Roanhorse, National American Indian Court Judges Association, Consultant; Court Administrator, Navajo Nation Judicial Branch Judicial Districts of Alamo, To’Hajiilee, Crownpoint and Pueblo Pintado*

Session Description: American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) veterans and their families often reside in “legal deserts.” Legal deserts can be urban or rural geographical locations lacking in legal services fit to the specific needs of AI/AN veterans. Where legal services programs exist, they may be lacking in capacity for effective outreach, and few programs are situated to deliver legal services tailored to veteran-specific legal issues or culturally and trauma-informed representation that is effective for AI/AN veterans, their families, or their communities.

This session will present examples, case studies, and research about ways of connecting AI/AN veterans with appropriate legal services. The presentation will focus on “boots on the ground” means of conducting outreach and legal needs assessments, offer community legal education to veterans in the communities in which they live, and concentrate on models of legal services delivery that may utilize lawyers, law students, and veterans’ services organizations and advocates in remote and diverse locations and areas of legal expertise. Technology-enhanced methods of linking these legal services providers to veterans in rural locations will be specifically explored, along with methods of recruiting and training prospective legal providers, handling interjurisdictional and professional licensing issues, and addressing technical and administrative support needs for coordinating clinics and follow-up legal work.

Session participants will share concrete ideas and strategies toward the development and/or enhancement of effective linkages between AI/AN veterans and attorneys, law students, and veterans’ advocates who may be situated in other locations but in a position to provide information and assistance on legal issues identified as of high need to veterans.

11:15am – 11:30am Break (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)

11:30 am – 12:45pm 2nd Breakout – Session F

- F3** **BJA Feedback Session: Treatment Court Enrollment** **Mojave**
- *Carolyn Hardin, Chief of Training and Research, All Rise*
 - *Laura Hunter, Research Associate, NPC Research*
- Session Description:** All Rise and NPC Research are hosting Feedback Sessions with support from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). In this session, participants will be asked to share their perspectives on enrollment concerns and challenges, strategies for increasing enrollment, enhancing the referral and entry process, and resources that would help boost enrollment. Results will be shared in a report that will identify major concerns and challenges, potential solutions, and promising practices, as well as shape future funding and training opportunities. Participants can be practitioners from any Adult Treatment Court type and from all disciplines (e.g., judges, coordinators, prosecutors, defense counsel, community supervision, law enforcement, and treatment providers, among other roles). We ask all participants to keep the discussions confidential. Any information you provide will not be presented in a way that could be identified with you.
- F4 - Mentor Courts** **Using Anishinaabe Culture to Support Recovery Principles In Programming** **Ventura**
- *Matthew Lesky, Attorney, Court Administrator, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Court*
 - *Kevin Gassco, Male Cultural Resource Advisor, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Court*
 - *Miigwaans Smith, Female Cultural Resource Advisor, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Court*
- Session Description:** Utilizing culture as a basis of programming has become an increasingly prevalent movement among tribal healing to wellness courts. The use of culture is often discussed as the element that distinguishes tribal court programs from state court programs. How culture is incorporated and used however makes a difference on how effective it is in assisting clients in creating recovery capital. While culture has always been an element of the Waabshki-Miigwan program, how it is used and presented in programming has evolved over time. This presentation will discuss how changes in the approach to the incorporation of culture over time have led to better outcomes for clients and a growth in recovery capital outside of the program. The presentation will also discuss the importance of ensuring that the culture elements you are incorporating reflect the cultural and traditional practices of your community.

- 12:45pm – 2:15pm** Lunch (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)
- 2:15pm – 3:30pm** 3rd Breakout – Session G
- G3 - Establishing Wellness Courts** **BJA Feedback Session: BJA Grant Solicitation** **Mojave**
- *Carolyn Hardin, Chief of Training and Research, All Rise*
 - *Laura Hunter, Research Associate, NPC Research*
- Session Description:** All Rise and NPC Research are hosting Feedback Sessions with support from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). In this session, participants will be asked to share barriers to applying for grants, resources needed to help with the application process, and how the solicitation process can be improved. Results will be shared in a report that will identify strengths to continue or expand, as well as challenges and concerns to focus on for potential improvements in the process. The results may also be used to shape future training opportunities. Participants can be practitioners from any Adult Treatment Court type and from all disciplines (e.g., judges, coordinators, prosecutors, defense counsel, community supervision, law enforcement, and treatment providers, among other roles). We ask all participants to keep the discussions confidential. Any information you provide will not be presented in a way that could be identified with you.
- G4 - Mentor Courts** **Mentor Courts Roundtable** **Ventura**
- *Alyssa Harrold, Tribal Wellness Court Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute (Moderator)*
- Session Description:** A peer-to-peer learning opportunity to hear from the three founding Tribal mentor courts. Sharing their strategies for success, innovative strategies, and opportunities for growth.
- 3:30pm – 3:45pm** Break (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)
- 3:45pm – 5:00pm** 4th Breakout – Session H
- H4 - Mentor Courts** **Problem Gambling** **Ventura**
- *Sarah Sense-Wilson, Tulalip Tribes Problem Gambling Coordinator, Tulalip Behavioral Wellness Center*
- Session Description:** TBD

Thursday, September 14, 2023

8:30am – 8:45am	Opening	Catalina / Madera/ Pasadena
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks from the Tribal Law and Policy Institute 	
8:45am – 9:45am	Plenary	Catalina / Madera/ Pasadena
	<p>Celebrating 16 Years of Joint Jurisdiction Courts: “Where We Started, Where We Are, and Where We Are Going”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hon. Korey Wahwassuck, Judge, Itasca County District Court</i> • <i>Hon. Evelyn Dolchok, Chief Tribal Judge, Kenaitze Indian Tribe</i> <p>Plenary Description: Tribal, state, federal, and local courts operate in a patchwork of overlapping jurisdictions, facing common challenges and limited resources. To address these concerns, a growing number of courts have come together in a joint jurisdictional model that acknowledges each other’s autonomy, while sharing resources for better outcomes for everyone. During this plenary session, two Joint Jurisdiction Court practitioners will tell the story of how joint jurisdiction courts began, discuss their implementation and development over the years, share lessons learned, and make recommendations for other jurisdictions considering a collaborative approach to heal their own communities and improve outcomes for the people they serve.</p>	
9:45am – 10:00am	Break (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)	
10:00am – 11:15am	1st Breakout – Session I	
I4 - Mentor Courts	Mentor Court Workshop	Ventura
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alyssa Harrold, Tribal Wellness Court Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute (Moderator)</i> <p>Session Description: TBD</p>	
11:15am – 11:30am	Break (On your own. No government-provided meals or break food or beverages.)	
11:30am – 12:45pm	2nd Breakout – Session J	
J4 - Mentor Courts	Restorative Legal Approaches: What Is Justice in Your Language?	Ventura

- *Sheldon Spotted Elk, Senior Director, Judicial National Engagement, Casey Family Programs*

Session Description: Attendees will learn about approaches to restorative practices that are proximate to culture and trauma informed that are “with” families, rather than “to” families. Learn together and participate in envisioning a future of empowered families, safe children, and resilient communities.

12:45pm – 1:15pm

Closing

**Catalina / Madera/
Pasadena**