



The ANA Connection is a semiannual newsletter brought to you by the **Administration for Native Americans (ANA)**, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ANA promotes self-sufficiency for Native Americans by providing discretionary grant funding for community-based projects as well as training and technical assistance.

The ANA Connection

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ANA Awards \$4.9 Million to Preserve Native Languages

This summer, the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) announced awards for 18 grant projects, totaling nearly \$4.9 million, to help preserve Native languages in various communities throughout the United States.

Funding through the Native Language Preservation and Maintenance and the Esther Martinez Immersion programs will establish Native language curriculums, teacher certifications, youth summer programs, college internships and develop interactive online learning tools. The projects will also focus on community-driven programs that are designed to revitalize Native languages. In the first year, awardees will receive grant totals ranging from \$177,271 to \$300,000. All Esther Martinez Immersion grants are statutorily required to be three-years in duration and the Preservation and Maintenance projects are one to three years.

“This funding will help to build and sustain social unity and self-sufficiency among communities, and we are proud to partner with Native leaders and Native organizations to ensure our communities are stronger, vibrant and have the ability to safeguard their heritages and languages our ancestors have passed down to us,” said Commissioner Hovland.

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ANA Co-Hosts Annual Native Language Summit

In October, the Bureau of Indian Education, Department of Education, and the Administration for Native Americans (ANA), in partnership with the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) hosted the sixth annual Native Language Summit in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Open to the public, the objective was to distinguish approaches that bolster language within Native

communities and share promising practices.

During her welcome address, ANA Commissioner Jeannie Hovland addressed how Native language is critical to social and economic self-sufficiency and sovereignty and how learning and revitalizing Native languages is a step towards healing from historical trauma.

A presenter at this year's language summit

"We are proud to partner with Native leaders and Native organizations to ensure our communities are stronger, vibrant and have the ability to safeguard their heritages and languages our ancestors have passed down to us." - ANA Commissioner Jeannie Hovland

ANA Celebrates 45 Years of the Native Americans Programs Act

Forty-five years after Congress passed NAPA, ANA has experienced great success in helping Native Americans achieve healthier outcomes with higher standards of living through our funding, training and technical assistance, and advocacy across the federal government.

"We look forward to the next 45 years of grants, initiatives, and projects that lie ahead for all federally recognized tribes, state recognized tribes, Native American nonprofits, Native Hawaiian, and Native Pacific Islander communities." ANA Commissioner Hovland.

UN Declares 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages

Indigenous language helps to endure and foster unique cultures and traditions. In response to the continued disappearance of Native language, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL2019) to raise awareness of their immense value.

By celebrating the IYIL2019, the UN hopes to promote and protect Indigenous languages and improve the lives of those who speak them. The IYIL2019 is mobilizing stakeholders to act in five key areas:

1. *Increasing understanding, reconciliation and international cooperation*
2. *Creating favorable conditions for knowledge-sharing and dissemination of good practices.*
3. *Integrating indigenous languages into a standard setting.*
4. *Empowering through capacity building.*
5. *Elaborating new knowledge to foster growth and development.*

Join the United Nations in celebrating #IYIL2019!



čičintm tu sk^wwimlt u p̄x̄p̄x̄ot (The young meet the adults.) Salish educators teaching youth their Native language.

Spotlight on ANA Language Grantee: Salish Kootenai College

Kate Gordon, Program Specialist (contractor) for ANA

Language shapes how people see the world, create ideas, and communicate with others. It is a critical part of culture and personal identity. The Salish Language Educator Development’s (SLED) Program, which received \$294,991 for the second year of a three-year project, is revitalizing the Salish language on the Flathead Reservation in western Montana.

Before the program began, only 20 of the 8,000 tribal members were fluent Salish speakers, many of whom were elders. The SLED Program is training tribal members and descendants to speak and teach Salish, using innovative strategies to prepare a cohort of educators who will pass on the Salish language and culture to future generations. Through partnerships with the Séliš-Q̄lispé Culture Committee, Nk^wusm Salish Language School, and word of mouth, enrollment in the SLED Program has more than doubled staff’s expectations. In the first year, twenty-five candidates enrolled and will go on to earn their Class 7 Educator’s License as well as an Associate’s Degree in Education.

Joyce Silverthorne, who has been involved in Salish language efforts for years, was encouraged when SLED candidates were sharing their goals and dreams for their continued learning in the language. Former Director of Bilingual Education for the Montana Office of Public Instruction, Lynn Hinch, exclaimed she never could have imagined the levels of proficiency candidates have gained and the excitement for revitalization efforts.



ANA staff rocked their mocs on November 15 for National Rock Your Mocs Day!



ACF Tribal Advisory Committee Updates

Established as a Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) exempt advisory committee in 2013, the purpose of the ACF Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) is to strengthen relationships with federally-recognized tribes by engaging in open, continuous, and meaningful dialogue. Members of the committee are elected tribal leaders or tribal officials designated to represent tribal leadership at these meetings.

The ACF TAC does not replace tribal consultation, which has formal requirements for tribal notification and reporting. However, the ACF TAC can be helpful to shaping policy in advance of tribal consultation and to understand how potential changes in ACF program requirements may impact tribes.

There are 11 primary area representatives and two at large representatives on the ACF TAC. ACF is currently seeking nominations to fill vacancies and for members with terms expiring December 31, 2019. For more information, visit: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/initiatives-priorities/tribal>.



ACF's annual Tribal Consultation took place on Monday, September 16 at the Pechanga Resort in Temecula, California.

Remembering our Native Veterans

On Monday, November 11, we celebrated Veterans Day, a day to honor those who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Native Americans have served in the U.S. Armed Forces since the American Revolution and Native women continue to serve at one of the highest per capita rates in the country.

During both World War I and World War II, Native Code Talkers created and used unbreakable codes developed from their Native languages.

ANA's language grants carry on the

legacy of the code talkers by revitalizing Native American languages through immersion and restoration programs.

To all who have or are currently serving in the armed services, we at ANA thank you and your families for your brave and selfless service and sacrifice.



Code Talkers from WWII

Native American Affairs Updates

Michelle Sauve, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist

Commissioner Hovland testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs about the impact of ANA at a hearing regarding the [45th Anniversary of ANA](#) in February of this year and before the House Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples on the [Missing and Murdered crisis](#) on September 11, 2019.

In meeting with the White House and other agencies, Commissioner Hovland has been able to highlight ways that ANA can support Native American communities including anti-human trafficking efforts and public safety to address missing and murdered indigenous people. On the economic development front, she also is focused on partnerships to improve Native American preference in procurement and contracting. She also made a historic trip to the Pacific with a federal and congressional delegation to see firsthand the lasting legacy of ANA funding and opportunities for future support.

Tribal Leaders Engage with Federal Leadership at ACF Tribal Consultation

On September 16, more than 60 Tribal leaders, designees, and staff met with federal leadership and representatives from the Administration for Children and Families at the 2019 ACF Tribal Consultation in Temecula, CA. ACF leadership engaged with tribal leaders about issues important to their communities as well as ACF tribal program priorities. Participants shared their thoughts about primary prevention, economic mobility, human trafficking, Head Start, Child Support Enforcement, and ANA programs. ACF will be publishing a detailed report on these discussions online.

Commissioner Hovland Advocates for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

More than four in five American Indian/Alaska Native women, or 84.3 percent, have experienced violence in their lifetime, according to the National Institute of Justice. ANA Commissioner Jeannie Hovland is aware of the seriousness of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) crisis through firsthand discussions at listening sessions and visits to Native communities in the Pacific Islands and the U.S. In response, she has prioritized addressing this important issue in a holistic manner – through collaboration with national, local, and federal partners. The HHS Intradepartmental Council of Native American Affairs is providing leadership by developing a prevention plan focused on the health and human service needs of vulnerable Native women and their families.

On September 11, 2019, Commissioner Hovland testified before the House Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States to



Commissioner Hovland testifying



“We must identify, elevate, and support culturally appropriate services for the safety and well-being of Native American women, children, families, and communities impacted by violence.” ANA Commissioner Jeannie Hovland

address the MMIW crisis and the critical need for data collection. The Commissioner shared how HHS is leading efforts on primary prevention, intervention, recovery, and healing. HHS efforts include a whole family approach which connects them to services that support the physical, mental, and spiritual health and wellbeing of individuals and families.

Commissioner Hovland described how ANA funding is unique in the flexibility it provides to tailor projects to the needs of the community it is serving. Because of this, ANA funding can be used to address the MMIW crisis through projects that focus on data collection, training programs that assist in addressing critical service gaps, and/or respond to disappearances or violence. ANA also prioritizes the preservation of Native cultures and languages which is a strong protective and preventative factor. ANA’s funding opportunity announcements in the areas of Native language, social and economic development, and environmental regulatory enhancements are anticipated by February 2020.

On September 24, 2019, ANA in collaboration with the National Council of Urban Indian Health and the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators held a Moment of Silence for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women on the U.S. Capitol steps. Congressional members and supporters gathered to honor those lost and to raise awareness about this critical issue.



Moment of Silence for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women on Sept. 24

What Makes ANA Unique?

Unlike many Federal agencies, ANA serves Native Americans including both federally and state recognized tribes, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, the Pacific Islands of Guam, American Samoa and the Northern Marianas, Urban Indian Centers and non-profit Native American Organizations.

Our funding isn't formula-based or proscribed by the government; instead, communities develop their own project plans and submit them for review.

ANA at Work



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