

Native Youth and Educational Services Workgroup Resources

Overview

The Native Youth Educational Services (NYES) Workgroup coordinates efforts to gather, maintain, and update federal efforts that provide education services or benefits to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth and families. The Workgroup also serves as a resource for AI/AN families and youth, and Indian country on educational programs and resources and provides information on alcohol, drugs and substance abuse awareness, prevention and treatment available to AI/AN youth.

NYES developed three products in the past year, which we hope will serve as useful tools for AI/AN youth and their families. Each product is different, and ranges from information on grants and other funding, accreditation status of treatment centers for youth and a listing of Tribal Colleges and Universities with behavioral health majors, to increase the AI/AN workforce in these fields. Descriptions of the items and links to the products are below.

Native Youth-Related Resources

Federally-Sponsored Education and Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Education Support Programs (link to document):

- A listing of federal grants that fund prevention/education support programs to assist tribal governments and staff by streamlining the process. This listing is a quick and easy way to see the types of grants available, and can be used by tribes in preparing a Tribal Action Plan (TAP).

Educational Accreditation Status Listing of Juvenile Detention Centers (JDCs) & Treatment Centers (link to document):

- Tool to determine the accreditation status of JDCs and Treatment Centers and can be used for high school students to ensure they are earning credits while in treatment. Having available information for the JDCs and treatment centers is important for youth and families to know that the classes will be transferrable to any state since the classes are coming from an accredited school and/or an accredited online program. Knowing that their efforts are going to help them get back on track at their home school helps them to put their efforts in their classes, increases their self-confidence and motivates them to return back to school.

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) with behavioral Health Majors Listing (link to document):

- By publicizing the resource list in visible, high traffic places **students and others may be prompted to think about working on a degree or similar areas in the behavior health field.** Nowadays a lot of young people want quick information without having to look through layers

of on a website. Having a quick reference list such as our resource list will be useful for all who decide to scan it.

- The list of TCU's with behavioral health degrees or majors, the potential impact is to **provide a picture of what professional development opportunities exist in tribal communities, as well as to serve as a resource to help build local BH professionals.** Tribal leaders can use this information to build a pipeline of professionals, get additional support for current staff, or to partner with TCUs on specialized programs to serve their community needs as part of a TAP.