

## **Governor's and Tribal Leaders' Social Services Council Social Services Sub-Committee**

**Co-Chairs: Loni Greninger, Vice Chairwoman, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Steven de los Angeles, Vice Chairman, Snoqualmie Tribe  
Jilma Meneses, Secretary, Department of Social and Health Services**

**May 14, 2024, 1:00-3:00 PM**

**Attendees:** Loni Greninger, Vice Chairwoman, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe; Steven de los Angeles, Vice Chairman, Snoqualmie Tribe; Nickolaus Lewis, Councilmember, Lummi Nation; Charlene Tillequots, Councilmember, Yakama Nation; Frances Pickernell, Social Services Director, Confederated Tribe of the Chehalis; Jessica Dolge, Behavioral Health, Squaxin Island Tribe; Carrie Tellefson, Lobbyist, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe; Vicki Lowe, AIHC Executive Director; Lisa Rey Thomas, AIHC Opioid Response Consultant; Jilma Meneses, DSHS Secretary; Marirose Piciucchio, DSHS Deputy Chief of Staff; Colleen Cawston, DOC Tribal Relations Director; Candice Wilson, DOH OTPHR Director; Henry Strom, OSPI Executive Director, Office of Native Education; Lucilla Mendoza, HCA Tribal Behavioral Health Administrator; Tim Collins, DSHS OIP Senior Director; Shannel Squally-Janzen, DCYF Tribal Prevention Services Specialist; Bea Rector; DSHS ALTSA Assistant Secretary; Kia DeMiero, HCA OTA Tribal Opioid Response Coordinator; Nikki Meline, DOH Social Marketing and Public Health Campaigns Manager; Aren Sparck, HCA OTA Administrator; Mona Halcomb, OSPI Native American Student Success Program Supervisor; Christine Winn, HCA OTA Deputy; Tina Anderson, HCA OTA Medical Assistance Program Specialist; Charlene Abrahamson, HBE Tribal Liaison; Janet Gone, DSHS OIP Regional Manager; Brenda Francis-Thomas, DSHS OIP Regional Manager; Heather Hoyle, DSHS OIP Regional Manager; Leah Muasau, DSHS OIP Contracts Coordinator; Sher Stecher, DSHS OIP Tribal Relations Manager; Kathy Pierre, DOH PCH ESJ Strategist for Tribal Relations; Marco Tan, DDA Deputy Director of Strategic Planning; Brady Rosnagle, ESA Statewide Tribal Affairs Administrator; Elizabeth Greil, ALTSA Tribal Affairs; Julie Jefferson, ALTSA Tribal Initiative Program Manager; Jillian Morris, ALTSA MFP Tribal Initiative Project Manager; Tamara Gaston, ALTSA Tribal Affairs Administrator; Mary Anderson, ESA/CSD Tribal Relations Program Administrator; Lisa Pemberton, DDA Tribal Affairs Administrator; Christelle Arnett, DVR Tribal Relations Administrator; Kristin Krolkowski, ESA/DCS Tribal Relations Program Administrator; Jim Sugden, ESA DCS Tribal Relations Program Administrator; Kathy Pierre, DOH Management Analyst

### **Welcome, Blessing and Introductions**

*Steven de los Angeles, Vice Chair, Snoqualmie Tribe*

### **Opening Remarks**

*Steven de los Angeles, Vice Chairman, Snoqualmie Tribe*

*Jilma Meneses, Secretary, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)*

## **Tribal Opioid/Fentanyl and Behavioral Health Education Campaign Workgroup Overview**

*Steven de los Angeles, Vice Chair, Snoqualmie Tribe*

- A Tribal opioid/fentanyl education campaign was requested by the Tribes at the 2023 Centennial Accord. This workgroup was formed and included representation from the Tribes and multiple state agencies. We are working together, breaking down the silos.
- Following this overview, we will ask for feedback from the Tribes.

*Lucilla Mendoza, Tribal Behavioral Health Administrator, Health Care Authority (HCA)*

- The workgroup reviewed existing education campaign materials with a focus on opioid/fentanyl crisis and suicide prevention. Here are links to several of them: <https://nativeandstrong.org/> and <https://www.samishtribe.nsn.us/departments/health/native-and-strong-lifeline>.
- Each Tribe was able to access \$28,000 to get materials out to their community.
- The workgroup has discussed how to work together to get materials and toolkits to events and will track them.
- HCA and Department of Health (DOH) are partnering to visit all of the Tribes.
- 2024 Legislative initiatives to help build on the work was discussed.
- The recommendation to focus the education campaign on youth specific materials was shared.
- The youth education campaign can be built off of existing materials with the existing media vendor to expedite.
- Youth could be involved to inform the youth education campaign.
- Youth education campaign saturation could include messaging at wellness gatherings, events and venues where youth are present.
- Sher will send link to presentation and other relevant materials.

*Henry Strom, Director, Office of Native Education, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)*

- Funding from the 2024 Legislature has been received for STEC school opioid/fentanyl abuse prevention grant and will include necessary FTE's. Once developed, the curriculum can be used for tribal schools across the state.
- Mona Halcomb, OSPI Native American Student Success Program Supervisor, was introduced.
- Mona said OSPI reached out STEC schools and three have opted in for the grant. OSPI will facilitate the grant and build capacity of FTE's hired, and will report data and lessons learned to the Legislature.

*Candice Wilson, Tribal Relations Director, DOH*

- Investing in a youth opioid/fentanyl prevention and awareness education campaign will result in a healthier future.
- Nikki Meline, DOH Social Marketing and Public Health Campaigns Manager, was introduced.
- The DOH social marketing campaign for adults and a youth track will be accelerating in the coming months, as staff are hired to assist.

- Materials at schools will help with statewide campaign messaging.
- Some Tribes have requested items containing campaign information, and there is support for customization.
- DOH had a media and Native and Strong Suicide Prevention Campaign buy.
- The [Tribal Wellness and Resiliency Gathering](#) event at the end of May was shared.

*Tim Collins, Senior Director, Office of Indian Policy, DSHS*

- A questionnaire is being developed to send to the Tribes, to gain understanding and assess opioid/fentanyl education efforts occurring in communities.
- It is expected the education campaign will continue for some time, and the effort will need more resources.
- Ahead of the 2024 Centennial Accord, there is need to receive lived experience testimony from Tribes, and may culminate in a panel discussion to gather information through Tribal leaders from youth.
- Several venues to gather testimony could be utilized; pre-meetings at the Centennial Accord, GTLSSC, GIHAC.
- Tribal leaders, directors, and program staff are all welcome to attend the workgroups which will occur on the first Thursday of each month, from 1:00-2:30 PM.

## **Discussion/Next Steps**

### *Tribal Partners*

- For the youth opioid/fentanyl education materials, it was suggested to distribute campaign swag containing messaging, such as stickers, keychains, pens/pencils, button pins, water bottles, lanyards, sunglasses, fidgets and T-shirts where youth become ambassadors of healthy messages.
- Events can be created for youth such as “fun runs” where T-shirts are distributed.
- A campaign team could attend the Youth Canoe Journey and include a board where youth can put their suggestions for a youth education campaign on to help us learn from them.
- A youth could be hired or contracted to run a TikTok challenge.
- It was noted that a representative from the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe serves on the National UNITY Council Executive Committee.

Vice Chair Greninger asked if we have arrived at the point in the campaign process of discussing the practical next steps on how the campaign will be deployed in the schools?

OSPI Director Strom responded delivery mode will be thru FTEs in residence at the school community, during the day and after school programs, community events, and events at the schools.

HCA Administrator Mendoza said first steps are to obtain approval to focus on a youth campaign and continue to work with Tribal leaders, representatives and agencies on the workgroup to develop the campaign and materials, and work with OSPI to distribute. She encouraged all to attend the meetings, and said those who prefer to participate as an email reviewer can receive materials. Compensation can be built in for that and expand on a youth workgroup. The agenda of the next workgroup meeting will include building off existing campaigns, vendor, and timeline.

**\*Participants agreed the workgroup should concentrate efforts on standing up a youth opioid/fentanyl education campaign, and build it off of an existing campaign.**

### **Spouses as Paid Caregivers**

*Bea Rector, Assistant Secretary, DSHS Aging and Long Term Support Administration (ALTSA)  
Tamara Gaston, Tribal Liaison, DSHS ALTSA*

- Spouses as Paid Caregivers Workgroup was created following a listening session on HB 1694 with Tribes
- Tribes shared lived experiences at the workgroup.
- ALTSA is moving forward with agency request legislation and a budget decision package request for funding, to submit for consideration.
- The decision package request will be for a 1915c waiver to allow spouses to become paid providers.
- The decision package request will ask for 500 families to be supported and phased in over a period of time, and is scalable by the Legislature.
- The cost, if fully implemented, will be about \$56 million over the biennium.
- A slight change to statutes will be needed to recognize spouses for training and certification purposes.
- If folks are interested in materials shared with the workgroup, please reach out to Tamara Gaston, at [Tamara.Gaston@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Tamara.Gaston@dshs.wa.gov).

DSHS Secretary Meneses expressed her support and asked Tribes to also partner with DSHS on Benefit Cliff legislation that is currently being drafted by the DSHS Poverty Reduction Team and the Economic Services Administration.

### **Meeting Recap and Adjourn**

*Loni Greninger, Vice Chair, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe*