

SYNOPSIS

Administration for Children and Families

Grants for Coordination of Tribal TANF and Child Welfare Services to Tribal Families at Risk of Child Abuse or Neglect

Due Date: July 16, 2020

Total Funding Available: \$1.8 million

Number of Awards: 8

Average Amount: \$225,000 per budget period

Award Floor: \$225,000 per budget period

Award Ceiling: \$225,000 per budget period

Cost Sharing: No

Start Date: June 10, 2020

Project Length: 60 mos.

Cost Sharing: None

Eligible Grantees: Indian tribes and Alaska Native regional non-profits that administer a Tribal TANF program on the date of publication of the FOA; and Consortia of two or more Indian tribes that administers a Tribal TANF program on behalf of, and at the direction of, these tribes on the date of publication of the FOA.

Format: Double Spaced, Times New Roman

Page Limitation: 40 pages excluding required forms, assurances and certifications, budget and budget justification and appendices.

Submission Contents:

- Table of Contents
- Project Summary/Abstract (one page)
- Objectives and Need for Assistance
- Expected Outcomes
- Approach
- Timeline and Narrative
- Logic Model
- Program Performance and Evaluation Plan
- Organizational Capacity
- Dissemination Plan
- Protection of Sensitive and/or Confidential Information
- Project Sustainability Plan
- Line Item Budget and Budget Justification

Appendices:

- Staff Position Information (e.g., resumes of key staff, job descriptions, organizational chart)
- List of Board Directors or other governing body members (as applicable)
- Financial Statements (as applicable)
- Third-Party Agreements/MOUs (as applicable)

- Letters of Support

Submission Instructions: File **One:** Must contain the entire Project Description, and the Budget and Budget Justification (including a line-item budget and a budget narrative). **File Two:** Must contain all documents required in the Appendices

Requires Forms, Assurances and Certifications:

- SF 424
- Certification Regarding Lobbying
- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
- SF 424 Key Contact Form
- SF 424 A – Budget Information
- SF 424B – Assurances of Non-Construction Programs

Purpose: To fund demonstration projects designed to test the effectiveness of tribal governments or tribal consortia in coordinating the provision to tribal families at risk of child abuse and neglect of child welfare services and services under tribal programs funded under this part. ACF is particularly interested in projects leading to system changes so that improvements to the coordination of tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and child welfare programs are sustained beyond the project period, including learning how resources may be used for activities that are aimed at systems changes and strengthening the collaboration of Tribal TANF and child welfare programs. For example, Tribal TANF/Child Welfare (TTCW) grantees may be encouraged to engage in activities such as revising intake and assessment procedures, developing informed consent documents that will allow for staff to share information across program lines, providing cross-training for TANF and child welfare staff, developing joint case management procedures, and developing information technology systems to enhance coordination.

This grant will encourage improving outcomes by strengthening the coordination of existing services rather than on introducing new services that supplement the existing services. Since there is an emphasis on testing effectiveness this grant will create a small learning community that will have the opportunity to learn from one another and share the lessons they are learning with the broader TANF, child welfare and other human services communities.

Examples of Activities ACF is interested in funding:

- 1. To improve case management for families eligible for assistance from a Tribal TANF program.** Case management could be improved in a few ways by coordinating across TANF and child welfare programs. For example, a tribe may need to update standard operating procedures to reflect how referrals are made between programs. A tribe may need to develop procedures for how to do joint case management when a family is served by both TANF and child welfare programs. Changes in how services are delivered may be needed if

there are redundancies between the TANF and child welfare systems that need to be eliminated. TANF and child welfare staff may need to be cross-trained so that there is a better understanding of how the programs operate.

- 2. To provide supportive services and assistance to tribal children in out-of-home placements and the tribal families caring for such children, including families who adopt such children.** Coordination may be required for supportive services. For example, a tribe may look for supportive services provided by programs beyond TANF or the child welfare system, in which case a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) may need to be established to formalize the connection and outline the roles and responsibilities of the various partners. Potential partners may include home visiting programs, child care programs or programs providing employment-related activities and services. As another example, a tribe may undertake a human-centered design process to identify barriers, pain points, and bottlenecks that program participants experience when they try to access services offered by multiple programs.
- 3. To provide prevention services and assistance to tribal families at risk of child abuse and neglect.** Coordination may be needed to improve prevention services and assistance. For example, a tribe may want to develop a tool to gauge a child's immediate safety and risk of future maltreatment. A research to practice brief that provides background on safety and risk assessments, the importance of cultural appropriateness, and examples of tribal adaptations is available at: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/resource/child-safety-and-risk-assessments-in-american-indian-and-alaska-native-communities-research-to-practice-brief>. As another example, a tribe may want to redesign their intake forms to develop a single-point-of-entry form so that a family that is accessing both TANF and child welfare services only has to complete one form, which streamlines the process and enables the family to access services more quickly, and increases the likelihood of maintaining stability.
- 4. Improving internal processes, data, and interoperability to strengthen coordination of the TANF and child welfare programs.** In addition to the examples given above, tribes may initiate efforts to strengthen the coordination of TANF and child welfare programs in other ways. For example, a tribe may improve mechanisms for data sharing. Doing so may require legal consultation to make sure that informed consent documents and data sharing agreements adequately protect personal information and the individuals being served. Tribes or consortia intending to propose other ways to strengthen coordination should show in their application how their proposed steps will serve the three purposes listed in the statute and in this section of the FOA. Doing so may also require enhancing information technology resources, such as hiring additional staff or investing in infrastructure to improve data systems.

Successful applicants will be those who engage in partnerships with Tribal TANF and child welfare agencies in order to achieve one of the three purposes outlined in the statute.

This grant must be used for one or more of the following statutorily prescribed uses:

1. To improve case management for families eligible for assistance from a Tribal TANF program;
2. For supportive services and assistance to tribal children in out-of-home placements and tribal families caring for such children, including families who adopt such children; and
3. For prevention services and assistance to tribal families at risk of child abuse and neglect.

Project Description:

1. Project Summary: Single Spaced, brief description of the proposed grant project including the needs to be addressed, the proposed services and the population to be served. Place the following at the top of the project summary:
 - Project Title
 - Applicant Name
 - Address
 - Contact Phone Numbers (Voice, Fax, Cell)
 - Email Address
 - Website Address, if applicable
2. Need for Assistance
3. Approach
4. Collaboration Assessment
5. Organizational Capacity
6. Plan for Oversight of Federal Funds and Activities
7. Program Performance Evaluation Plan
8. Evaluation
9. Logic Model
10. Theory of Change and Logic Models
11. Protection of Sensitive and/or Confidential Information
12. Third Party Agreements

Project Budget and Budget Justification

Review

1. Need for Assistance: 25 points
2. Approach: 30 points
3. Program Performance Evaluation Plan: 20 points
4. Organizational Capacity: 15 points
5. Project Budget and Budget Justification: 10 points