

Mendocino/Sonoma County Collaborative Prevention Plan

COLLABORATIVE AGENCIES

Indian Child and Family Preservation Program

C o u n t y P h i l o s o p h y f o r P r e v e n t i n g C h i l d A b u s e a n d N e g l e c t

The ICWA Roundtable will work with tribal families to build relationships, work through issues, build character in participants by supporting positive resolution processes, learn to negotiate and settle issues outside of court, create training materials and tools such as handbooks/protocols/manuals/training materials/ in order to serve the community through collaboration model.

Vision

ICWA Roundtables create hope for positive changes in perspectives and practices of child welfare work, supporting individual and community well-being and creates opportunities for building a better community. We are dedicated to our entire community and in helping people help themselves believe they are essential to keeping their Tribes vibrant healthy communities to live in.

O v e r c o m i n g O b s t a c l e s a n d M e e t i n g C h a l l e n g e s

Obstacles	Approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for compliance with applicable laws pertaining to child welfare and probation systems • Need to address non-effective systemic issues • Need to create positive changes for families and children's welfare • Need to represent family/children/Tribes more adequately • Need to reduce child maltreatment (numbers) • Need to reduce disproportionality of native children in CWS in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties • Need to develop and train service providers/courts/social workers/probation/educators/law enforcement/tribal community members/medical and mandated reporters on ICWA compliance 	<p>The Roundtable Forums are tribally-run meetings focusing on full compliance of Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA 25 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.) addressing at-risk and detained Indian children's cases in Mendocino and Sonoma Counties. A monthly agenda and minutes are recorded and distributed to a list serve participants. Compliance priorities are addressed. An ICWA Protocol was created by participants of the Roundtable to assist county social workers in the delivery and compliance of ICWA cases and at-risk Indian families. The Protocols are reviewed bi-annually by the participants. The Protocols are currently being used as model handbooks throughout California. The Protocols also have been presented at Tribal, State, and National levels as a tool for achieving the "Active Efforts" requirements helping to ensure true compliance of the ICWA.</p>

T e a m O b j e c t i v e s

Our ICWA Roundtable Teams will cohesively meet to address the challenges of serving children, families, and Tribe more effectively in our communities.

A c t i o n P l a n

Tasks	Agreements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set dates to meet; update community on goals (current issues) • Identify collaborating team members from many sources • Assess and create goals/dates to accomplish priorities in each Roundtable forum • Designate roles of key members w/ assigned tasks to accomplish <p>Create expectations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) How to evaluate effectiveness of work products and how the community was impacted? B) Review existing or create new: Protocols, Manuals, Job Descriptions, Processes, CERTS, Task Forces, Other models for resolution C) Participants shall identify and apply for grants related to collaboration proposals related to ICWA compliance in Mendocino and Sonoma Counties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roundtable members agree to meet regularly at designated times/places • Agree to appoint note keeper and meeting facilitator/rotate locations • Agree to provide lunch or snacks for participants on tight schedules' • Agree to keep meetings public and transparent • Agree not to divulge confidential client information • Agree to work towards solutions and support for all Indian children, families, and Tribal governments • Agree to be open and receptive to many different beliefs regarding all cultures, norms, attitudes, values, and personal beliefs • Establish timelines for identifying financial resources for Roundtable service delivery priorities as needed

