

Updates on Funding for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Tribal Initiative

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Indian Policy Early Learning (IPEL) Meeting
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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Introduction



Welcome Megan Tady!



Tribal IECMHC workgroup reconvened on January 18



Focused on review of funding options for tribal proviso for FY24



Proviso Language

\$260,000 of the general fund –state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 is provided solely for the department to implement an infant and early childhood mental health consultation initiative to support tribal child care and early learning programs. Funding may be used to provide culturally congruent infant and early childhood mental health supports for tribal child care, tribal early childhood education and assistance program, and tribal head start providers. The department must consult with federally recognized tribes which may include round tables through the Indian policy early learning committee.



Lessons Learned & Looking Forward

- Direct funding helpful, but it didn't meet the intent of the tribal proviso language.
- Barriers to direct funding.
- Focus on building statewide systems.



Funding Option One:

Contract with a Tribal health organization or Tribal IECMHC specialist consultant to lead systems-building work

Pros

- One contract
- Allows experts to lead the work
- Advisory group can build out deliverables they want to see
- Allows for a specific system of IECMH-C to meet the culturally specific needs of Tribal communities

Cons

- Timeline for meaningful deliverables may be short



Tribal IECMHC Consultant Sample Proposal

Lead Foundational Systems Building:

- Visit tribes and tribal programs across the state to learn more about how they currently support early childhood mental health.
- Develop a region-by-region landscape analysis.
- Host an in-person advisory group convening in the spring to review information and co-develop recommendations.
- Develop a report to provide recommendations for next steps for Tribal IECMHC in WA.

Funding Option Two:

Contract with mental health organization to lead training cohort

Pros

- One contract
- Opportunity to build on existing systems
- Opportunity for tribal programs to 'grow their own'
- Could offer a training award to participants and pay for their training

Cons

- Short timeline
- Potential recruitment challenges
- Would not be endorsed IECMH consultants



Discussion

What do you think about Funding Option One: Contract with a Tribal health organization or Tribal IECMHC specialist consultant to lead systems-building work?

What do you think about Funding Option Two: Contract with mental health organization to lead training cohort?

Do you have other ideas about how best to use this Tribal Proviso funding?

Thank you!
And please join our IECMHC advisory group!

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