



**2nd Annual Virtual
Indigenous Children,
Youth & Families (ICYF)
Conference**

“Together Towards Tomorrow”

*Meet our
Leaders & Presenters*



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



Tleena Ives

Director of Office of Tribal Relations

Tleena carries the ancestral names of Kwewatanat and Ha?ha?Mu and is an enrolled member of the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe. She worked for her people as the Together for Children Project Manager and now serves many tribes in Washington State as the Tribal Liaison for the Department of Early Learning. She has diverse work experience, serving in education, health, fitness and cultural instruction. She has also spent time working within her tribe in the fields of curriculum development, tribal law, social work and parent advocacy. Tleena is the author of ta?tawəsna?, “Star” a S’Klallam children’s book expressing the wishes and dreams for our children through an environmental health perspective. In her spare time, she trains for Ironman Triathlons, works part-time for the Seahawks, and finds joy in witnessing her four children grow into the dreamers and leaders of her tribe’s future. Tleena Ives earned her bachelor’s degree in Indigenous Education from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA. She is also a recipient of the 2016 “Woman of Achievement” award from the YWCA Kitsap County.



Loni Grinnell-Greninger

Vice Chairwoman of Tribal Council/ Deputy Director of Social & Community Services at Jamestown

Loni Grinnell-Greninger (yúčci?ə - “yooch-see-uh”) is a citizen of the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe. She currently serves her people as the Vice Chairwoman of Tribal Council, as well as Deputy Director of Social & Community Services at Jamestown. Her partnership experience with Washington State includes:

- Employment with the Washington State Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS) as a Regional Manager and Tribal Liaison, 2013 to 2017;
- Current Chair of the WA DSHS Indian Policy Advisory Committee;
- Current Board Member on the Washington Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) Governor’s Oversight Board;
- Current Co-Chair of the Washington DCYF Tribal Policy Advisory Committee; and
- Multiple subcommittees and special project workgroups (from 2013 to current) to improve services to Indian Families in Washington State.





Christina Coad, JD

Executive Director

Christina is an Indigenous woman of Oneida and European descent. She has a J.D. from Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law's Indian Legal Program. Christina did her undergraduate studies at San Francisco State University where she specialized in Sociology, Social Psychology, and American Indian Studies. She is a lawyer licensed to practice in Washington State where she is a member of the Indian Law Section.

Christina has 20 years of experience in the delivery of social services and advocacy for children and their families in both Canada and the United States and has many years of executive leadership experience in Indigenous child welfare. Christina has been an independent consultant since 2005 where she provides training and curriculum development in child welfare, violence against women, and the Indigenization of Justice and Public Safety among others. Christina received the Bonnie Heavy Runner Victim Advocacy Award for her work in service of Indigenous victims of crime in 2016.

In addition to having professional experience supporting families, she is a former foster parent and the adoptive parent of two teenage girls from care. Christina is also the mother of a Marvel super-fan and the step-mother to two adult children living in California. Christina enjoys NFL football, traveling and camping with her family.



Debra Lekanoff

Representative

Representative Debra Lekanoff represents the 40th legislative district of Washington state, which includes parts of Whatcom, Skagit and San Juan counties. She is a proud mom who fights every day to ensure younger generations, including her daughter Emma, can continue to flourish. She is inclusive in her decision making process by listening to stakeholders, citizens and governmental bodies. She is known for her experience and capacity to work with vast parties, and on vast issues, and get the job done. Sworn in to the Washington State House of Representatives in January 2019, Representative Lekanoff is the only Native American woman to currently serve in the Legislature. She has called the Skagit Valley home for almost 20 years. In addition to serving in the Legislature, Representative Lekanoff served as Governmental Affairs Director for the Swinomish Tribe. She has over 20 years of government relations experience, she engages on a variety of issues at the international, federal, tribal, state, and local levels.

Representative Lekanoff's background and experience provide valuable knowledge and perspectives that allow her to lead on a wide range of policy issues, including but not limited to, environment, natural resources, climate change, education, housing, and agriculture. To learn more about Rep. Lekanoff's work in each of these areas, please visit her issues page.

Representative Lekanoff is Vice Chair of the House State Government & Tribal Relations Committee. She also sits on the Appropriations Committee and the Rural Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee.

Representative Lekanoff is proud to be your representative for the 40th legislative district and will continue to fight hard to best represent you. To learn more and follow her work in district and Olympia, please sign up for her [Fantastic Friday e-newsletter](#).



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Ross Hunter

Secretary of the Department of Children, Youth and Families

Ross Hunter was announced as the new Secretary of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families by Governor Jay Inslee on July 6, 2017, and his official appointment began August 1, 2017. Prior to that, Ross served as the Director of the Department of Early learning since September 2015. Ross' focus is on improving outcomes for all children, and especially on eliminating race and family income as predictors of progress and success for young learners. He is passionate about investing upstream in proven prevention strategies, using strong data and outcomes analysis to administer these programs, and supporting a strong workforce of caregivers and professionals to deliver the services that ensure fewer children experience trauma and more families can build resilience and succeed together. Ross served as State Representative from the 48th District of Washington (the greater Eastside) from 2003-2015. During that time he chaired the Appropriations committee from 2010 through 2015 and was responsible for negotiating the three biennial state budgets. Throughout his tenure he focused on improving education opportunities and outcomes for all Washington Children. Through his work as Appropriations chair, Ross was instrumental in the passage of the Early Start Act in 2015, funding the Foster Care to Age 21 expansion, and led the effort to redefine basic education funding. Ross served on the Washington Learns K-12 Advisory Committee and the Joint Task Force on Basic Education Finance. He used his business experience when he chaired several other committees, including the Finance committee (responsible for tax policy), the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee, and the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council. Ross began his career at a small software company on the Eastside that expanded beyond all expectations. He was at Microsoft for 17 years and holds several patents for database and user interface design. Ross earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science from Yale University in 1983. His wife Tricie is the CFO of a Montessori preschool, and he has two grown children.



Frank Ordway

Chief of Staff

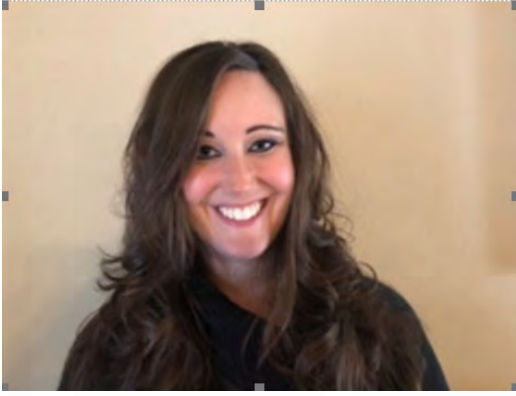
Frank Ordway has served as the Assistant Director of Government and Community Relations for the Department of Early Learning (DEL) since the fall of 2015. Prior to this appointment he was the Director of Government Relations for the League of Education Voters. He has been part of major reforms of both policy and financing of early learning, K12 and student aid programs in higher education. Frank has worked in the non-profit sector for the bulk of his professional career, providing strategic planning, negotiation, technology planning, and community outreach and policy development for a wide variety of initiatives at the local, regional, state and national level. He has also worked internationally on public health issues in particular in response to the HIV epidemic.

One of Frank's top career goals is to create sustainable institutions that are both entrepreneurial and have positive, wide ranging community impact.

Frank earned a Masters in Public Affairs, Political Science and Women's Studies from the University of Washington in 2006.



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Rene Newkirk

Chief Financial Officer

Rene Newkirk has 22 years of experience in Washington State service. She has extensive experience in Finance including; accounting, budget, cost allocation, and grants management. At the beginning of her career she worked for the State Auditor's Office as an Assistant State Auditor. She later joined DSHS, Children's Administration in 2006 and ultimately served as the Office Chief overseeing budget, cost allocation, and contracts. In 2016 she was offered an opportunity to expand her knowledge base and went to work for the Health Care Authority as the Controller overseeing accounting, budget, cost allocation, and grants management. Rene joined the Department of Children, Youth and Families in December of 2019 as the Budget Director and is currently serving as the Interim Chief Financial Officer. Rene earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting and Business Administration with a concentration in Finance from Saint Martin's College.



Vickie Ybarra

Director of Innovation, Alignment & Accountability

Vickie Ybarra comes to DCYF from the Washington Department of Early Learning, where she served as the Director of Research and Analysis since early 2016. In that position she built a team that produced analyses and applied research that supported DEL's goal of ensuring children are ready for success in school. Vickie began her career as a home visiting nurse working with immigrant families in Central Washington. She worked directly with families and built home visiting and healthcare programs in the Yakima Valley for over two decades. Over her career she has led the implementation and evaluation of numerous family support programs for low-income and marginalized families. Additionally, she has served in policy leadership positions to improve equity in outcomes for children including serving as an elected school board member in Yakima, and chairing a gubernatorial council to eliminate health disparities in the 2000s.

Dr. Ybarra holds degrees in Nursing and Public Health from the University of Washington, and in Political Science/Public Policy from the University of New Mexico where she was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation scholar. She is a quantitative scholar who has published research related to public policy and child/family health and wellbeing. She holds appointments as adjunct faculty at the UW School of Public Health and as a senior fellow at the RWJF Center for Health Policy at UNM.



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Felice Upton

Assistant Secretary of Juvenile Rehabilitation

Felice brings more than 20 years of leadership experience and implementation of trauma-informed care to her role at DCYF. Prior to her appointment as Assistant Secretary of Juvenile Rehabilitation, Felice was superintendent of Echo Glen Children's Center. She also brings experience from the Department of Corrections, where she served various roles over 15 years, from Community Corrections Officer to Associate Superintendent of Programs for the Washington

Corrections Center for Women. Felice is firmly committed to disrupting pathways to eventual adult incarceration and believes in service-oriented leadership and fostering a positive and supportive work environment. She currently serves on the Seattle University Department of Criminal Justice Advisory Board, is the board vice-chair for the University of Washington School of Social Work and Criminal Justice, and is an alum of Just Lead Washington. Felice is also a University of Washington grad, Husky fan, and proud mom.



Judy King

Director of Family Supports Program

Judy King - Director of Family Supports Program has over 30 years of experience in government, non-profit and consulting work supporting strong families and thriving communities. She has supported building child and family health and well-being through national, state and local initiatives with an emphasis on strengthening protective factors, reducing risk and building capacity in her work with young children, parents, teens, adults and

professionals.

In her most recent role as the Strengthening Families Administrator at the Washington State Department of Early Learning she administered an array of child maltreatment prevention programs including: evidence-based and evidence-informed home visiting services; community-based child abuse prevention services and supports; the Children's Trust Fund and the Prevent Child Abuse America State Chapter. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the National Alliance for Children's Trust and Prevention Funds. As a seasoned administrator she has secured and managed multiple grants and led cross sector work traversing governance, innovative financing, professional development, effective program implementation, and data/evaluation.

Prior to joining state government Judy provided direct services in schools, community mental health and family support programs. Her greatest joys have been working closely with teams and partners to build trust, engage in deep learning to achieve the extraordinary. If you ask her how we make things better for families she replies, "Invite 'em to the table." She enjoys working with families to tailor supports and services to meet their needs, nurturing parent leadership development, and celebrating successes so that hope and possibility are in the forefront of this difficult work.

Judy earned a Bachelor's of Arts from Hamline University and a Masters of Social Work from the University of Washington. She is the proud parent of two fabulous adult children and two unconditionally loved dogs. In her free time Judy is traveling, gardening, playing music or enjoying the beautiful PNW with family and friends.



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Kelli Bohanon

Director of Early Learning Programs

Kelli Bohanon, Director of Early Learning Programs brings more than 20 years of experience in the early learning world to her current role. During two tenures at the Department of Early Learning, Kelli served as the Administrator for DEL's Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program. Her responsibilities included providing visionary leadership, direction and administrative oversight to ECEAP, including planning and implementation of ECEAP's expansion efforts.

She also served as the Assistant Director for Partnerships and Collaboration, providing leadership and oversight to ECEAP, the Head Start State Collaboration Office, Home Visiting, Early Support for Infants and Toddlers program, DEL's Infant/Toddler Regions, Medicaid Treatment Child Care program, Strengthening Families WA initiative and Early Learning Advisory Council. Outside her work at DEL, Kelli served as Assistant Director for the Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting Technical Assistance Center at ZERO TO THREE. Before that, she served as Deputy Director of Child Care Aware of WA, the entity responsible for implementation of the state's Quality Rating and Improvement System, Early Achievers. She also spent nearly a decade working for the Enterprise for Progress in the Community Head Start/Early Head Start/Migrant Seasonal Head Start/ECEAP program in Yakima, where she began as a teacher for infants, toddlers and preschoolers with disabilities in a partnership between EPIC and the Yakima School District.

Kelli earned a bachelor's in health education from Oklahoma State University and a master's in education administration from Central Washington University. She has also served as an adjunct faculty member for the University of Washington's College of Education, Department of Early Childhood and Family Studies.



Luba Bezbordnikova

Assistant Secretary Licensing

Luba Bezbordnikova is leading the DCYF Licensing Division focusing on foster care, child care, and licensing CPS. Luba transitioned to DCYF from the Department of Early Learning (DEL), where she has served as the Assistant Director for the Early Start Act providing an oversight of childcare licensing services, including the licensing standards alignment process, and coordinating the Early Start Act implementation efforts.

Prior to joining DEL, Luba was the Associate Superintendent for Early Learning at the Puget Sound Education Service District. In this role, she provided comprehensive vision, leadership and direction for the development and implementation of prenatal-to-3rd grade services to culturally and linguistically diverse children and families in King and Pierce counties.

Luba has extensive knowledge and experience working with federal, state, regional and local social and educational systems. She is committed to equitable services that ensure high-quality care for all children, families, and communities in our state. Luba is a well-known advocate for data-informed policies, collective impact collaborations, and cross-sector partnerships.

Luba holds degrees in inclusive early learning education from the College of Mount St. Joseph (Ohio) and educational psychology from Moscow Pedagogical University (Russia).



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Jody Becker

Deputy Secretary

Jody Becker, MSW, Ph.D., has over 25 years of experience in both the public and non-profit sectors. She has served as an executive leader, public administrator, researcher, legislative liaison and social worker at local, state and national levels. She has spent part of her career living and working in Indian Country, focused on issues related to racial disproportionality, historical trauma, national Indian child welfare policy, juvenile justice, behavioral health and government-to-government relationships. In each of these roles, she has remained steadfast to her purpose to instill hope and promote humanity where it is often times needed the most.

Jody is curious and innovative by nature. Throughout her career she has been an agent of change by creating opportunities to identify and break down barriers, build systemic approaches to service delivery, utilize analytics to inform policy, practice and budgetary decision-making and inspire others to push the boundaries of what is possible. While at the Department of Social and Health Services, she led efforts to expand the use of integrated data to enhance the service integration for multi-system involved children and families. As chair of the Family Policy Council, she was a champion for expanding the knowledge of adverse childhood experiences and the impacts of toxic stress on brain development and promoting cross-systems engagement to improve outcomes for vulnerable children, families and communities in Washington State. She is an authentic, transparent, and respectful leader with demonstrated ability to communicate effectively, to establish rapport and trust, and to serve vulnerable populations with compassion and humanity. Through collaborative processes, she brings people and ideas together as a collective force to make a positive difference in the lives of others. She has an advanced level of expertise to successfully plan, partner, communicate and implement performance management strategies aligned across multiple venues and within complex organizations. As an executive leader, she is committed to long-range program and infrastructure development using a systems approach while also being attentive to the short-term tactical strategies needed to develop, implement, and sustain efforts using change management principles and strategies. Jody earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work from the College of St. Scholastica, a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Utah and a Ph.D. in Social Work and Applied Research from Portland State University. She received the Governor's Award for Leadership and Management in 2015.



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Steve Grilli

Director of Child Welfare Programs

Steven Grilli; Director of Child Welfare Programs. Steven moved from Philadelphia and joined the DCYF team several years ago. He has worked in mental health and child welfare in large urban settings for more than 20 years. Throughout his career, Steven has sought to enhance service experiences and offerings for children and families, believing firmly that supporting healthy child development and strengthening families can improve chances for success in life and prevent the need for formal involvement with the child welfare system.

Steven led the startup and operation of one of Philadelphia's Community Umbrella Agencies as part of the city's effort to transform child welfare service delivery. He navigated the agency through initial periods of system instability to strong outcomes. Steve places emphasis in his work on organizational culture and leadership, motivating and developing staff, engaging in quality assurance processes and use of data, cultivating community partnerships, and using evidence-informed and evidence-based interventions. Steven has a strong interest in trauma and has worked and presented with colleagues from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. When asked about his life's chief joys, Steven readily identifies his experience as a foster and adoptive parent of teens. He is tirelessly committed to his four now-adult sons. Steven earned his Bachelor of Arts from Dartmouth College and a Master of Science in social work from Columbia University.



Kwesi Booker

Assistant Secretary of Child Welfare Field Operations

Kwesi comes to us with more than 20 years of experience working in child welfare. Most recently, he served as the county director for the State of Georgia. Kwesi brings to Washington his knowledge of working with medically fragile children, foster children and youth. He also became a leading champion for kinship care at A Second Chance Inc. in Pennsylvania. His other experience includes working with medically fragile children in foster care at Community Connections in Stone Mountain, Georgia, 13 years at the New York City Administration for Children Services and as a group home case manager in New York City. Kwesi has a Bachelor of Arts and Master's in Public Administration from John Jay College of Criminal Justice.



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Jess Lewis

Director of Adolescent Programs

Jess Lewis (they/them) joined DCYF in July 2019 as the Director of Adolescent Programs – the first fully integrated division within DCYF to develop a service array for youth and young adults, regardless of where they engage our systems.

Before joining DCYF, Jess spent the majority of their career in direct services working for private nonprofits serving youth and young adults.

They also spent more than nine years at the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction building initiatives to improve the statewide implementation of several programs, including Homeless Education, Foster Care Education, Equity and Civil Rights and K-12 Discipline.

Jess is passionate about education, employment, housing, adolescent health and well-being, systems access and equity in Washington State – particularly for youth and young adults of color and/or youth who identify as LGBTQ+. Jess brings a strong commitment to innovation in support of healthy youth development.



Taku Mineshita

Assistant Director of Adolescent Programs

Taku Mineshita, has over 20 years of experience in the behavioral health and child welfare arenas.

Taku began his work in Washington State at Seattle Children's Home, a Children's Long-Term Inpatient Program (CLIP) facility. He held a variety of positions there over nearly a decade, finally as a residential program manager responsible for its residential treatment program operation.

Taku began his work with DCYF in 2009 in an adolescent specialized unit in the Office of Indian Child Welfare in West Seattle where he went on to serve as a supervisor. He then spent 7 years at the Division of Child Welfare Programs in Olympia developing integrated systems of care and implementing statewide initiatives to improve child welfare programs, including working with Health Care Authority on the State's transition to integrated physical and behavioral health care, implementation of Wrap-around with Intensive Service, working on a legislative assignment to produce a report on DCYF Continuum of Care, managing child welfare service array and in-home services. He demonstrated respectful, transparent, and inclusive leadership throughout his work.

Outside of his work at DCYF, Taku's commitment to child welfare system improvement and youth advocacy movement at a global level led him to co-found International Foster Care Alliance in 2012 and served as board president.

Taku holds a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Washington, and a bachelor's Degree in Psychology.



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Jason Wettstein

Director of Communications

Jason Wettstein is the new Director of Communications for DCYF. Jason's career in Washington includes public relations positions with The Evergreen State College and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, where he worked with colleagues to close opportunity gaps, advance education, get kids outside and promote enjoyment of nature.

Before that, Jason's career included work to conserve nature in Alaska, and as an advocate with international organizations with missions to advance social justice, education, and hunger relief.

In his spare time, Jason enjoys kayaking with his wife, Chris, a community college professor with a focus on early childhood. He also enjoys hiking with his kids and rescue dog, painting nature scenes, and trying out new Instant Pot recipes.

Jason holds a Bachelors in English and Mass Communications from Saint Cloud State University, a Master's in Foreign Service from Georgetown University, and a Master's in Public Administration from The Evergreen State College.



Nick Baumgartner

Engaging and empowering youth in their search for permanency Northwest Resources

When it comes to finding permanency for youth in foster care, it's on us to ensure youth are included in that process. More than that, youth deserve an active, ongoing role in those efforts. The search for a permanent family is an opportunity to engage and empower youth. At Northwest Adoption Exchange, we created In-Depth Profiles to ensure youth voices are front and center at every step of the process. Hear about

how youth are changing the way we search for permanency in our state and be inspired by the creative, authentic stories they're choosing to share.

Michelle Pugh

Registered Yoga Teacher

With over 30 years of athletics, ballet and dedicated yoga training, her classes blend creativity, strength, balance, flexibility and flow blooming straight from the heart. Michelle is a traveling Yogini born and raised in the Pacific Northwest. With one foot in the mountains and one foot on the shore, she extends her love of health and wellness both in person and virtually with the well being of her clients and community on her heart's

sleeve. She enjoys spending time in nature, gathering wild edibles, creating herbal wellness product and beaded jewelry to support the chakras. She is certified in various holistic practices by Living Spirit Yoga School, YogaFit®, Forrest Yoga®, Reiki Fitness® and Twist Yoga Edmonds. Her depth of experience stems from over 20 years of training in Hatha, Vinyasa, Yin, Stand-up Paddle Board, Thai Yoga Bodywork and Hot Yoga. "Travel light, spread the light, be the light" is one of Michelle's favorite mantras. Her yoga path is grounded in family, nature, creativity and movement since childhood. She enjoys spending time with her husband and son skiing, fly fishing, mountain biking, paddle boarding, kayaking, beading, growing, harvesting and making herbal medicine while exploring the beauty of nature near their home tucked in the Olympic Mountains!



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Christian Parrish Takes the Gun “Supaman”

Rapper, Dancer, Storyteller

Christian Parrish Takes the Gun, known professionally as **Supaman** is an [Apsáalooke](#) rapper and [fancy dancer](#) who was born in

[Seattle](#), Washington and grew up in [Crow Agency, Montana](#).^[1]

The child of parents who struggled with alcoholism, Supaman spent part of his childhood in foster care before being raised by his mother. He began DJing in the 90s after hearing a [Litefoot](#) song (with the two touring together in 1999),^[2] In the fourth grade, Christian began dancing at powwows.^[3] While in elementary school he began to write poetry and later began to rap.^[1] He related to rap music because he felt he was going through the same issues that most artists were rapping about.^[1] Taking the name 'Supaman' at the spur of the moment in a DJ competition,^[1] Supaman began rapping in a more original style until he had a spiritual encounter that told him to live a better lifestyle and rap about more meaningful and inspirational topics. In the spiritual encounter he had, Supaman said his creator " let [him] know [he] was to do everything on [his] own."^[1]

In 2003 Supaman founded the Native American hip-hop group [Rezawrecktion](#),^[4] whose first album (*It's Time*) won a [Native American Music Award](#) in 2005.^[5] Since then, he has released four solo albums and received coverage and plaudits for the song *Why?* (featuring [Acosia Red Elk](#)).^[6] In his hit track, *Prayer Loop Song*, Supaman utilizes various instruments including the drum and the ute all while beatboxing, rapping, and remixing different Native tracks.^[7] His reasoning for the song and video was an audition tape for *America's Got Talent*.^[1] Alongside rapping, he also tours schools, where he educates students about Native American history and culture.^[8] He performed live on MTV as part of a show featuring new artists.^[9] In 2013 his music and his fancy dancing skills were featured on a float for the [Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade](#).^[10] One thing Supaman is known for is performing his music while wearing his traditional fancy dance outfit. He started doing this by accident when he was forced to do his musical performance right after he had performed a fancy dance while at a show for a school.^[11] Supaman typically fuses spiritual concepts and ideas with his rap music.^[12] Supaman creates all of his albums by himself, doing everything from singing and writing the music to creating and designing the covers.^[13] Since releasing *Gorilla* in 2013 he has been featured on different songs and is set to release “Illuminatives” which features songs available from his viral videos.





Sharleen Yellowwolf

Child Protective Services worker

Ms. Yellowwolf-Fryberg is a mother of five children, twenty one grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. She is a member of the Colville Confederated Tribes of Washington State and is a descendant Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce band. She was removed from her family by state social workers around the age of 12 and was placed in several foster homes. Then at the age 14 she was sent to boarding school in Lawton Oklahoma by the State of Washington. She stayed lost to her family and Tribe until the age of 21 when she finally found her way home to her people and family. She has worked in the Indian child welfare field since 1984 and has provided training regarding the history of Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 for state social workers and foster parents who provide care for Native children. She has worked in the Department of Children and Family Services as a Child Protective Services worker and has also provided contracted technical assistance to multiple tribes.



Valerie Segrest

Native Nutrition Educator

Valerie Segrest, an enrolled member of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, and works as a Native Nutrition Educator. She has a Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition and Health Sciences from Bastyr University and a Master of Arts in Environment and Community. Ms. Segrest has dedicated her work in the field of Native American Nutrition towards the efforts of the food sovereignty movement rooted in education, awareness and overcoming barriers to accessing traditional foods for tribal communities throughout North America. Ms. Segrest has co-authored several publications including the books “Feeding the People, Feeding the Spirit: Revitalizing Northwest Coastal Indian Food Culture” and “Feeding Seven Generations: A Salish Cookbook”.

Valerie aims to inspire and enlighten others about the importance of a nutrient-dense diet through a culturally appropriate, common sense approach to eating.

<http://www.tedxrainier.com/speakers/valerie-segrest/>



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Mabel Elsom Judy Johnston

DCYF Adolescent Unit

Mabel Elsom and Judy Johnston join us as Missing and Exploited Youth Liaisons serving Washington's east and west side, respectively. They assist in helping youth access services, including receiving centers, while engaging in outreach and collaboration with community partners. They cover broad areas of the state and work with Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) region leads as specified in [HB 1775](#).

Mabel brings with her a Master's in Education with an emphasis in teaching and learning and more than 20 years of experience in social services working with at-risk youth, families experiencing homelessness, and youth in the foster care system. For nearly a decade, she has been the lead Human Trafficking/CSEC Specialist at Lutheran Community Services Northwest. Mabel is a Washington State Certified Sexual Assault and Crime Victim Advocate. She has experience in providing direct services for those impacted by labor and sex trafficking, sexual assault, commercial sexual exploitation, and other serious crimes.

Judy most recently was the CSEC, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Elder Abuse Advocate for the Cowlitz Tribe Pathways to Healing program and is a certified CSEC trainer, a King County CSEC Task Force Member, and a survivor. Judy obtained her Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, focusing on equity and diversity in higher education and social services, through the lens of Sacred Spaces. Judy has worked with survivors of all ages and gender identities for more than 30 years. Much of Judy's work has been with young adults and is informed by various experiences and a deep sense that all people have a right to dignity and respect.



Cameron Norton

DCYF Adolescent Unit

Cameron Norton brings a deep commitment to youth in our state and will enhance the development of this position, and the division as a whole. Cameron began working for DCYF in 2008 and has held numerous positions in field operations. Cameron was a supervisor of CPS investigations, FVS, and FRS from 2015 to 2020. Cameron has also served as the DCYF Region 1 LGBTQ+ lead and participated in the Safe and Affirming Care Protocol pilot in partnership with the Center for Children and Youth Justice. She received a degree in Sociology from Eastern Washington University and has worked in social services since 1991. Before coming to DCYF, Cameron worked extensively with at-risk and state-dependent youth in various settings.



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Lisa Humphrey

ICW Consultant/Tribal Liaison for Region 5

Lisa Humphrey is our ICW Consultant/Tribal Liaison for Region 5. She is an enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in northern Minnesota. Lisa has a variety of child welfare experience, working as a CPS case manager for her tribe, then as a social worker and then cps supervisor for Sawyer County, WI, and most recently as a Child Welfare Specialist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

She completed her Masters in Social Work with an emphasis in child welfare at the University of Minnesota in Duluth. In her free time, Lisa enjoys hiking, mountain biking and binge-watching Netflix shows. She has two children, a 28-year-old son and a 17-year-old daughter.



Billie Patterson

ICW Consultant/Tribal Liaison for Region 2

Billie Patterson is the ICW Consultant/Tribal Liaison for Region 2. She is an enrolled member of the Yakama Nation. Billie has a Master's degree in Education and was certified as a school counselor before beginning a career in child welfare. Billie has 14 years of working in the child welfare field including CPS investigations, ongoing Child welfare services, intake, after hours and also served as a tribal supervisor for tribal dependency

cases. Her current role with the Office of Tribal Relations involves working and building partnerships with tribes as well as supporting ICW compliance at DCYF. Billie's most rewarding experience and service has been providing care to Indian foster children for several years. Billie Patterson lives on the Yakama reservation with her husband and 3 children. Our favorite things to do are travel to rodeos, fishing, hunting and spending time in our beautiful mountains.



Rachel Smart

Health Counselor for Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Rachel Smart is a tribal member and a mental health counselor from the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe. She believes that culture is healing and has worked closely with Elise Krohn, Elizabeth Campbell, and her elders, to learn more about the medicine of our plant people.



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Itai Jeffries, PhD

Co-Manager of the Paths (Re)Membered Project
Itai Jeffries, PhD, (Yèsah) (they/them/y'all) is a Two Spirit researcher, educator, and equity consultant, and a co-manager of the Paths (Re)Membered Project. Itai has worked and contracted across a large variety of roles including serving their people on the Occaneechi Health Circle, and with institutions such as Centers for Disease Control, National Association for Chronic Disease Directors, the American Public Health Association, the Seattle Indian Health Board, and with several community-based organizations.



Morgan Thomas

Co-Manager of the Paths (Re)Membered Project
Morgan Thomas (they/them) is a writer and settler from the Gulf Coast and co-manager of the Paths (Re)Membered Project. A wealth of information to share to the ICYF Conference participants.



Josette Ross

Two Spirit wife, mother, student, advocate

haʔ sləxil (Good day). My name is Josette Ross and I am a Two Spirit wife, mother, student, advocate and descendant of the Nisqually Absch people of the Nisqually Tribe. I have had the good fortune to spend the last ten years working for my Tribe in the Health department, where I am able to focus my time on helping to address health disparities and provide outreach and education to the community, specifically to our Two-Spirit

LGBTQ+ relatives.

I have had the greatest of honors in being able to plan and host two annual Two-Spirit LGBTQ+ pride events at Nisqually, as well as helping to draft and get passed a resolution designating an annual Pride day at Nisqually.

I am a graduate of the Native Pathways Program at The Evergreen State College, and received a BA in Native and Indigenous Studies. I am currently enrolled in the Masters of Public Administration - Tribal Governance program, also at Evergreen. My hope is to use my years of experience and my education to continue to create a safe, healing and affirming space for all of our people to come and seek care.



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Paula McJohnson, MSW

Permanency Outcome Facilitator, State of Washington DCYF

Paula has 15 years of experience as a child welfare social worker providing direct services to families in two states. Prior to the role of Permanency Outcome Facilitator, Paula served in Child Protective Services, Family Assessment Response, and as Regional Program Manager in Behavioral Rehabilitation Services for the State of Washington. Paula has dedicated her career to serving youth and families and is passionate about timely

permanency outcomes.

Carissa Greenberg

Assistant Attorney General

Carissa Greenberg received Bachelor of Arts degrees in Political Studies and Theatre from Whitworth College (now University) in 2006. She attended Gonzaga University School of Law as a Thomas More Scholar and graduated *cum laude* in 2009. She spent almost two years in private practice before joining the Washington State Attorney General’s Office (AGO) in late 2011. During her tenure as an Assistant Attorney General, Carissa has served Washington’s public child welfare agency: first, the Department of Social and Health Services Children’s Administration, followed by the newly created Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). Her experience includes representing the state in dependency and termination cases at the trial and appellate level, and later representing and advising DCYF Headquarters. In this later role, part of her responsibilities include advising DCYF on tribal issues and the Indian Child Welfare Act. Carissa is a member of the AGO Academy Committee, which trains all Assistant Attorneys General for the State of Washington. In 2015, she was a recipient of the AGO William V. Tanner Award for outstanding achievement early in her career. Her hometown is Pullman, Washington, which hosts the National Lentil Festival annually. Carissa loves almost all things lentil and quoting Tina Fey’s movie Mean Girls.



Alissa Copeland

Intake and Early Learning Program Manager – Child Welfare Programs, Department of Children, Youth, and Families

Alissa Copeland, MA has worked in child welfare supporting children and families for over twenty years. She is an experienced social worker, curriculum developer, trainer, project-manager, and collaborator with a

career-long focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Dedicated to trauma-informed, socially just, and equitable approaches to serving, children, youth, families and communities; Alissa values collaboration, lived experience, and authentic voice. Alissa and her husband have two young-adult sons.



Sarah Holdener

Help Me Grow Lead, Department of Children, Youth and Families

Sarah Holdener, M.P.A. serves as the Help Me Grow Lead at the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families. With 15 years of cross-

sector experience in project management and program implementation, she works effectively with stakeholders, contractors, and colleagues to deliver projects on schedule and within budget. Sarah nurtures an environment of teamwork and ensures that strategy is clearly defined while overseeing performance and maintaining morale. Sarah and her husband have two young daughters.



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Nick Terrones

Writer and Director at Daybreak Star Preschool, Seattle

Nick Terrones (he/him) is Mexican-Native American, a descendant of the Chumash people whose traditional lands span a large part of southern California. Nick has been in the Early Childhood field for over 14 years, 12 of those years working directly with toddlers and families. Currently he is the Director at Daybreak Star Preschool in Seattle, Washington, an early learning program that implements an indigenous curriculum. Outside of the school setting, Nick is an active member in the World Forum Foundation on Early Care and Education's Men in ECE leadership team. He seeks to recruit and retain men of color to the wonderful world of early learning, as well as provide opportunities for people to explore and unlearn their gender, racial, and cultural biases through pragmatic presentation and publishing. Check out his book, *A Can of Worms: Fearless Conversations with Toddlers* through Exchange Press

(<https://www.childcareexchange.com>).

Mike Browne

Senior Community Engagement Manager at Hilltop Children's Center and Educator Institute

Mike Browne (he/him), is an east coast transplant from New York with a MBA degree in International Business and Marketing. He currently serves as the Senior Community Engagement Manager at Hilltop Children's Center and Educator Institute where he organizes culturally responsive professional development workshops and opportunities for leaders working with young children. After exchanging his tap shoes for football shoes, he Page 30 played Division 1 Football for the University at Albany, where he played cornerback and safety. Following 3 years of working and living in London and Spain, he found his way to Seattle where he has been building bridges between communities to help create a city where the voices of the marginalized are heard, inclusive policies are created, and citizens unite to form a vibrant urban center. While over the years, his job titles may have changed, and the cities he lives in may look different, one thing has remained the same – his ability to create and implement purposeful desired community change, form effective relationships and sustain community vitality. Feel free to contact him via LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/msbrowne/>, Twitter [@miguelitobrowne](https://twitter.com/miguelitobrowne) via email msbrowne12@gmail.com.

Jane Boldrey

Social Worker

Jane Boldrey (she/her) is a Social Worker for the Washington State Department of Child, Youth, and Families (DCYF) in Olympia, WA. She is a vegan feminist with a heart of gold, love of the outdoors, and passion for social justice. As adults working with young children, our system demands a new critical lens that centers Indigenous values in not just our classroom but in our social work and child welfare systems. She is a member of the Muscogee Creek Nation.



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Dr. Anton Treuer

Professor of Ojibwe at Bemidji State University/Author

Dr. Anton Treuer (pronounced troy-er) is Professor of Ojibwe at Bemidji State University and author of 19 books. He has a B.A. from Princeton University and a M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. He is Editor of the Oshkaabewis (pronounced o-shkaah-bay-wis) Native Journal, the only academic journal of the Ojibwe language. Dr. Treuer has presented all over the U.S. and Canada and in several foreign countries on *Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask*, *Cultural Competence & Equity*, *Strategies for Addressing the “Achievement” Gap*, and *Tribal Sovereignty, History, Language, and Culture*. He has sat on many organizational boards and has received more than 40 prestigious awards and fellowships, including ones from the American Philosophical Society, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, the Bush Foundation, and the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation. His published works include *Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask*, *The Language Warrior’s Manifesto: How to Keep Our Languages Alive No Matter the Odds*, *Warrior Nation: A History of the Red Lake Ojibwe* (Winner of Caroline Bancroft History Prize and the American Association of State and Local History Award of Merit), *Ojibwe in Minnesota* (“Minnesota’s Best Read for 2010” by The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress), *The Assassination of Hole in the Day* (Award of Merit Winner from the American Association for State and Local History), *Atlas of Indian Nations*, *The Indian Wars: Battles, Bloodshed, and the Fight for Freedom on the American Frontier*, and *Awesiinyensag* (“Minnesota’s Best Read for 2011” by The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress). Treuer is on the governing board for the Minnesota State Historical Society. In 2018, he was named Guardian of Culture and Lifeways and recipient of the Pathfinder Award by the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums.



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Deb Stuckman

RTM Coordinator, Echo Glen Children's Center

Deb Stuckman works for Echo Glen Children's Center as the RTM Coordinator. Echo Glen is a part of the Juvenile Rehabilitation arm of DCYF. She has extensive experience working in Juvenile Justice, has worked as an Indian Child Welfare CFWS worker with DCYF as well being an experienced international trainer of non-violent crisis intervention.

She grew up in the Four Corners region learning from an early age the epic impact native/indigenous culture have in life today. Personally, her native family ties are to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

With a subject matter expertise in commercial sexual exploitation, the issue of missing & murdered indigenous women is one she strives to educate others in, hoping this issue will no longer be prevalent in our lifetime. Currently her role is to engage youth, families, case managers and identified supports in looking ahead to youth's return to their communities. By working to identify goals youth have for their success and assisting to identify & connect youth with resources available through JR and in their communities, it is hoped youth will have supports in place to assist them to have a 'successful' transition back to their communities. Whilst native youth are at Echo Glen she strives to connect them to their tribal community.

Tammy Ross

Associate Superintendent for Echo Glen Children's Center

Tammy Ross works for Echo Glen Children's Center as an Associate Superintendent. Echo Glen is a part of the Juvenile Rehabilitation arm of DCYF. Tammy has extensive experience working with youth and adults in the justice system including those with developmental disabilities, substance abuse disorders, and mental health diagnosis. She grew up in Montana and has experience working with various tribes as it pertains to the justice system and as a former foster parent.

Currently one of Tammy's role as an Associate Superintendent is to help bring in programming, including culturally relevant programs, for the youth she helps serve. Examples of programming would be religious services, Native American Sweat Lodge, Edible School Yard, Horticultural, Equine Therapy, Robotics, and many more. By bringing in a wide variety of programs for the youth to participate in it is hoped the youth will discover new passions and connections that will assist them to have a successful transition to the community.

Robyn Gonzales

Knowledge and Training Manager

Robyn is responsible for overseeing all of iFoster's training programs and making sure that each training with the iFoster name attached to it is delivered with fidelity. Robyn first worked with iFoster to develop the Jobs Program as part of a collaborative of non-profits. She's now come full circle to join the iFoster team to support and train all our Jobs Program trainers across the state. Robyn also develops our TAY AmeriCorps training curriculum and supports the youth's professional development. Robyn spent the last 5 years working as a college and career counselor for transition-age foster youth. Her passion is helping people overcome barriers to success.



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LaRae Wiley

Executive Director/Founder of Salish School of Spokane

LaRae Wiley is Šn ʕayckstx (Arrow Lakes People) and a member of the Colville Confederated Tribes. She is the Executive Director and founder of Salish School of Spokane. LaRae earned her BA from Eastern Washington University in 1990, and is a Washington State certified teacher. She has previously worked as an instructor for Colville Tribal Head Start, Spokane Tribal Head Start, Chewelah School District, Spokane Tribal College, Spokane Falls Community College, and Eastern Washington University. Since 2003, LaRae

has been learning ʕsəl xciḥ (Colville-Okanagan Salish) as an apprentice to master speaker Sʕamtíc aʔ (Sarah) Peterson of the Lower Similkameen Indian Band. Working with Sʕam tícəʔ, LaRae and her team have developed a comprehensive modern language curriculum that allows for the timely, sequential, and predictable training of new speakers of ʕsəl xciḥ. LaRae's passion for learning and teaching her Native language and culture culminated in the foundation of Salish School of Spokane (SSOS) in 2009. SSOS is a non-profit organization that operates two Salish immersion childcare/preschool centers, a Salish immersion elementary school, and a Salish language training program for adults. LaRae and her dynamic team will present together!



Crystal



Chris



Julie



Amy



Anthony and his little friends





Laura Guay

Training and Technical Assistance Manager, National Native Children's Trauma Center

Laura Guay manages projects focused on tribal child welfare and other youth-serving systems. Formerly a child protective services supervisor and trainer, she has been with the NNCTC since 2017. She has extensive experience developing and facilitating systems change projects rooted in tribal and community goals, using culturally adapted assessment processes and customized TTA implementation and evaluation planning to promote child and family resilience. She also contributes to the development of original NNCTC training curricula and provides training and technical assistance across all tribal systems.



Nona Main

Training and Technical Assistance Manager, National Native Children's Trauma Center

An enrolled member of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, **Nona Main** has been with the NNCTC since 2019, providing trauma-focused TTA to schools and agencies in tribal communities. Prior to that, she spent nine years with the Native Outreach Project of Planned Parenthood of Montana, in which role she provided culturally responsive, comprehensive sexuality education to adolescents and young adults. An experienced trainer and advocate in the areas of health education/awareness, historical/intergenerational trauma, and current social issues, her current focus is on tribal juvenile justice projects.



Joy Lile

Community Prevention Specialist

Joy Lile is a Community Prevention Specialist in the Strengthening Families Washington program at DCYF. Prior to that, she served as an Extension 4-H Specialist at Washington State University, and received her doctorate in Human Development and Family Studies from Oregon State University. Joy lives in Silverdale, Washington on the ancestral lands of the Suquamish and Port Gamble S'Klallam tribes, with her partner Mat and two cats and enjoys camping, reading, and community social justice work.



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Serita Cox

CEO and Co-Founder of iFoster

Serita is responsible for strategy and programs. As the driving force behind iFoster, Serita brings to bear her personal experience with foster care, devoted commitment to a number of youth development initiatives, and over a decade of experience in executive-level management in Silicon Valley, corporate strategy consulting and non-profit strategy consulting. Despite all this corporateness, she is also the person “most likely to be hugged” by a client. For her work with iFoster, Serita

has been recognized as a White House Office of Social Innovation Citizen Innovator, an Echoing Green Fellow, and an American Leader of Change.



Summer Rogers

Program Director, iFoster

Summer is iFoster’s Program Director and is based in Los Angeles where there are over 10,000 transition-age foster youth. Summer brings a wealth of experience to iFoster having worked with transition-age foster youth to help them achieve independence at St. Anne’s transitional housing program for pregnant and parenting youth, recruited and partnered with employers to hire young people in internships at one of LA’s most successful One-

Stop Business and Career Centers, and been a college counselor to low income students helping them apply to and pay for college, many of whom were first generation college applicants.



Jeszabel Millan

TAY AmeriCorps Member

Jeszabel entered foster care at age 13. She is a first-generation college student and attends Mt. San Antonio College where she is majoring in English and intends to transfer to UCLA. She has been a TAY AmeriCorps Member for 3 years. In her role, she is able to exercise her passion for helping foster youth by connecting them to technology and many other resources. In her free time, she volunteers in her community with various organizations.

After college, she aspires to become a criminal law defense attorney. She wants to work with people of color that have been wrongfully convicted and imprisoned, as well as, help reform the criminal justice system.

Jeszabel is a proud member of the Mexica and Purépecha tribes.



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Alison Boyd-Ball

Director of Strategy

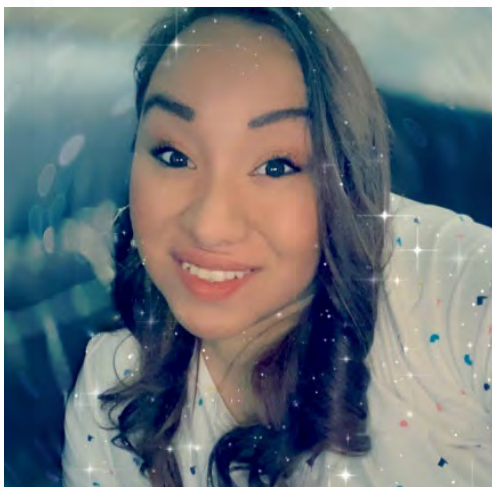
Alison is Director of Strategy for Family Impact Network, a partner of Washington's Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) and its service providers which serves as the Network Administrator in twenty counties in eastern and central Washington, providing resources and services to vulnerable children and families to address safety, prevention, permanency, stability and overall well-being. Previously, Alison served as Health and Human Services Director of the Colville Confederated Tribes, Nespelem WA, and has served as the Project Director/PI for the Professional Development Training Grant for the Office of Indian Education. Alison has served on the Native Research Network Board of Directors and was a member of the Society for Research on Adolescents. Her work has been published in the *Prevention Science*, *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse* and the *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, among others.



Johnathan Trunkey

Clinical Director

Johnathan Trunkey, LMHC, MHP, CMHS, NCC, CDPT started his behavioral health experience in 2014 working with adolescents, and their families in a co-occurring intensive outpatient treatment setting. He currently holds an MA in community counseling from Gonzaga University. John has had the privilege of working in many different settings such as: residential, intensive outpatient, private practice, behavioral rehabilitation services, and assisted living. John is most passionate about program development and implementation. In his current role as clinical director of the Upfront Assessment family strength-building initiative, he leads a team of five staff working with tribal community children and family service programs to provide outreach to families and keep the family together.



Willow W. Howard

CASA Coordinator

Willow W. Howard, is our CASA Coordinator, who has worked for Yakama Nation Programs since she was a teenager. One of her very first jobs was in Department of Human Services. Later, she had the opportunity to work with Yakama Nation Office of Legal Counsel then moved to Yakama Nation Fisheries as a Policy & Planning Specialist. Willow has commitment to our people, our resources and most importantly our children. A 221 graduate (with honors) from Central Washington University of Ellensburg in Washington. She has had experience in many facets with an emphasis in law, policy, unwritten laws and serving our people. Willow has resided all of her life on the Yakama Indian reservation where she is an enrolled member and joined the CASA Association in 2016 and has the passion needed to ensure each child has a voice in our dependency system.



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Robert Ensley

Program Manager, Federal Funding

Robert Ensley has more than 30 years' experience working in State Public Welfare systems beginning in Salem Oregon in 1990. With the advent of color monitors, and invention of the internet, he has experienced the dynamic progression and enhancement in service delivery within state systems. He has worked for Children's Administration, now DCYF as a Program Manager or Supervisor in the Federal Funding unit since 2000. The DCYF Federal Funding team is one of the few, if not only Child Welfare Agencies in the Nation to have passed every Title IV-E Federal Review since 2000 instilling a culture of success, knowledge and professionalism.

He is proud to be part of this team and be able to offer superior service to the people of Washington. A critical part of his experience has been working with the Washington State Tribes and sharing mutual knowledge as well as successes as DCYF strives toward improving service and support to all children and youth in Washington State.



Sophia Riemer, MPH, RDN

Farm to ECE Project Coordinator

Sophia Riemer, MPH, RDN is the Farm to ECE Project Coordinator for Washington State, where she is able to unite her passions for farm to school, healthy food access, and addressing inequities in our communities. She has many years of experience in farm to school and has seen firsthand its power to contribute to local, sustainable, and equitable food systems and empower communities, especially those who have been historically underserved.



James Ablar

Cultural Specialist, Marion Forsman-Boushie Early Learning Center

My name is James Ablar, I am a member of the Suquamish Tribe and recently graduated from the Native Pathways Program at Evergreen State College. I have worked at the Marion Forsman-Boushie Early Learning Center for a number years, held various titles and currently I am the Cultural Specialist. Though my schooling and work I found my passion in introducing Traditional Foods and Native Plant teachings to our children, families and staff with hands on learning activities, recipes, and menu options while incorporating Lushootseed Language. I have many goals and aspirations for our cultural program here at our center and I am looking forward to the new program year.



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Karron McGrady

Early Childhood Education Program

Karron McGrady is a member of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe. She works for the Early Childhood Education Program. She has been there for many years, since 1994 right out of high school.

Throughout her years at the ECEP she has had many different positions, but has always been a part of the nutrition aspect of the program. She tries to incorporate traditional S'Klallam foods into the menus as much as possible. She is certified as a beginner Klallam language instructor and has worked on learning and teaching Klallam

language to other members of her tribe and to the children of the ECEP program



Doug Savelesky, MSW

QA/CQI Administrator

Doug has established himself as a respected leader within child welfare over the last 25 years. Currently the DCYF QA/CQI Administrator and have previously supervised the DCYF statewide Central Case Review Team. Doug's experience as a CPS

Investigator, Intake Worker, and supervising FRS, CFWS, Intake, CPS Investigations, Home Studies, and Placement Coordination has been enjoyable. The following opportunities have allowed Doug to gain a broad range of knowledge across child welfare: participation as an office lead for the Self-Evaluation Team, co-chair of the office CQI team, internal and external death review teams, Casey Family Roundtable Master Practitioner, statewide ICW review team member, supervisor of the statewide ICW review, and development team member for the Yakima County Sexual Assault protocol. He has experience across a myriad of programs, across all six regions, and interaction with Children's Bureau regarding federal practice expectations. Throughout his career with child welfare, Doug has established positive working relationships with multiple field offices and throughout Washington State to include Casey Family Programs, CASA/GAL members, Tribal partners, foster families, providers, and many other community partners. He strives in having an ongoing positive working relationship with co-workers and peers, while supporting mutual respect of differing and agreeable opinions.



Vickie Stock, MSML

QA/CQI Statewide Manager, Child Welfare Leader

Vickie has been working in the public child welfare field for over 25 years. She has held many positions in in this field, her core values and leadership traits remained a constant throughout each position. Her strengths are in leading people and

completing program goals for the agency. Vickie is able to motivate staff to come aboard early in all change management initiatives so the early adopters are part of the team to get all staff on board for changes. She is an effective leader and enjoy program implementation and staff training along with mentoring at all levels of the agency. She is self-reflective and act with integrity in all situations. The many leadership positions have provided me with the most internal growth. It takes time to earn the trust of staff, caregivers, community partners and stakeholders. Vickie is a leader who is honest, transparent, self-confident, trustworthy and a sense of humor because it helps! She has been trained in the Change Management Tool, PROSCI to help program implementation at all levels of an agency be successful through proven strategies and tool to make sure timelines and risks are managed prior to implementation. She has passion for program management, training and leadership. Vickie understands change management and will over communicate the vision an agency has in order to be a successful change agent.



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William Poitras (Titkanakstxn)

Cultural Presenter and Mentor

William Poitras (Titkanakstxn), Age 39 member of the Colville Confederated Tribes, Okanagan and Cree.

He is a cultural presenter and Indigenous high-risk youth mentor for Central Okanagan Public Schools. Servicing 32 of the 46 schools in the District with traditional land based teachings which includes harvesting and preparing traditional foods and medicines, making traditional tools out of raw materials such as bows, arrows, traps, dugout canoes and traditional dwellings. Purpose of the program is to give youth who may

struggle in the regular classroom setting an opportunity to make raw materials and create functional tools which in return builds the understanding of traditional values that are fading away.



Veronica Willeto DeCrane

Project Manager

Veronica Willeto DeCrane is Diné (Navajo), of the Many Hogans Clan and born for the Mexican Clan. She has extensive experience providing TTA to reservation schools and other agencies, supporting school turnaround, parent and community engagement, youth leadership and development, after-school programs, culturally responsive education, systems change, and the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) frameworks. In her current role she manages a project focused on trauma-informed care within tribal juvenile justice systems and supports the NNCTC's school-based efforts.





Dae Shogren

Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice Administrator

Dae Shogren (she.they), MPA is a DCYF Office of Racial Equity & Social Justice (ORESJ) Administrator. Prior to this position, she was the LGBTQ+, Disproportionality, Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Statewide Program Manager for Child Welfare Programs. Dismantling systematic oppression as it relates to racial inequity, supports homophobia and transphobia continues to be at the core of their work. Ms. Shogren firmly believes that when our children and young people are supported and nurtured, we all move towards healing and thriving.



LaToya Holmes-Ware

Racial Equity and Social Justice Administrator

LaToya Holmes-Ware (she.her) serves as the Racial Equity and Social Justice Administrator in ORESJ. She provides the vision, expertise, and accountability mechanisms necessary to make progress on DCYF's commitment to advance racial equity and eliminate racial and ethnic disproportionality and disparities in child, youth, and family outcomes. She is one of the lead staff for the department's ORESJ and Inclusive Racial Equity Change Team whose vision is to transform

DCYF's culture and practice to advance racial equity and social justice, so each and every child, youth, and family can thrive. LaToya brings an array of lived experience as a Black woman growing up in the Mississippi Delta seeing, hearing, and learning firsthand how the systems are created to oppress people of color.



Evette Jasper

Racial Equity and Social Justice Administrator

Evette Jasper (she.her) is passionate about supporting DCYF's efforts to become an anti-racist organization and design systems that advance racial equity and support each and every child, youth, and family to thrive. Prior to the role of Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice Administrator, Evette facilitated efforts to strengthen partnerships and collaboration across state and regional levels to build an early childhood system that is responsive to communities' unique needs and experiences. She strives to embody the

approaches of leaders such as Ella Baker, Grace Lee Boggs, and Alicia Garza and operate from a place of love, joy, and abundance.



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Jill LaPointe

*Traditional Medicine Director, Seattle Indian Health Board
Director of Lushootseed Research*

Jill LaPointe is an enrolled member of the Nooksack tribe and she is the granddaughter of the late Upper Skagit elder, Vi Hilbert. Jill earned an MSW from the University of Washington and has been serving Native American people and communities for more than 30 years. She currently works with the Seattle Indian Health Board as the Traditional Medicine Director. Since 2006 Jill has been the Director of Lushootseed Research, a small non-profit organization her grandmother founded dedicated to preserving and sharing the Lushootseed language and cultural knowledge. She is passionate about serving Native and diverse communities and helping people find and feel a sense of belonging.



Christina Fernandez Laigo

Leadership Project

Christina Fernandez Laigo, Makoće Owan Wašté Win (Good Earth Woman) is a citizen of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota and resides in Seattle, Washington. Growing up in the Rainier Valley/Beacon Hill area, and always moving between worlds (urban, rural, Indigenous and non-Indigenous) helped to guide her from being an Intellectual Property paralegal to entering the University of Washington. She first earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in American Indian Studies and Political Science, and then earned her Masters in Sustainable International Development with a focus on Indigenous Rights Law from UW School of Law. As a mother of two, her passion for health, education, and providing opportunities for underserved student populations, has prompted her volunteer work for John Stanford International School, United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, Urban Native Education Alliance, and Clear Sky Native Youth Group, as well as serving on the board for Ethnic Cultural Heritage Online Exchange (EchoX). Looking forward to meeting you all and I am so grateful for the opportunity to share our project.

Pidamayaye, (Thank you)



Amelia Bachleda, PhD

Director of Outreach and Education, UW Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences

Amelia Bachleda, PhD is the Director of Outreach and Education at the University of Washington's Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences. I-LABS is an interdisciplinary center that studies human learning and brain development. As a trained science communicator, Amelia works to make the science of human learning accessible, actionable, and fun! Since joining I-LABS in 2015, she has had the opportunity to work with thousands of community members dedicated to supporting children and families nationwide. She has a PhD in neurobiology and specializes in developmental neuroscience and language.



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Shannon Freeman, MSW, LICSW

Deputy Compact Administrator for the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children

Shannon Freeman is the Deputy Compact Administrator for the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) unit for the Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF). Shannon has worked for the state for 25 years beginning at another state agency working with incarcerated youth. Her child welfare field experience includes child protective service investigations, on-going child welfare work, foster home licensing and supervision.

Shannon has a passion for interstate compact work; building relationships across state lines and learning other state systems is what interests her about ICPC. Shannon holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Evergreen State College and a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Washington. A transplant from the Midwest, Shannon lives on Nisqually lands in Olympia with her wife. In her free time she enjoys traveling, day hikes, gardening and cooking.



Maya Brown

DCYF - Compact Administrator

Mrs. Brown has worked with DCYF for 19 years. She has primarily worked in the interstate unit but has also worked in the independent living and the legislative sections of the agency. Mrs. Brown is the Compact Administrator for Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) and Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (ICAMA). She has worked collaboratively with the State of Oregon to establish an expedited placement border agreement between the two states. She is a licensed independent clinical social worker who received her master's degree in social work UW. She resides in Thurston County and enjoys knitting and spending time with friends and family.



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Archie Cantrell

Puyallup Tribal Language Program

Archie Cantrell was born and raised in Tacoma, WA and is a member of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. He and his wife Hope have 3 children ranging from 6 to 14 years old. Archie is a licensed and active foster parent, and is currently attending classes for his Master's in Business Administration. Archie graduated with honors from Puyallup High School in 2004 and became employed by the Puyallup Tribe shortly thereafter.

Archie began working in Natural Resources at the Puyallup Tribal Fisheries as a Fisheries Sampler in 2004. In 2006, he changed positions and became a Fisheries Specialist. This work allowed him to participate and further his appreciation in all aspects of salmon culture, which is the Puyallup Tribe's most valued natural resource. Throughout his employment within the Puyallup Tribe, Archie has also been active with tribal youth. Archie served on the Puyallup Tribal Youth Committee from 2005-2015, serving as Chairman for eight years. Archie's passion for assisting young tribal members lead him to change departments. In fall 2014, Archie transferred to the Puyallup Tribal Youth Center to work as a Youth Coordinator. This position allowed him to work closely and interact with tribal youth in the community, and also those attending Chief Leschi School. Due to the Language Department office also being at the Youth Center, Archie began spending time with the language staff and learning introduction Lushootseed materials. This chance occurrence sparked his interest and he began pursuing personal Lushootseed instruction. After realizing he wanted to be a part of the Lushootseed movement on a full-time basis, Archie again transferred departments and began working for the Puyallup Tribal Language Program in summer 2016. This work allows him to work with tribal community members of all ages, and work directly with Chief Leschi Schools. Archie is a very active member of the Puyallup Tribal Community. In addition to language, he enjoys participating in other cultural activities, such as singing and dancing in both coastal and plains styles. In his spare time, Archie is an active hunter, and commercial harvester of salmon, crab, shrimp, and geoduck.



Charlotte Campbell

Early Achievers Team, DCYF

Charlotte Campbell works on the Early Achievers team at DCYF. As the Government and Partnerships Liaison, she has had the pleasure of partnering with Washington tribes and the Aboriginal Head Start Association of British Columbia to explore the use of culturally responsive program assessment tools. She looks forward to sharing our work over the past year with the audience, and invites feedback, questions, and rich discussion!



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Rachael Brown-Kendall

*Quality Recognition and Improvement System (QRIS)
Administrator*

Rachael Brown-Kendall works for the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families where she serves as the Quality Recognition and Improvement System (QRIS) Administrator. She is responsible for policy development and statewide implementation of Early Achievers, the state's QRIS. Rachael has been in the field of early learning for over twenty years and she has served in several roles from provider to coach to system partner. She is a collaborative leader who is driven to advance racial equity by learning from the richly diverse communities in her state and continuing to examine and modify the state's quality system.



David Charles

*Regional Administrator - Juvenile
Rehabilitation (JR) Division
WORK UNIT: REGION 5 & 6*

David has been working as a Juvenile Justice Professional for 33 years. During this period 31 of these years has been in management positions. He began his career in JR at the former Maple Lane School in 1988. In 1989 he left for a promotional position at Green Hill School. He departed Green Hill School in December 2001 while serving in the position of Associate Superintendent. He began his regional experience as a Deputy Regional Administrator. David is currently the Regional Administrator for Region's 5 & 6 that comprise 13 counties and 15 Tribes. As an administrator he has led in the implementation of researched informed interventions in both JR institutions and community facilities. David works with many community partners to find ways to leverage resources to maintain programs when funding is deficient.

David has successfully worked with Tribes throughout the years to develop Residential Custody Service Agreements to place Native Youth in JR custody with no cost to the tribe. In the early years these agreements were approved through by the Department Secretary and the Attorney General's Office. The agreement approval would differ with individual Tribes based on their Government structure. Since those early days the state has since enacted legislation to formalize these agreements.

David is currently working with Brandy Otto, Program Manager with DCYF Office of Tribal Relations, to educate tribes per this service agreement and facilitate its adoption if warranted.

The following tribes are in the regions that David serves: Chehalis, Jamestown S'Klallam, Suquamish, Hoh, Makah, Quinault, Port Gable S'Klallam, Nisqually, Quileute, Skokomish, Squaxin, Shoalwater Bay, Elwha Klallam, and Lower Elwha Klallam.



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William “Mike” Davison

Program Manager 2/ Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) Division
WORK UNIT: REGION 5 & 6

Mike has been working as a Juvenile Justice Professional for 26 years. During this period 19 of these years has been in management positions. He began his career in JR at the former Mission Creek Youth Camp in Belfair WA. A few years later Mike began working in the Region 5 Tacoma office doing parole work and eventually becoming a group home coordinator. As a manager of two office's Mike has helped implement researched informed interventions and served on the statewide policy committee for over 10 years. Mike works with many community partners to find ways to leverage resources to maintain programs when funding is deficient.

Mike has worked with Tribes throughout the years to develop Residential Service Agreements to place Native Youth in JR custody with no cost to the tribe. In the early years, these agreements were approved through by the Department Secretary and the Attorney General's Office. The agreement approval would differ with individual Tribes based on their Government structure. Since those early days, the state has since enacted legislation to formalize these agreements.

Mike has a special bond with the Port Gamble S'Klallam and Suquamish tribes having grown up in North Kitsap and spending a lot of time with close tribal friends from those communities.



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Thank you to all the moderators!

- Tleena Ives
- Brandy Otto
- Reagan Henry
- Charity Criswell
- Linda Vande Lune
- Kelly Pelland
- Bob Smith
- Lisa Humphrey
- Athena Jimenez-Manolo
- Michelle Roberts
- Billie Patterson
- Charlotte Campbell
- Joy Lile
- Brian Frisina
- Michelle Johnson



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