



Native Americans for Community Action, Inc.

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May 4, 2015

Respective Tribal Leaders, Director/Managers and Service Agencies:

Greetings!

Native Americans for Community Action, Inc. (NACA) would like to invite you to attend a Roundtable Forum to discuss the implications and impacts of Historical Trauma among Native Americans. We would be honored if you would accept this invitation to join us for this memorable event. We would like to meet on May 29, 2015 at 10:00AM MST at the Family Resource Center, 4000 N. Cummings St., Flagstaff, Arizona.

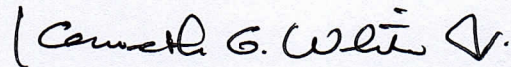
Van Ness Feldman, a law firm, in Washington, DC is spearheading an initiative that addresses historical trauma among Native American populations from a behavioral health prospective (i.e. counseling, etc.). NACA has been identified as one of five potential sites in the United States, to begin this initiative. The intent of this roundtable discussion is to bring service providers, Native American Tribes and other agencies to the table to determine the best approach, but to also remain respectful and sensitive to not only the topic, but to individuals as well. We would also like to discuss the possibility of the city of Flagstaff being identified as a Trauma Informed City. This would mean that we would develop a coalition of interested individuals, programs, departments, and organizations in Flagstaff, and the surrounding community including Tribes, to agree to mutually address historical trauma. If NACA is selected for this initiative, we will become the host agency for Flagstaff and surrounding communities, including Tribes. This could aid all agencies/organizations that interact with Native Americans to have more humane and impactful interactions.

As you may know, historical trauma among Native Americans is tied to medical conditions such as alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, and domestic violence, among other conditions. In addition to addressing behavioral conditions at NACA through current programs and services, we would include a historical trauma component in all our behavioral health and applicable NACA programs in the future. Within this framework is the opportunity to have a pre-doctorate internship program at NACA that would increase services, once implemented.

In case you did not know, NACA is one of three Urban Indian Centers in Arizona and is located in Flagstaff. NACA provides services to Native Americans and all other ethnicities who reside in Flagstaff and surrounding communities. We provide services in Behavioral Health (i.e. mental health and substance abuse counseling, DUI education, etc.), Primary Care (medical services), Fitness and Wellness, Health Education/Promotion, Economic Development, Workforce Investment Act (WIA), Youth Pathways, Suicide Prevention, Social Services and other service. You can obtain more information at www.nacainc.org.

We hope you will consider attending our Roundtable discussion as we launch a Historical Trauma Informed Care Initiative for those we all serve. We need and welcome your input. Please let me know if you will be able to join us for the Roundtable Forum, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the event. If you have any questions and to RSVP, please contact Andrew Qumyintewa, Director of Operations at aqumyintewa@nacainc.org or (928) 773-1245. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth G. White" followed by a small downward-pointing arrow.

Kenneth G. White, MSW
Chief Executive Officer