

Information Sharing and Reentry Webinar

Presented: July 19, 2011

Hosted by: The American Probation & Parole Association

Sponsored by: The U.S. Department of Justice, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and The Indian Country Steering Committee of the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services

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Presenter: Richard VanBoxtel, Chief of Police, Oneida Police Department

Presenter: Tsyosha?aht C. Delgado, Director, Wisconsin Tribal Community Reintegration Program

(Slide #1: 00:00)

Speaking: Jim Santelle

Welcome. My name is Jim Santelle. I'm the United States District Attorney for the eastern district of Wisconsin. Today, I am hosting the fourth of an eight part webinar series. This webinar is entitled "Information Sharing and Reentry". The webinar series is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Indian Country Steering Committee of the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services. Norena Henry of the Bureau of Justice Assistance has been coordinating this webinar series.

And I'm just waiting for the slide to advance here.

(Slide #2: 01:20)

Alright, the webinar series builds on the U.S. Department of Justice's e-publication called *Strategies for Creating Offender Reentry Programs in Indian Country* which provides recommendations and information on promising practices related to offender reentry in Indian Country.

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Today's speakers include Kimberly A. Cobb, who is a Research Associate with the American Probation and Parole Association, Richard VanBoxtel, who is Chief of Police of the Oneida Police Department in Oneida, Wisconsin, and Tsyosha?aht C. Delgado, who is the Director Wisconsin Tribal Community Reintegration Program. We are very pleased to have all of those with us today.

(Slide #4: 02:05)

Today's workshop session will discuss aspects of the Tribal Law and Order Act, sometimes referred to as the TLOA, that could affect the capacity of tribes to work with members returning to their communities after incarceration. We will also be discussing the types of information Tribal justice agencies need to consider when making transitional plans and strategies to access this information, and we'll be sharing information regarding Wisconsin Tribal Community Reintegration Program.

(Slide #5: 02:41)

Before we begin just a few housekeeping matters as a part of our webinar today.

(Slide #6: 02:50)

First, we'll be recording this training today as an historical resource for those who are unable to participate today or to reference for those of you who are in fact attending. I ask that you continue to watch the Bureau of Justice Assistance website for an announcement of the recorded web trainings.

(Slide #7: 03:08)

We'll be addressing as many questions as we can during the time allotted to us today. If you have a question, there are two ways you can let us know about that. First, you can "raise your hand". This option is available on your tool bar in the right hand side of your screen. By clicking on the hand icon, that will show our moderator that you have a question, and if time allows we will then un-mute you to ask your question at the end of the session. We will, of course, try to get to as many of your questions as we possibly can in the time allotted. You can also choose to "chat" in your question. To do that, simply click the chat feature on the menu at the bottom right side of your screen. As before, we'll address as many questions as we possibly can. If we do not get to your question during the time allotted, we will try to follow up with you after the webinar to respond to your question via email.

(Slide #8: 04:09)

Some background information on reentry and information sharing specific to Indian Country is attached to the PowerPoint handouts and I strongly encourage you to take some time to read this information to help put the importance of this information presented in this webinar, and in the other webinars in this series, into their most appropriate context.

(Slide #9: 04:31)

I would like to now turn the webinar over to Kimberly Cobb from the American Probation and Parole Association for her presentation and her remarks. Kim?

Speaking: Kim Cobb

Good afternoon. I'd like to welcome you on behalf of the American Probation and Parole Association to this webinar, and would like to thank the Department of Justice for inviting us to be a part of this webinar series. I will be speaking briefly about what information Tribal Justice Agencies should be requesting from facilities to help them aid in their reentry process. Then, I will turn the webinar over to Rich to begin sharing some information about the Wisconsin Tribal Community Reintegration Program.

(Slide #10: 05:17)

First, before we begin, it is important to define what we mean by information sharing and reentry. For purposes of this webinar, we will be using the following definitions:

Information sharing – means getting the right information to the right people, in the right place, at the right time to ensure a just and safe society. Privacy is protected, security is ensured, and quality includes timely and reliable data. This definition was borrowed from the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative. It is important to remember that information sharing is not just giving information freely to anyone who asks, but having the right protocols and agreements in place to ensure that

information is given to those who will use it in the best interest of the individual, the agency and the community.

Our definition for **Reentry** today is – the process of returning to one’s community from prison, jail, juvenile correctional or detention facility, treatment facility, or other out-of-home placement.

(Slide #11: 06:20)

One of the things we want to talk about is how the Tribal Law and Order Act affects reentry. One of the first ways it affects it is that under section 608 of the act it requires federal officials to notify tribal officials, specifically when a sex offender is released into Indian Country from federal custody. Tribes should work closely with federal agencies to ensure timely notification of this release, so that release planning can begin. If the offender plans to return to the community the rule of thumb is typically six months of prerelease planning. The tribal agency will want to collect information pertinent to the type of treatment, programming, and services that the offender received while incarcerated, as well as the details surrounding their offending behaviors in order to make more informed decisions. Once that relationship is formed, tribes should work with facilities to develop agreements so that other offenders are notified upon release so that the tribe can begin prerelease planning with them.

The Tribal Law and Order Act also enhanced the sentencing authority for Tribal Justice Agencies. Section 304 of the bill amends the sentencing ability of the tribes from one year to three years, for a total of up to nine years. For tribes that have facilities in their communities, or are planning to build facilities through their Correctional Facilities on Tribal Land Program, reentry planning needs to be a consideration for staffing, meaning who will do the reentry planning? What types of agreements need to be put in place with service providers? How will family reunification occur? Etc.

Title V of the act seeks to address the collection of criminal data and the sharing of criminal history information among federal, state, tribal and local officials responsible for responding to and investigating crimes in Indian Country. While this on the surface only applies to law enforcement, it does trickle down to community supervision and reentry planning for tribal communities. If tribal law enforcement has access to criminal history information from agencies outside the tribal community – this provides a more comprehensive picture of the offender for community corrections to consider when doing reentry planning. The Tribal Law and Order Act also re-authorizes the Correctional Facilities on Tribal Land project, which provides funds for the planning, construction, and maintenance of jails on Indian land and the development of alternatives to incarceration. Again, tribes will need to plan for staff to do reentry planning with offenders coming out of these facilities, will need to have agreements in place with service providers and need to look at correctional options to facilitate reentry such as transitional housing space, reunification programs, job placement programs, day reporting centers, etc.

APPA currently has a technical assistance opportunity to work with tribes seeking to institute correctional options. If you’re interested in that, please contact me after the webinar and we can discuss that.

(Slide #12: 09:16)

So why is information sharing important? It is important to identify who in your community will be responsible for reentry planning and supervising those who are released. In many jurisdictions, it is the probation or parole officer, so that is how we refer to them in this webinar. However, we realize that

this individual may vary by jurisdiction. Information sharing is vital to enhancing the supervision of offenders being released back into communities. Without the sharing of information probation and parole officers are crippled and relying only upon information that they can access through the individual offenders, the offender's family and friends, and the information from their own justice entity. Through the process of information sharing, probation and parole officers can become informed of information necessary to make vital decisions, such as risk level, in order to make more precise and relevant reentry plans.

It takes a significant amount of time and effort to collect all of the information required by the various justice systems. By sharing this information, agencies will not only be better informed, but will save a tremendous amount of time recollecting information that may have already been collected elsewhere. It is essential that agencies agree on what information will be shared as well as understand exactly how the information shared is going to be used. In just a few moments we'll be reviewing some of the pieces of information that probation and parole officers may want to request to aid in reentry planning. Finally, by having a more comprehensive picture of each offender, agencies can better prepare them to come back to their community by having services and programs in place to meet their needs. Having a proactive plan in place increases public safety by not having the offender returning with no housing plan established no continuing services to address mental health or physical health needs, alcohol or substance abuse needs or employment needs. Not having these things in place prior to release is often cited as one of the main reasons people tend to reoffend. Spending time talking with the offender before release allows for the person doing reentry planning to not only understand what the offender's plans are on release, but gives them time to align the services and programs they need so they are ready to begin the day the offender returns to the community.

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So, what type of information should Tribal Justice Agencies be requesting from facilities whether they're tribal, county, state or federal, or even treatment facilities? There is a lot of text on the slides that follow so I won't read all of them, but I provide them for your information as a resource later. This is not an exhaustive list by any means, but should help you get conversations started with the facilities that you deal with as to the information you would like to have access to for your reentry planning purposes.

(Slide #14: 12:00)

It is important to collect as much personal information as you can regarding individuals coming back to your community. Sometimes agencies outside of your own collect different information or may go back to collect historical data that your agency does not. And having as much information as possible helps you make more informed decisions and keeps you from having to go do the work to collect this information again if it is required by your agency. It is important to access recent photographs of individuals returning to your community. Sometimes they acquire new tattoos or change their looks significantly, so it is good to document these changes. It is also important to note who they have been keeping in touch with while incarcerated or in treatment. This helps to inform family reunification strategies or helps you to know if they have been keeping in contact with individuals who could be a negative influence when they return home, particularly important for gang-affiliated individuals.

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It is important to gain an understanding of how the individual behaved while incarcerated or in treatment. Gaining access to incident reports can alert you to the levels of anger or violence, and some reports may contain information alluding to what may have triggered an incident which is also important information. Additionally, for this information to be meaningful law enforcement and community corrections officers must have a working understanding of what prison or jail rules are and what may be considered an administrative violation. It is important to know if their risk level changed at all during incarceration. Did it fluctuate back and forth, or remain the same? Be sure to request all screening and assessment that was conducted. Finally, for individuals who are gang-affiliated, it's important to get the security threat group information from the facility.

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It is essential to get information on the types of programs individuals participated in while in a facility. This helps you align services with agencies that can continue or complement programming an individual has already received. Having this in place prior to release allows for a hopefully seamless transition from the facility to the community with as little interruption in service as possible.

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In some facilities, the staff complete daily reports which provides information on the daily activities of the individuals they are supervising. These notes and reports are a good source of information regarding the daily habits and behaviors of individuals.

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Housing assignments can give a lot of information. For example, if the individual was housed in maximum security their entire sentence, then chances are their risk level remained high during their incarceration -- compared to the risk level of someone who was moved from maximum security to medium, and then to minimum.

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Employment history provides some useful information for probation and parole officers to use during reentry planning. The type of work they did on the inside may give some insight into job skills they learned that can be transferred to employment on the outside. It also can give information as to the type of employee the person was that can be shared with the potential employers, especially if they received any type of accolades for good work. Likewise it is also good to know of any incidents that occurred while the individual was employed. This can also be shared with potential employers.

Education or vocational information is also beneficial. It can tell you the special trades they're interested in that can help with employment placement or community service placement or continuing education needs or desires.

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Chances are, you may have some of this information already on file, but a few things that should be highlighted include the status of the conditions file including any remaining financial obligations such as fees and restitution. If they have been making payments while incarcerated, it is important to get the

most accurate information possible to build into your reentry plan to keep those payments current. Any new charges filed against the individual while they have been in a facility, either new charges or administrative charges as well as the outcomes of these incidents, is important to acquire.

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It is important to get the most recent physical health information you can from the facility, specifically if the offender has been diagnosed with any special conditions so that appropriate care can be planned for upon release. Likewise, any prescription medication the individual was prescribed including the drug name, the dosage, the recommendations for continued use so that steps can be taken ensure those continue upon release. Sometimes getting prescriptions transferred from inside a facility to outside can take some maneuvering.

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The same is true with mental health screenings. Make sure you are aware of any diagnosis that occurred inside the facility as well as any prescriptions that need to be continued, and any treatment programs that were completed or need to be continued so that these things can be planned for prior to release. The ideal is care linked from the inside to the outside as much as possible.

I would like now to turn the presentation over to Richard VanBoxtel, who's going to share with you some information on the Wisconsin Tribal Community Reintegration Program.

(Slide #23: 17:33)

(Speaking: Richard VanBoxtel)

Good afternoon everyone. My name is Rich VanBoxtel, I am the Chief of Police at the Oneida Police Department. I have to start off by saying I apologize if you guys can hear any background noises, it's kind of quiet right now, but they are paving our parking lot right outside of my window, so if you hear any stuff going on I apologize. We'll try to get through this.

We're going to be talking about the Wisconsin Tribal Community Reintegration Program and...

(Slide #24: 17:55)

... we're serving the three tribes Oneida, Menominee and Stockbridge. We're going to kind of break this down into two different sections. The first section that I'll be talking about is all the background stuff and all the footwork that we did ahead of time, then I'll be turning it over to Tsyosha?ah, she's going to be talking about what the program is doing and what they're doing actually out there in the field.

Now, this wasn't some cool groovy brainstorm of mine that I happened to come up with, but back in about 2009 there was a group that came together called the Wisconsin Tribal Justice Committee. They were made up of folks that were around the Green Bay area that was trying to talk about issues that were affecting us here in Northeast Wisconsin and across the state as it related to tribal issues.

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Here's a list of those different agencies and different tribes that were kind of at the table. We have four of the eleven tribes here in Wisconsin that were represented by different people throughout the time, and I'll get to that in a minute. Wisconsin Judicare, Great Lakes Inter Tribal Council, Fox Valley Tech, UWGB. We have a really good relationship with our state partners at the Department of Corrections and our Office of Justice Assistance.

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As they were talking about the different issues that were coming up, a lot of it all came back to recidivism rates and that type of mind thought and they were led by Ada Deer and if any of you know who Ada is she's a very motivated person and recidivism is one of those things that were at the top of her list so it became at the top of our list, I guess. But one of the things that they found out, many of you probably know this about recidivism, but more and more times the recidivism rate increases. About half of the offenders were between 18 and 23. Males had a higher recidivism rate than the females, and American Indians were right there at the top of the recidivism rates.

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In Wisconsin they did a population check of our Wisconsin Native American prisoners inside of the institutions. It kind of slides backwards, but between '07 and '09 it shows that the number of offenders that were in the Wisconsin prison system and they're self-identified. Now the Department of Corrections doesn't track the tribe that they're from or which tribe that they're from, but simply that they're self-reporting as Native Americans. Now those numbers may or may not be skewed by someone that doesn't want them to know that they're Native American, or by those that think they can get some additional services by self-reporting that so I'd like to think that those numbers are pretty close to being accurate.

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One of the things that drove Ada to this is the disproportionate makeup of the population in there. With the Native Americans of Wisconsin being only about 1% of the population, we took up 3% of the inmate population through the Wisconsin prison system. Then once they're released from the prison system, we also made up about 3% of the offender population. So that's pretty consistent with what was going on throughout the prison systems, and going through there and trying to make sure that – we were trying to look at what things that we could do to help our folks.

(Slide #29: 22:00)

And then there's a breakdown of the male vs. the female populations that were self-reported.

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Now what the revocations between 2004 and 2007, about 4% of those were the, were made by Native American Offenders. What the reason was for that, it varies, but I think one of the things that was at the forefront for that goes back to the social issues and we'll get to that in a few minutes, but do they really have the skills and were they going back to and how was that affecting their success rates to not reoffend.

(Slide #31: 22:45)

Now for incarceration, I think we both know that for incarceration and supervision there's some costs tied to that. So, these numbers are from 2008, but it's costing about \$83.00 per day to house somebody in our state prison system and just under \$7.00 per day for the supervision. And where's that money coming from? I think that we all know that it's coming from our taxes.

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So there's a real need, not only fiscally, but from a community standpoint to do something for that. So the Wisconsin Tribal Justice Community, we got a bunch more folks together from basically the same agencies – but we included a lot more people than just the small core group, to form the Wisconsin Tribal Community Reintegration Program. And there was a Second Chance grant that just happened to be coming out around the same time from the Bureau of Justice Assistance that we...

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...decided to get into, into a pilot project to include the Menominee, Oneida Stockbridge communities with the intention of once we got our feet wet and figured out what to do and how to do it that we would expand to the other eleven tribes in Wisconsin. Now we are a Public Law 280 (PL 280) Tribe, and I don't know that everybody that's on this call is from Wisconsin, but one of the things that we are able to do and we have a very good relationship with our Department of Corrections to kind of figure out where those offenders were being, were going to return, and trying to figure out which tribes we could focus on so we took the Menominee, Stockbridge and Oneida. Those numbers are right about a hundred right now that are close – are about 36 months – from release. And we're going to be focused on those three reservations for those folks that are returning back to our reservations. And one of the things that we've come up with, and actually it was Aida's idea, but instead of calling the offenders and ex-cons and all of those negative types of connotations for those folks coming back, we have decided to call them returning citizens.

So once we decided that we were going to focus on those three tribes, and we included the Great Lakes Inter Tribal Council, we went to all three of those tribes to the governing bodies, to the business communities and the decision makers, and presented this idea to them. Based on their feedback we were able to get three resolutions in support of that along with a resolution from Great Lakes Inter Tribal Council, to support this program to move forward. Getting four entities like that together and getting something in support of anything collectively is difficult, but this wasn't. It was very simple to get that idea through the process.

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Now the advisory committee is made up of the three tribes involved, Oneida, Menominee, Stockbridge, Great Lakes Inter Tribal Council, our Office of Justice Assistance, Department of Corrections – not only the prison system, but we also have our community corrections folks and our tribal liaison that comes up from Madison for the meetings, Fox Valley Technical College, and Wisconsin Judicare. Now, one of the things that we had to do before we were able to hire any of the ladies that we have, and we were very fortunate to get the three ladies that are actually going to be doing the work, so there wasn't any sort of perception that one tribe would be benefitting more than the other we decided that the Great Lakes Inter Tribal Council would be the supervisor of the ladies, the case worker and the director, so that

they could kind of not have that conflict or perceived conflict that Oneida's getting all the services while everybody's ignoring the folks from Stockbridge. So we decided to do it that way so our three ladies are actually employees of Great Lake Inter Tribal Council.

Before they were hired, we had to send two people down to a conference in Washington, D.C. about the grant and what the whole process was going to be. Quite frankly, because I was the program director or program coordinator, whatever it is that you have to sign off on the grant for, I got, I lost "rock, paper, scissors" and I got to go out there along with Jeff Muse, who is the Executive Director at Great Lakes Inter Tribal Council and Tsyosha?aht's supervisor. Quite frankly, my idea of reintegration, or most of my entire career I was working night patrol out on the street, was simply reintegration was putting handcuffs back on the offender and sticking them back in prison. After that conference, I think one of those things that we all have every now and again is one of those "Aha" moments and that whole shift of paradigm to understand now that we need to provide services to those folks getting out so they don't reoffend, because if we put that effort in on the front end, we won't have to deal with them later on. And if we're able to be successful in getting them not only the services and skills that they want and need we can save ourselves a lot of headache down the road, not only for that victim, not only for that returning citizen and their family, but all those potential victims that are out in our communities, just to make our community a better place.

Because we only have three people to do this, we had to focus on some very specific and geographical challenges so we chose to provide services at the Green Bay Correctional Institute, Sanger B. Powers Correctional Center, our Osh Kosh Prison and Taycheedah. The Taycheedah is a female prison, so we'll also be doing male and female returning citizens to provide these services to.

So with that, I'm going to turn it over to and she's going to Tsyosha?aht and she's going to talk to you about what she is, or what her and her ladies are doing.

(Slide #35: 29:41)

(Tsyosha?aht C. Delgado speaking)

Good afternoon. My name's Tsyosha?aht Delgado. Welcome you all to this webinar. Hopefully I'll be able to give you enough information at least to get your program started if that's where you're at. I'm the director of the reintegration program, and I have two case workers Rebecca Chavez and Marianne Morris, who both bring different kinds of skills to the program. Miss Chavez has been able to be involved in half way houses where people that have come out of corrections or alcohol treatment facilities, she's been able to work with them and Miss Morris has some expertise in program development.

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The first two months of the program, we met with the advisory committee; Rich had kind of taken the time to mention those different individuals from the three tribes and other entities. We've toured the different reservations, Oneida in particular, as well as Menominee and Stockbridge, and because we're hitting a pretty large area it's been a little more challenging to try and get the staff caseworkers familiar with the area because they have to know where the programs are, where the different facilities are, where the services can be obtained and get names and faces with the different programs that they're going to make referrals for. We've set up our offices with the basic resources that we've needed and our first challenge was probably about the first week we attended the Business Committee meeting

which is the Oneida government here that oversees the tribe, and we presented, I presented on their pardon law. One of the issues that was coming up is that they wanted to have it so that those that were offended by the returning citizen would have a say on whether they were able to get jobs or not. And so I spoke on behalf of the returning citizens to not have that part included in the language of the new pardon law so that we realized that the individuals that are returning have already done their time, they're already on probation and parole, they probably will have gone through some type of programming while they were in the institution and it didn't make sense to put another kind of barrier, you know another boulder that they had to go over in order to obtain a job. And so, I kind of spoke on their behalf and I wrote that up and submitted that to the Business Committee for their consideration.

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We've met with spiritual advisors in the different communities, those being Stockbridge-Munsee, Oneida, and Menominee. In Stockbridge-Munsee we've been meeting with Molly Miller who has introduced us to intergenerational trauma, trying to do some healing around some of the issues that a lot of our inmates will be, returning citizens will be facing in coming from the boarding school experience and how all that comes into play, so we're going to be doing some training with her. We just started that last week, and that will go on for four more weeks. In the Oneida Community we have met with Bob Brown, who is one of our Bear Clan Chiefs in the Oneida Community. We'll also be meeting with Ron Hill and Annette Cornelius who are some of our spiritual healers in the community also. In Menominee Community we've met with David Greeno who is one of the spiritual advisors for the Menominee Nation. And when we go into the different communities, we have to realize and be mindful that all of the three different tribes have different spiritual entities included in them so we're not only going with Native American spirituality, we're also going to make contacts with the different congregations in each of the different communities, but some of those to mention are the Big Drum Society, the Long House Community here, the Native American Church and, of course, things that a lot of people Native Americans in the system are familiar with the sweat lodges, so we're going to be making those connections there. I think another thing to note with the Menominee Community there's a lot of smaller communities; they're kind of broken up between seven and fifteen miles from each other, so it makes it a little more difficult to make those connections because if they're going back to their communities we have about four different communities we're working with on the Menominee Reservation that includes Middle Village, Keshena, Neopit and South Branch. So all of these communities are about 7 to 15 minutes away from each other, so that means if we have somebody returning they may end up living in Shano but may have to drive about 20 miles to get to maybe Neopit or Zoar, another community to get services, to find these spiritual advisors. So those are going to be challenges for us. So we're going to continue to build on those resources and build rapport with each community cause we're from, I'm from this community, Oneida, but we have to build rapport with the other two communities, especially with Rebecca and Mary Ann because they're not familiar with the resources that are out there. We've had meetings with agencies for child support, domestic violence, Department of Vocation Rehabilitation, education, housing, Pardon Departments. And another thing is realizing that each tribe that we'll be working with have different laws and different rules and policies and so if we know what the laws are for the Pardon Department for Oneida, they may not be the same for Menominee or Stockbridge-Munsee.

So we have to learn what all those are so that when we're assisting our returning citizens, we know what we need to let them, we know what information that we have to have in order for them to be able to apply for a pardon to be able to work for that community.

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We began the process of developing a resource file, and these resource files will be divided by the Tribes and they'll be broken down by each of their communities. Like I had mentioned, Menominee has Keshena, Neopit, South Branch and Zoar, those different communities that are all part of the Menominee Tribe. So, we have to break them up so that we have an idea of where each one of them will be coming from and going to.

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So, to give you an example of that for Menominee, this is their seal, and one of the flyers we developed will be having the seal, all three of the seals from each tribe on our flyers so that people are aware of what Nations that we service. The Menominee Tribal Clinic has the WIC, diabetes prevention, nutrition, all kinds of health related services; tobacco use in order to try to stop smoking, and infant health – some people may be coming out and maybe have children or will be having children as they come out.

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Some other things that Menominee County Health and Human Services provides prevention, early intervention, counseling, treatment and other supportive services. So there's just a really large amount of services that are offered with each tribe and again, even though I may say health and human services, that may not mean the same thing as it does in Oneida. They may have different programs in each department which is why we have to develop our resource files so that we can be sure that we are making the correct referrals for the different agencies, depending on what tribe they're coming from. Another thing to note is that different tribes have certain programs that are only available to them, to tribal members within that tribe. But there are some tribes, Oneida for example, has different programs that are available to any Native American, so Menominee and Stockbridge-Munsee can receive services from Oneida, depending on what they are and that may be the same for Menominee and Stockbridge-Munsee. So that's another reason that we have to put our resources in order so we know that if somebody that is Menominee is deciding to live in Green Bay, they're going to need services from Oneida, then we gotta find what kinds of services are available to them within the Oneida Community.

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One of the real influential and assets that Menominee has is Maehnowesekiyah. It's a wellness center, and they provide a wide range of treatments, intervention, prevention and non-therapy services for drugs which means they're using different kinds of teas and herbs and things like that. They provide alcohol, drug, mental health, domestic violence and residential care and services, any kinds of AODA treatment, so all these things kind of get funneled into the Maehnowesekiyah area, which is also located in Middle Village so it's a halfway point between Keshena and Neopit.

(Slide #42: 39:19)

The Community Resource Center – this is an example of what Menominee offers at their Community Resource Center is temporary assistance to needy families, the TANF program, job training. Whereas Oneida, our Community Resource Center is primarily focusing on education. So that's why it's important for the caseworkers, Mary Ann and Rebecca, to understand when certain words are used you have to know what tribe you're talking about and what services are provided there because between just Menominee and Oneida the Community Resource Center are two different areas. Menominee Higher

Education Office, the Adult Vocational Training and Adult Education Program provides assistance to help them advance in the workplace and pursue higher education, college, or any kind of technical school. The College of Menominee Nation provides technical certificates, 2 and 4 year degrees, outreach services to the community. One of the things about the College of Menominee is they have a transportation, they received a grant from the state and that grant was able to service Menominee people, or people in the Menominee area, to provide transportation to the Green Bay area. So, it's specifically for College of Menominee students or people that are in their certificate program and so they have a transportation, this grant covers for people moving from that are living in Keshena, can catch the transit in Keshena at the college or anywhere else on the reservation there in Menominee and travel up to Green Bay and maybe attend college courses at the Green Bay campus, and that transportation happens in the spring and the fall. It happens five times a day that the transportation goes back and forth so that it can accommodate just about anything. They'll also give people rides to the clinics or hospitals in the Green Bay area or the stores and things like that. The other thing that they recently started is that they're starting courses, outreach courses at the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation and so what they'll be doing is they'll be trying to expand that transportation to go into Stockbridge-Munsee territories there. And so people that maybe want to take courses in Stockbridge can get transportation, but they also can take courses at the college at the Keshena campus so they can use that transportation and ride the bus for free as long as they have their ID.

(Slide #43: 42:06)

Then they have Menominee Tribal Child Support and this provides services to children and families regarding paternity and child support and also parenting skills. The Tribal Social Services provides support to families with catastrophic or medical emergencies. Catastrophic would be for example if somebody lost a limb when they were working or has become terminally ill and is unable to work and things like that. They also provide burial expenses support and kinship care. And kinship care is defined as if a relative, if there is a child that maybe needs to be taken care of by an aunt, uncle, grandma or cousin that kinship care will help give them funding to help take care of that child.

Menominee Indian Tribe Emergency Shelter Program – this is the Eagle's Nest it's called, their facility is called. And it is located up in Neopit and it provides shelter and supportive services to homeless individuals and families. And so people that are coming out of corrections, our returning citizens, are able to utilize this system and if they can take the time -- and we met with them last week -- if some of our returning citizens can take the time and are willing to locate up there in Neopit, they can possibly get a home there if they make advance time to let them know that they're coming out, and then they'll make the arrangements so that they can be there.

Then there's the Menominee Tribal Housing Department with home improvements, loans to get homes and low rent programs.

(Slide #44: 43:36)

They also have a food distribution program with commodities, public transit, public transportation that kind of talks about that again, and the Menominee Tribe Elder Services. They have delivery meals and Meals on Wheels and personal care. They also have a CBRF.

(Slide #45: 44:00)

The Stockbridge-Munsee Nation also has a lot of similar programs – family services, advocacy for families and housing, legal advocacy and counseling, and they have a homeless shelter and transitional living places. They assist people independent living skills and after-school prevention programs. They also have Indian Child Welfare program with supplies, outreach and prevention services.

(Slide #46: 44:26)

And Economic Support Programs assists individuals in applying for Badger Care Plus, and that's like medical assistance, home energy assistance, food share, child care services, TANF again. The TANF program in particular is for individuals that have their children and are looking for some assistance financially and are unable to find a job. What TANF will do is it will pay them a certain amount of money per month, and it's based on how many are in the family, and then what they are required to do is they are required to volunteer to work at a facility for up to 40 hours, but usually 20 hours and then 20 of those hours are spent looking for a job. What happens is TANF basically will pay their wages for working at that facility and fortunately for us we have a TANF program here in Oneida and I'll be developing some job descriptions to be able to get two TANF workers at our office to help us with some administrative work – filing, and just paperwork and things like that. So we'll be able to give some people some skills on being able to help them finding jobs. So that's kind of one of the things that are there. They also assist with resume job preparation. They have a food distribution department, packaged foods and medical transportation.

(Slide #47: 45:50)

They have a health and wellness center that provides your medical, dental, pharmacy and health specialist referrals and a wellness center also provides AODA treatment, family and couples counseling.

(Slide #48: 46:04)

And then Oneida, Oneida probably has one of the most of programs available and it's probably because we have a larger population and we're located closer to the city of Green Bay. And so they have social services departments, again TANF which I've already talked about, higher education the same thing, providing education, technical, and 2 and 4-year degrees, child support services to assist people in trying to meet with families...

(Slide #49: 46:34)

... and set up their services where they have to pay child support.

And then they have a Behavioral Health program that covers psychological and AODA services here on the reservation.

(Slide #50: 46:49)

They also have a Wisconsin Shares Program and a lot of the programs that Oneida has, has a lot of different like pockets of money that help take care of child care and other services that they may need, and so that was real beneficial in finding out about the Wisconsin Shares program. They have the Native Employment Works Program to help people get jobs, general assistance for Oneida members and food card program that basically is like a debit card that they can use at almost any of the stores...

(Slide #51: 47:20)

... in the Green Bay area.

They have State Respite Care. This is primarily for people that maybe have a little bit of stress and they need a break and so they can provide child care for that and so that people can, you know, just go and exercise, take care of errands and things like that without having to run the children around with them. Energy Assistance, they have funeral and cemetery aids.

(Slide #52: 47:45)

Badgercare again that I mentioned. We have a fitness center, health center, culture and language program.

(Slide #53: 47:52)

One of the things that my staff and I did is we created a statistical flyer for information on the three Tribes and so I've put all this information on here, on these slides

(Slide #54: 48:09)

But it all is compiled at the very end of this it basically shows us that improving outcomes for released inmates we can create a stronger, healthier community.

(Slide #55: 48:20)

Here's our contact information for my office.

(Slide #56: 48:24)

And this is the sources that we've pulled information from.

(Slide #57: 48:29)

The statistics that are on this flyer right here, Just the facts... So this is one of the flyers that we put out and we attended public events so that people can see the statistical information. Sometimes numbers are easier to kind of grasp the concept.

(Slide #58: 48:45)

And so this is more statistical information of what we had from May, since we started mid-May until July, and so you can take a look at those numbers at your leisure.

(Slide #59: 48:57)

And if there's and concluding things or any things that anybody has, questions, we can kind of pass it back over to Kimberly.

Speaking: Jim Santelle

And this is Jim. Once again I wanted to thank Kim and Rich and Tsyosha?aht for those terrific presentations and I'd also like to thank everyone for participating in this webinar today, but we don't want you to go away just yet. We have some very important information we'd like to share with you.

(Slide #60: 49:31)

(Slide #61: 49:34)

The Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice...

(Slide #60: 49:41)

... seek your input on the draft of the Tribal Justice Plan that's formerly called the Long-term Detention Plan, I moved through the slides fairly... 2 days from today. We're also providing to you right now some information about how you access the final draft of the Tribal Justice Plan. It is fairly simple, I've gone out myself and done this and you can submit your comments on the draft through this process. I encourage you to take a look at that slide and make those comments, submit those comments by this Thursday and be a part of this all important process.

(Slide #62: 50:23)

We'd also like to share with you some useful resources that have been developed to assist Tribal Justice Agencies with reentry planning and information sharing. These resources are available free online. You can Google them or you can contact Kim Cobb who is one of our panelists today at the APPA and she will be very happy to get you exactly what you need in support of your important work.

(Slide #63: 50:53)

This is the contact information for Kim and for Rich and for Tsyosha?aht, and in addition to that, of course, as I've said all of our presenters here today are very interested in following up with you on any information that was provided, to answer your questions, and offer some additional insights and the good things that they are doing. I know that we have perhaps just a few minutes left at this time for some questions.

(Slide #64: 51:17)

And, so let me re-describe how it is that we can go about soliciting just a few of those in the remaining time that we have left. You can choose to raise your hand using the hand button on the tool bar in the right hand side of your screen, or you can chat in your question as it sets forth on that particular slide.

And so with that by way of presentation here, we'd like to solicit your questions and answer those that you might like to present and offer to any one of our speakers at this time.

(Speaking: Kim Cobb)

OK, this is Kim Cobb again with APPA and we've had a couple of questions submitted through the chat. I'm not exactly sure who specifically they're directed to. I'm just going to read them and if any of the panelists would like to respond, feel free to do so.

The first question comes from Nancy Sabin. She asks "How can we approach Tribal reentry issues in a more collaborative manner and have funding provided for all partners in the collaboration? Historically, funding is given to one organization that uses the majority, if not all of the funds, or they distribute funds to a few of the organizations in the collaboration". And Rich, I don't know if you all want to take a first stab at that question.

(Speaking: Richard VanBoxstel)

Sure. One of the things that we've done is that Oneida is the grant recipient for our Second Chance grant and for the most part none of the other tribes are receiving any funding and much of their time, which it's not a lot, but those folks that are part of the advisory board are providing their time as an in kind, so about the only one that we're paying is because they're the actual employers so I guess to answer that question directly I don't have an answer for it because of how we set up our program. It isn't to recoup any of those costs but simply to provide this service to our community.

(Speaking: Kim Cobb)

OK. Thanks Rich. We have another question here from Dr. Leon Geter, and I'm sorry if I'm mispronouncing that, "What is the degree of staff commitment, satisfaction and effort observed in relation to program outcomes based on the quality of information shared? Is this data collected on any level"? Do any of the panelists have any response to that? The degree of commitment, satisfaction, and effort observed in relation to the program outcome? And I'm not exactly sure if they're referring to participant outcomes or the level of satisfaction from the participant perspective or from the agency perspective.

(Speaking: Tsyosha?aht Delgado)

OK, this is Tsyosha?aht. I guess I would be the one to answer that. We're in the process of, there was a training in regard to the data information that will be collected that is required as part of the grant and so that is how we are compiling our information and it will be based on the people that we are going to be working with in the prisons and being able to go in there and work with them 6-8 months before they even get out and then we will work with them for about a year after they are out. And so the data that we collect will basically be from those referrals that we will get which will come from the agents that are working in the prison system and so that's how we're gonna do it. You know, there's a process that the grant requires that we have to fill out for the data information and so there's also a spreadsheet, an Excel spreadsheet, on how you compile all your information and it shows who succeeded, who has not, who's been in a pre-release program and a post-release program. We're also collecting data that has to do with referrals that we're getting and phone calls and letters of people that are already out that are not part of our program. We're also keeping that data so that in the future if it's needed and we decide to write for a grant for that specifically we'll already have the data for it.

(Speaking: Jim Santelle)

So I think to sum it up, to answer the question, we don't have that we haven't been in existence long enough to have that data.

(Speaking: Kim Cobb)

OK. We have another question from Brian Colgan. And this is probably another one directed at you all in Wisconsin. "Is it difficult to obtain the Bureau of Prisons' mental health, substance abuse, and sex offender treatment records, and is this going to change"?

(Speaking: Rich VanBoxtel)

We're not working with the Bureau of Prisons, we're just working with the Wisconsin state institutions. We haven't reached out to the feds yet.

(Speaking: Jim Santelle)

And this is Jim. From the federal side I suspect that that information, although obviously it is maintained by the Bureau of Prisons for much the same reasons that Rich is implicitly indicating would be problematic for us to release. There may be some case specific circumstances under which we in the federal system might be able to get that, but again because of the nature of it, it might be more difficult to release – certainly publicly – but those are the kinds of things we could answer on a case specific need for that. That's perhaps the kind of thing that our office, the U.S. Attorney's Office could address at least through the U.S. Bureau of Prisons as well.

(Speaking: Kim Cobb)

OK. Our next question comes from Anne Dahl and she asks, "Did you get money to develop housing as part of your grant or did you have to do with what was available"? And I'm assuming that addressed to you all Rich.

(Speaking: Rich VanBoxtel)

No, and yes. No, we didn't get any money for the housing stuff and we had to make do with what we have. One of the things that we're having to deal with and try to, I don't want to say get around, but to deal with the issue is that many of the offenders coming out are convicted of a felony and there's a lot of federal money that our tribes have with the Federal Housing Programs that felons can't live in those type of funded houses so we're trying to wade through that.

(Speaking: Tsyosha?aht Delgado)

The other thing is that there was recently a law that was passed that said that the, that tribes can use federal funding to develop housing for people that are returning to communities that have felony records. Another conversation that I had with our housing authority is that they've been talking amongst themselves and we had met with them here in Oneida, and they're talking about possibly trying to put together a program where they can apply for some funding through the federal government for housing where they hire those individuals that are returning to the community, and they build their own homes, and then they can apply for those homes that they're building. And they would build them somewhere separate from the housing sites that they cannot reside at so that's just a

discussion that's happening right now, but it's just an idea that people seem to be supporting and of course there will be a lot of groundwork that has to happen before that will occur.

(Speaking: Kim Cobb)

OK. I think we have time for one more question. Just as a side note – for those of you that have your hands raised, if you want to take a moment and type in your question in the chat we will do our best to get back to you after the webinar to address your question, so please just take a moment and do that. We've got time for one more question, it comes from Laureen Vilad, and again I apologize if I'm mispronouncing that, "Why is it with the importance of loss of cultural identity is it at the bottom of the services, when it is the most important for healing and wellness"? And I'm assuming that's addressed to you all Rich.

(Speaking: Tsyosha?aht Delgado)

Hello again. Actually, that is one of the ways that this grant was approved is that culture and spirituality is going to be implemented into the Windows to Work program and that program exists already within the system and so what we are going to be doing is we will be revamping it and including culture and spirituality into that Windows to Work program. That's one of the reasons that the grant had been accepted, and so that's actually our number one goal to be able to have that in there.

(Speaking: Kim Cobb)

OK. Well, it looks like that's all the time that we have for today, so I'll turn it over to Jim to make some concluding remarks.

(Speaking: Jim Santelle)

Very good. Thank you very much, Kim. In conclusion today I would like to re-acknowledge and thank very much the terrific contributions of our presenters Kimberly Cobb, Rich VanBoxtel, and Tsyosha?aht Delgado. All three of them, as you can plainly see and know from their comments and their presentations on your monitors today, are incredibly well informed in these areas and really take them up on their offers today to follow up with them – the emails, phone numbers, and especially as Kim was just saying, those of you who have questions that did not get to have those answered in the course of our last portion here, we will try to do our very best to get some answers to you. To the extent that those are incomplete or unsatisfactory – do take us up on that offer to follow up with all of them. I'd also like to acknowledge again the terrific assistance of Norena Henry, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, in putting this all together, and very much encourage all of you who are interested in the subject matter of today's webinar to follow up on the remaining webinars in this series, likewise going to be presented and advertised in the days and weeks just ahead. For now, I again want to thank all of you who participated as attendees in this program. We look forward to your participation in the kinds of programs and projects that were the subject of our presentation today and we thank you for your participation, and although we're concluding today we extend to all of you on behalf of the panelists today, we extend to all of you our best wishes for using the information, incorporating it into your existing programs, and creating new things, enterprises, projects and programs that can really not only ensure the effective information sharing we talked about but most importantly the reentry of important members back into our Native American communities and other communities in which we are

responsible, and for which we are responsible as leaders in our communities. I thank you very much and best wishes to all of you. Have a good afternoon.

(End: 1:03:00)