



North Carolina
Department of Administration
Commission of Indian Affairs

Machelle Sanders
Gregory A. Richardson
Executive Director

4th Annual Indian Child Welfare Gathering
It Takes a Village...To Have Forever Tomorrows
Thursday, April 5, 2018, 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.
First Lutheran Church, 3600 West Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC

8:30 a.m. Arrival and Registration

9:00 a.m. Moderator, Greg Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs

Opening Remarks: Jennifer Brewer-Young, On-Site Coordinator, 2018 Indian Child Welfare Gathering

Welcome and Introductions:

Invocation, Senior Pastor Jay Hilbinger, First Lutheran Church

Shirley Freeman, Vice Chairman, NC Commission of Indian Affairs

Jennifer Revels-Baxter, Guilford Native American Association

9:30 a.m. *Setting the Context for Today's Gathering Video:*

Bringing Our Children Home: An Introduction to the Indian Child Welfare Act

10:00 a.m. *Overview- North Carolina's American Indians*

NC Commission of Indian Affairs

What This Means to Indian Child Welfare-State Recognition V Federal Recognition

Greg Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs

10:30 a.m. *Break*

10:45 a.m. NC Child Welfare Law 101: Following a Child through the Child Welfare and Court

Systems & Understanding Laws That Protect Members of State Tribes

Reginald O'Rourke, Associate Counsel, Guardian ad Litem Division, AOC

Noon Working Lunch, Child Welfare 101, continued

1:00 p.m. Remarks, Ralph Bayard, Casey Foundations

1:30 p.m. *Celebrating What's Going Well: Best Practice in Action*

The Positive Impact of Ensuring Indian Children are Identified at the Beginning of DSS Involvement

Vanessa Norris-Moore, Foster Care Supervisor, and Jahnell Carmichael, Investigative and Assessment Supervisor, Robeson County Department of Social Services

Taking a Closer Look at the Guardian ad Litem Role and How GALs Can Promote Indian Children's Best Interests
Cindy Bizzell, Administrator, Guardian ad Litem Division, AOC

State Tribe Response When Receiving Notification of Children in Care

Leslie Jones, Tribal Enrollment Officer, Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe, Bolton, NC

2:15 p.m. *Where Do We Go From Here?*

How will we take what we learned and experienced today back to our communities and our work—we'll hear at least two great ideas from each group!

3:00 p.m. Adjourn

Thank You for Joining Us!