

# AMERIND | NAIHC 2023 ANNUAL CONVENTION & TRADESHOW

Riding the Waves of Culture and Collaboration

May 8-11 Waikoloa, Hawaii

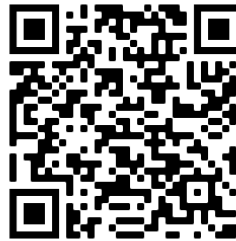
# For Your Information

Get the agenda, speaker bios, and up-to-date event information at your fingertips! Download the convention app by scanning the QR code and follow these steps:

- Open the app & search **"AMERIND NAIHC"**
- "2023 AMERIND NAIHC Annual Convention" should populate
- Tap the download icon:
- After download, tap the arrow & the events page should appear
- On the events page, find the agenda, session schedules, speaker info, etc.



For Android Phones



For iPhones

## Convention Survey

Did you enjoy the plenary sessions? Were the breakout sessions valuable to your work? Did you make any connections at the tradeshow? Please tell us about it! Take the convention survey! Scan the QR code or find it on the convention app.



Survey QR Code



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# AMERIND CHAIR: WELCOME TO HAWAII!

A very warm welcome as we join here, in Hawaii. It is a great pleasure and an honor for me personally and for the AMERIND team to be your hosts for this week's Convention.

**Today marks the beginning of the 2023 AMERIND/NAIHC Annual Convention & Tradeshow, "Riding the Waves of Culture and Collaboration".** This week we will have opportunity to network, catch up with old friends, and collaborate on current housing and insurance matters. Getting together will solidify that we truly are "Better Together".

We are here and we are excited to meet with Tribal leaders, housing professionals, and all the members of NAIHC and AMERIND alike, as we come together to learn, share ideas and positive experiences in the days to come. By collaborating and doing business with AMERIND, our goal is to provide all of our clients with a comprehensive understanding of the challenges, as well as the exciting new growth we have attained together at AMERIND.

At AMERIND we believe in **"Tribes Protecting Tribes"!** As we gather this week, we celebrate the strength of AMERIND and NAIHC as one Native community, and most importantly the membership and the people behind all of our successes. We strive to provide all attendees a positive, informative, and memorable experience.

I realize that you are all fully dedicated to the sessions that will follow, but I do hope you will also take time to discover a bit of paradise on Hawaii's Big Island. Enjoy the beautiful and unique area we are so blessed to visit, with it's beautiful nature, pleasant people and unique culture. Please take the time to enjoy and most importantly relax.

The purpose of this annual event and the continuing vision of AMERIND is to promote, "Tribes Protecting Tribes." **Since 1986, we've been protecting Tribes by providing competitive and affordable insurance coverage for our communities, homes, and assets.**

It is an honor to serve and be a part of this incredible partnership with NAIHC. We are sincerely grateful for the collaboration between AMERIND and NAIHC, and to both the Board of Director's and staff for their dedication to bring this event annually to our combined membership. **We applaud all the sponsors, exhibitors, and attendees for their gracious time and investment in this convention and tradeshow.**

Finally, thank you to AMERIND's loyal members for your trust in our work and helping us move towards a more united vision. Thank you to the AMERIND staff for providing excellent service to our membership. A special thank you to Bob Dahl (COO), for stepping into the role of AMERIND's Acting CEO for the past year while Derek Valdo was away fulfilling his tribal duties. AMERIND is a family, we feel each other's pain, hardships, we share each other's risks, and celebrate new growth, potential and rebuilding.

We look forward to 2023 with all of our members, and we welcome new members to share our vision of "Tribes Protecting Tribes" and join us in our path to success.

Sincerely,

**Phil Bush**

*Chairman of AMERIND*





## AMERIND CEO CONVENTION & TRADESHOW WELCOME MESSAGE

# Guuwáátsíí Hauubá (Welcome)!

Welcome to the AMERIND | NAIHC 2023 Annual Convention and Tradeshow! You are one of 700+ Tribal leaders and housing professionals we are honored to host. This year's theme is, 'Riding the Waves of Culture and Collaboration'.

Over the course of the week, you'll be riding the waves in meaningful discussions, with more than 70 breakout sessions on essential topics in risk management, insurance, homeownership, and more. Knowledge is power, and this event is all about learning, sharing ideas, and planning the future of Indian housing together.

I'm personally looking forward to presenting two sessions this year. One will focus on risk management and sustainability, titled "How Much Is Enough?" I'll discuss the significant changes we're seeing in the industry and how they impact AMERIND and our members. I hope to leave you with many ideas and takeaways that will help your own Tribal community withstand the considerable challenges we're all facing today.

At AMERIND, sustainability is our biggest priority. We've been in the fortunate position to absorb recent losses, despite a 20% market correction. To retain this strength and stability, difficult adjustments will need to be made going forward to ensure we can continue 'Protecting our People' and serving Indian Country for as long as needed.

This event is the perfect opportunity for all of us to get ahead of the storm and plan for what's to come. I encourage you to attend and participate in as many of the sessions as you can. By coming together and learning from one another, we can successfully navigate the ever-changing landscape of Indian housing.

Finally, I extend my huge appreciation to event sponsors, exhibitors, volunteers, the event venue, and staff, and of course, our co-host, NAIHC. This event would not have been possible without your support. I'm excited to see what we can accomplish together!

## Derek Valdo

*Chief Executive Officer, AMERIND*

# ABOUT AMERIND

AMERIND, founded in 1986, is the only 100% Tribally owned insurance provider committed to Indian Country. Over 400 tribes united and pooled their resources to create AMERIND to keep money within Indian Country. AMERIND provides property, liability, commercial auto, and workers' compensation insurance for Tribes, Tribal governments, and Tribal businesses, as well as individual coverage for Tribal members. AMERIND also helps Tribes obtain state of the art broadband connectivity through AMERIND Critical Infrastructure (ACI) division. AMERIND is an A- (Excellent) rated company on the AM Best Financial Strength Rating (FSR) scale.

## Connect with AMERIND

502 Cedar Drive  
Santa Ana Pueblo, NM 87004  
505-404-5000 Telephone  
505-404-5001 Fax  
[www.amerind.com](http://www.amerind.com)



## AMERIND STAFF

### Executive Officers

**Derek Valdo**, Chief Executive Officer (Pueblo of Acoma)  
**Robert Dahl**, Chief Operating Officer & Acting Chief Executive Officer  
**Geoffrey Blackwell**, Chief Strategy Officer & General Counsel (Muscogee (Creek))

### Leadership Team

**Alan Romero**, Director of Claims  
**Aleksandra Myga**, Director of Finance  
**Arthur McConnachie**, IT Manager  
**Audrey Gachupin**, Office Manager (Pueblo of Jemez/Zia)  
**Colby Duren**, Counsel and ACI Project Manager  
**Delane Big Crow**, Safety Manager (Oglala Sioux/Pueblo of Santa Clara)  
**Felix McGowan**, Director of AMERIND Critical Infrastructure (Little Shell Tribe)  
**Jennifer Melchior**, Director of Product Development  
**Johnny Eastwood**, Senior Claims Representative  
**Karen Lonjose**, Finance (Pueblo of Zuni)  
**Lynnette Toya**, Senior Human Resource Generalist (Pueblo of Jemez)  
**Mike Melchior**, Workers' Compensation Claims Manager  
**Shannon Lastyona**, Underwriting Manager (Pueblo of Zuni)  
**Tina Duncan**, Director of Business Development (Navajo)

### Team Members

Aaron Archuleta  
Alice Sena (Pueblo de Cochiti)  
Andrea Allison (Navajo)  
Andrew Shipman (Cherokee)  
Anita Hansen  
Colleen Yazzie (Navajo)  
Davida Delmar (Navajo)  
Denise Cheresposy (Pueblo of Laguna/Jemez)  
Denyse Carr (Pueblo of Laguna)  
Fabiola Lopez  
Fallyn Begay (Navajo)  
Gary Wheeler  
Gia Gilk  
Glendon Toya (Pueblo of Jemez)

Heather Fellows  
Helen Apodaca  
Jaime Herrera  
James Lonjose (Pueblo of Zuni/Jemez)  
J'Dynn Loretto (Pueblo of Jemez)  
Jennifer Bell  
Jordan Naranjo (Pueblo of Santa Clara)  
Julie Pecos (Pueblo of Jemez)  
Kamren Apache (Navajo)  
Karleen Chin  
Kathleen Jaquez  
Kietz Garcia (Pueblo of Santa Ana)  
Kurt Mora (Pueblo of Jemez)  
Lauren Ciulla  
Leah Cristobal (Pueblo of Santa Ana/Tlingit/Tsimshian)  
Lindsay Gunther  
Lisa Marquez  
LoRheda Vigil (Pueblo of Jemez)  
Lorraine Aragon (Pueblo of Acoma)  
Michela Chinana (Pueblo of Jemez)  
Michelle Archuleta  
Molly Givens  
Monica Braine (Assiniboine/Lakota)  
Natowa Garcia (Pueblo of Santa Ana)  
Nicholas Schneider  
Nicholas Standard  
Pattie Perez  
Randy Griego (Pueblo of Acoma)  
RanDee Toya (Pueblo of Jemez)  
Ravshaun Muminov  
Rosella James (Pueblo of San Felipe)  
Russell Mike (Pueblo of San Felipe)  
Ruth Rooney  
Santiago Morales (Rosebud Sioux Tribe)  
Sheldon Purley (Pueblo of Laguna)  
Terri Patterson  
Terra Kuhn  
Troy Romero (Pueblo of Acoma)  
Valerie Lucero (Pueblo of Acoma)  
Valerie Pecos (Pueblo of Jemez)  
Winter Johnson (Navajo)

# AMERIND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phil Bush, Chairman  
Chehalis Tribe

## REGION 1

Vacant  
Alternate: Vacant

## REGION 2

Jane Barrett (*Red Lake Nation*)- Secretary  
Alternate: Ben Wandahsega (*Hannahville Indian Community*)

## REGION 3

Jeannie Thompson (*Lower Brule Sioux*)  
Alternate: Eric Shepard (*Sisseton Wahpeton*)

## REGION 4

Jerri Killer (*Cherokee Nation*)  
Alternate: Kenneth Wayne King, Jr.  
(*Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma*)

## REGION 5

Rodney Trahan (*Northern Cheyenne*)  
Alternate: Harlan Mount (*Fort Belknap*)

## REGION 6

Ron Ryan (*Metlakatla Indian Community*)  
- Vice Chairman  
Alternate: Douglas Marconi (*Colville*)

## REGION 7

Hon. Glenda Nelson (*Enterprise Rancheria*)  
Alternate: Greg Borene (*Enterprise Rancheria*)

## REGION 8

Floyd Tortalita (*Pueblo of Acoma*)  
Alternate: Veronica Ruiz (*Ysleta Del Sur*)

## REGION 9

Olen Harris (*North Pacific Rim*)—Treasurer  
Alternate: Teri Nutter (*Copper River Basin*)

## MAHALO TO OUR LOCAL PLANNING PARTNERS!

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL)  
Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, National Park Service  
Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park, National Park Service



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS







## MESSAGE FROM NAIHC BOARD CHAIRMAN THOMAS LOZANO

# Aloha!

On behalf of the **National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) Board of Directors**, we extend a big welcome and gracious thank you to all convention attendees, sponsors, exhibitors, and partners for joining us on the beautiful Home Lands of the Native Hawaiian people for the 2023 AMERIND | NAIHC 2023 Annual Convention and Tradeshow. We also want to extend appreciation to our planning partners from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Over the next three days, you have full access to **nearly 100 breakout sessions** ranging from a myriad of topics. If you're interested in energy efficiency for housing units then sit in on the session "Funding for Tribal Housing Clean Energy." If you want to learn more about our relatives from Hawaii, consider attending the session "Introducing the Pouhana O Nā Wāhine." If you're looking to learn about successful housing development from your peers, check out the session "From a Dream to Implementation: Pueblo of Acoma Case Study." Our goal was to offer sessions for every tribal housing professional working in every capacity.

We encourage you to **network with peers and reconnect with friends** at events like the First-time Attendee Mixer, regional caucus meetings, and the Welcome Reception Luau. Whether you participated in the Community Engagement Activity, join the Healthy Walk, or explore on your own, we ask that you respect and learn about the Home Lands and indigenous peoples of the island. Most importantly, be safe and enjoy your time.

Respectfully,

**Thomas Lozano**

*NAIHC Board of Directors Chairman*

*Enterprise Rancheria Tribal Council Member*



## MESSAGE FROM NAIHC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHELSEA E. FISH

### E komo mai (Welcome)!

On behalf of the NAIHC staff, I join our co-host AMERIND and Board Chair Lozano in welcoming our members, colleagues, allies, and educators to the NAIHC | AMERIND Annual Convention and Tradeshow, **“Riding the Waves of Culture and Collaboration.”** There’s lots in store for learning, networking, and strategizing here in beautiful Waikoloa, Hawai‘i.

Here, we’re afforded the opportunity to **work together to improve, secure, and innovate housing development for our First Americans.** It’s my hope that each attendee utilizes this collaborative time to identify with every aspect of tribal housing because this is where we develop efficacy and purpose. I encourage you to make as many connections as possible so you’re able to return to your community with fresh ideas and stronger fortitude.

**Our staff and colleagues have put a tremendous amount of effort into planning and producing an event that will bring value to each of you.** The event features an Annual Meeting of membership (don’t forget to vote!), a golf tournament for good cause, tons of breakout sessions, a healthy walk along the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, and I can’t forget the Luau Welcome Reception. I hope you’ll take full advantage of the wealth our agenda has to offer.

Thank you for your attendance and support. Enjoy!

Sincerely,

**Chelsea E. Fish**

*NAIHC Executive Director*



# NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HOUSING COUNCIL

The National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) is the only national organization presenting housing interests of Native people who reside in Indian Communities, Alaska Native Villages, and on Native Hawaiian Home Lands. The NAIHC is composed of 288 members representing 474 tribes and housing organizations. NAIHC also has associate and individual members and organizations that support our mission. NAIHC is guided by a 10-member Board of Directors representing Native housing entities in nine geographical regions throughout the United States. NAIHC promotes and supports Native housing entities in their efforts to provide culturally relevant and quality affordable housing on behalf of Native people.

**NAIHC services to its members and the general public include:**

- Advocacy for housing opportunities and increased funding for Native American housing and community development programs;
- Training in many areas of Native housing management;
- On-site technical assistance for Native housing professionals; and
- Research and information services related to Native housing issues and programs.

## NAIHC Team

**Chelsea E. Fish (Seminole)**, Executive Director  
**Linda Lee Retka (White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa)**,  
Training & Technical Assistance Program Director  
**Shane Begay (Diné)**, Training & Technical Assistance Program Manager  
**Brian Mann (Eastern Shoshone Tribe)**, Training & Technical Assistance  
Coordinator  
**Erla Sagg (Diné)**, Training & Technical Assistance Coordinator  
**Ryan Edwards (Enterprise Rancheria)**, Policy and Program Assistant  
**Natalie Allen**, Administrative Assistant  
**Yolanda Almeida**, Office Manager

### NAIHC Associates

**April Hale (Diné)**, A.Hale PR, Inc., Communications Consultant  
**Joe Diehl**, Diehl & Co., LLC, Conference Coordination & Support  
**Tony Walters (Cherokee)**, Consultant

NAIHC is supported by member dues and fees, government, foundation, association and private grants. If you are interested in supporting the work of NAIHC, please contact us.

### Contact NAIHC

122 C Street N.W. Suite 505,  
Washington, D.C. 20001-2150

**Phone:** 202-789-1754

**Toll-Free:** 800-284-9165

**Fax:** 202-789-1758

[www.NAIHC.net](http://www.NAIHC.net)



# NAIHC Board of Directors

Thomas Lozano - Chairman (Enterprise Rancheria)  
Tribal Treasurer, *Enterprise Rancheria Tribal Council*

## REGION I – (AL, FL, ME, MA, MS, MO, NY, NC, RI, VA)

Vacant—

Angel Lowery - Alternate  
(Catawba)  
Executive Director  
*ISWA Development Corp*

## REGION II (MN, MI, WI)

Neil Whitegull  
(Ho-Chunk Tribe)  
Executive Director, *Ho-Chunk  
Housing and Community  
Development Agency*

Charlotte (Char) Roberts –  
Alternate (Red Lake Band of  
Chippewa Indians)  
Finance Manager, *Red Lake  
Reservation Housing Authority*

Sharon Vogel  
(Cheyenne River Sioux)  
Executive Director  
*Cheyenne River Housing  
Authority*

Stuart Langdeau – Alternate  
(Lower Brule Sioux)  
Grants/Development Coordinator  
*Lower Brule Housing Authority*

## REGION IV (OK, LA, KS, East TX)

Erna Reeves – Secretary  
(Cherokee Nation)  
Deputy Director  
*Housing Authority of the Cherokee  
Nation*

Bobby Yandell – Alternate  
(Choctaw Nation)  
Executive Director  
*Housing Authority of the Choctaw  
Nation*

## REGION III (ND, SD, NE, IA) REGION V (MT, WY, CO, UT)

Patrick Goggles  
(Northern Arapaho Tribe)  
Executive Director  
*Northern Arapaho Tribal Housing*

Jody Perez – Treasurer  
(Salish & Kootenai)  
Executive Director  
*Salish & Kootenai Housing Authority*

## REGION VI (WA, OR, ID)

Sami Jo Difuntorum –  
Vice-Chairperson  
(Kwekakee Shasta)  
Executive Director  
*Siletz Tribal Housing Department*

Douglas Marconi, Sr. – Alternate  
(Colville)  
Executive Director  
*Colville Indian Housing Authority*

## REGION VII (CA, NV)

Crystal Chalk – Alternate  
(Enterprise Rancheria)  
Commissioner  
*Enterprise Rancheria Housing  
Authority Board*

Diana Martinez – Alternate (San  
Pasqual Band of Mission Indians)  
Executive Director  
*San Pasqual Housing and  
Community Development*

## REGION VIII (AZ, NM, West TX)

Jamie Navenma (Hopi)  
Executive Director  
*Laguna Housing Development and  
Housing Enterprise*

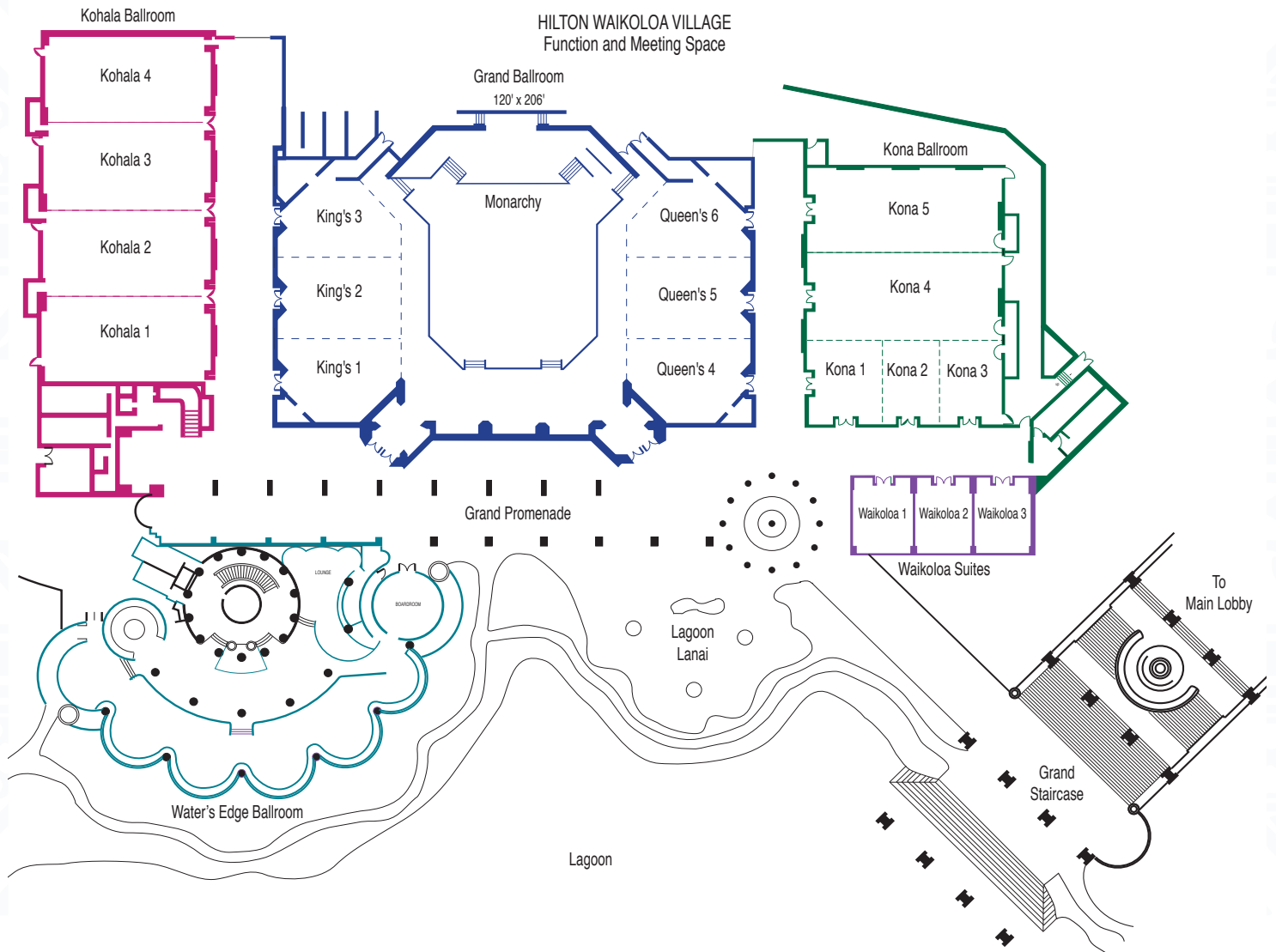
Greta Armijo – Alternate  
(Pueblo of Jemez)  
Executive Director  
*Pueblo of Jemez Housing  
Authority*

## REGION IX - (Alaska, Hawaii)

Chris Kolerok  
(Native Village of Mekoryuk)  
Director of Public Policy and  
Government Affairs  
*Cook Inlet Housing Authority*

Carol Gore – Alternate  
(Ninilchik Village)  
President CEO  
*Cook Inlet Housing Authority*

# HILTON WAIKOLOA VILLAGE MEETING SPACE



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

## Onyx Level Sponsor

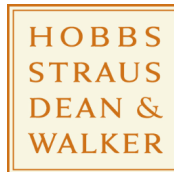


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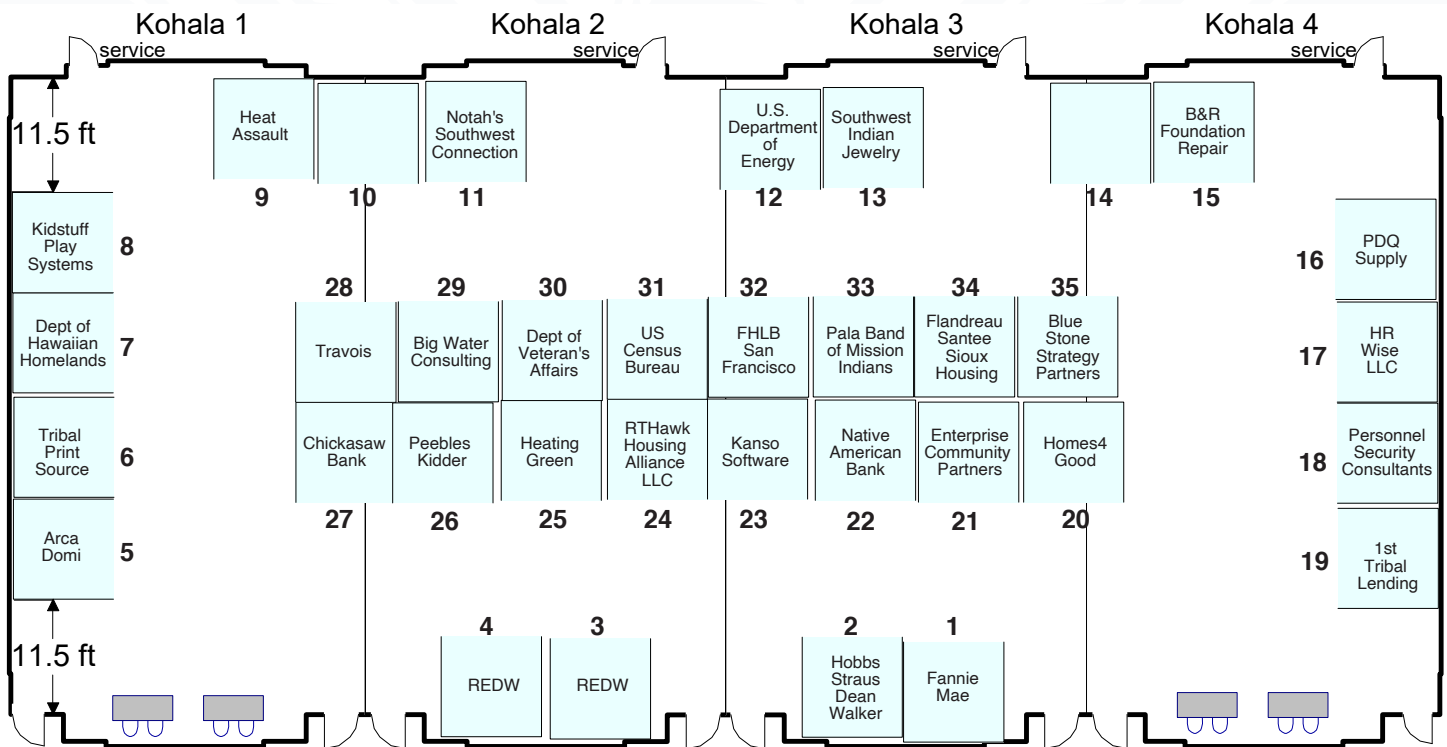


## Annual Partners



# Tradeshaw Map

## KOHALA BALLROOM





# Exhibitor Directory

## VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS!

Take your Tradeshow Passport and get it signed at each booth. Visit with the exhibitors. Learn about their products and services. Make connections too! Drop off completed passports at registration by Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 3:00 PM local time to be entered into a prize drawing.

### Booth # Company

- 1 Fannie Mae\*
- 2 Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP\*
- 3 REDW, LLC
- 4 REDW, LLC
- 5 Arca Domi
- 6 Tribal Print Source
- 7 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
- 8 Kidstuff Playsystems, Inc.
- 9 Heat-Assault
- 11 Notah's Southwest Connection
- 12 U.S. Department of Energy
- 13 Southwest Indian Jewelry
- 15 B&R Foundation Repair
- 16 PDQ Supply, Inc.
- 17 HR Wise, LLC
- 18 Personnel Security Consultants, Inc.
- 19 Heating Green
- 20 Homes4Good\*

### Booth # Company

- 21 Enterprise Community Partners\*
- 22 Native American Bank\*
- 23 Kanso Software\*
- 24 RTHawk Housing Alliance, LLC\*
- 25 1st Tribal Lending
- 26 Peebles Kidder\*
- 27 Chickasaw Community Bank\*
- 28 Travois\*
- 29 Big Water Consulting
- 30 Dept of Veterans Affairs - Native American Direct Loan
- 31 U.S. Census Bureau
- 32 FHLBank San Francisco
- 33 Pala Band of Mission Indians
- 34 Flandreau Santee Sioux Housing Department
- 35 Blue Stone Strategy Partners

**\*Denotes sponsor. Thank you.**

For more than 40 years, we've worked toward **one mission:** to make home and community places of pride, power and belonging.

Enterprise is proud to sponsor the **National American Indian Housing Council Conference.**

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- Construction and Permanent Financing Options

Contact Our Tribal Housing Specialist:  
[VLane@NABNA.com](mailto:VLane@NABNA.com)

\*AS OF DECEMBER 2022. SOURCE: NAB LOAN CUSTOMER REPORTING   

# Day 1

Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

What & When:	Where:
7:00 am– 12:30 pm NAIHC Golf Event Fundraiser	Waikoloa Beach Resort Golf Course
8:00 am– 12:00 pm Local Community Engagement Activity <i>(open to registered conference attendees only. Departs Hilton Waikoloa at 7:15 am)</i>	Koloko-Honokohau National Historic Park
12:00 pm– 5:30 pm Attendee Registration & Badge Pick-up	Grand Promenade
12:00 – 5:30 pm Exhibitor Registration and Move-in	Grand Promenade & Kohala Ballroom
1:00 pm-3:00 pm U.S. Census Bureau Tribal Listening Session	Kona 5
2:00 – 3:00 pm First-Time Attendee Networking Mixer	Kings 1
3:00 – 4:30 pm NAIHC Legislative Committee Meeting	Kona 4
5:00 – 6:00 pm NAIHC Regional Caucus Meetings	
Region 1 – Kings 1	Region 6 – Queens 5
Region 2 – Kings 2	Region 7 – Queens 6
Region 3 & 5 – Kings 3	Region 8 – Kona 4
Region 4 – Queens 4	Region 9 – Kona 5

# Day 2

Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

What & When:	Where:										
7:00 am – 9:00 am Final Exhibitor Registration & Move-in	Grand Promenade & Kohala Ballroom										
7:00 am – 5:00 pm Attendee Registration & Badge Pick-up	Grand Promenade										
8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakfast Buffet <i>(open to registered attendees &amp; exhibitors)</i>	Kohala Ballroom										
9:00 am– 5:00 pm Tradeshow Open	Kohala Ballroom										
8:00 am – 5:00 pm Elders Lounge Open	Waikoloa 1										
8:00 am – 10:15 am Opening Plenary Session	Monarchy Ballroom										
10:30 am – 12:00 pm NAIHC Members Meeting	Monarchy Ballroom										
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch	<i>On your own</i>										
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm Block 1 Breakout Sessions – AMERIND	See Page 25										
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Block 2 Breakout Sessions – NAIHC	See Page 26										
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm Break	Kohala Ballroom										
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm AMERIND Regional Caucus Meetings	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Region 1 – Kings 1</td> <td>Region 6 – Queens 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Region 2 – Kings 2</td> <td>Region 7 – Kona 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Region 3 – Kings 3</td> <td>Region 8 – Kona 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Region 4 – Queens 4</td> <td>Region 9 – Kona 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Region 5 – Queens 5</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Region 1 – Kings 1	Region 6 – Queens 6	Region 2 – Kings 2	Region 7 – Kona 1	Region 3 – Kings 3	Region 8 – Kona 4	Region 4 – Queens 4	Region 9 – Kona 5	Region 5 – Queens 5	
Region 1 – Kings 1	Region 6 – Queens 6										
Region 2 – Kings 2	Region 7 – Kona 1										
Region 3 – Kings 3	Region 8 – Kona 4										
Region 4 – Queens 4	Region 9 – Kona 5										
Region 5 – Queens 5											
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm Welcome Luau & Awards Reception	Palace Tower Lawn Hilton Waikoloa										

# Day 3

Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

What & When:	Where:
6:30 am–7:30 am NAIHC Healthy Start Walk <i>(Departs Hilton Waikoloa at 6:00 am and the walk starts from the Marriott.)</i>	Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail
8:00 am–5:00 pm Attendee Registration & Badge Pick-up	Grand Promenade
8:30 am–5:00 pm Tradeshow Open	Kohala Ballroom
7:30 am–5:00 pm Elders Lounge Open	Waikoloa 1
7:30 am–8:30 am Breakfast Buffet <i>(open to registered attendees &amp; exhibitors)</i>	Kohala Ballroom
8:00 am – 9:00 am Block 3 Breakout Sessions – NAIHC	See Page 29
9:00 am–11:00 am AMERIND Members Meeting	Monarchy Ballroom
11:00 am–12:30 pm Lunch	<i>On your own</i>
12:30 pm–1:30 pm Block 4 Breakout Sessions – NAIHC	See Page 30
1:30 pm–1:45 pm Break	Kohala Ballroom
1:45 pm–2:45 pm Block 5 Breakout Sessions – NAIHC	See Page 32
2:45 pm–3:30 pm Break	Kohala Ballroom
3:30 pm–4:30 pm Block 6 Breakout Sessions – NAIHC	See Page 33
5:00 pm–6:00 pm Exhibitor Move-out	Kohala Ballroom

# Day 4

Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

What & When:	Where:
8:00 am–12:00 pm Attendee Registration & Badge Pick-up	Grand Promenade
7:30 am–8:30 am Breakfast Buffet <i>(open to registered attendees &amp; exhibitors)</i>	Kohala Ballroom
7:30 am–5:00 pm Elders Lounge Open	Waikoloa 1
8:00 am–9:00 am Block 7 Breakout Sessions – NAIHC	See Page 37
9:00 am–10:00 am Block 8 Breakout Sessions – AMERIND	See Page 38
10:00 am–10:15 am Break	Kohala Ballroom
10:15 am–11:15 am Block 9 Breakout Sessions – NAIHC	See Page 40
11:30 am–1:30 pm Lunch	<i>On your own</i>
1:45 pm–2:45 pm Block 10 Breakout Sessions – AMERIND	See Page 41
2:45 pm–3:00 pm Break	Kohala Ballroom
3:00 pm–4:00 pm Block 11 Breakout Sessions – NAIHC	See Page 43
4:00 pm–4:15 pm Break	Kohala Ballroom
4:15 pm–5:00 pm Closing Plenary Session	Monarchy Ballroom
5:00 pm Adjourn the 2023 AMERIND   NAIHC Annual Convention	

# Opening Plenary Session

Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> • Monarchy Ballroom

- Opening Protocol/Ceremony | **Kumu Micah Kamohaolii**
- Opening Blessing | **Danny Akaka, Jr.**, *Cultural Advisor, Auberge Resorts*
- Co-Host Welcome | **Phil Bush**, *Chairman, AMERIND*
- Co-Host Welcome | **Thomas Lozano**, *Chairman, National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC)*
- Local Partner Welcome | **Kali Watson**, *Director, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and Chair, Hawaiian Homes Commission*
- Land Acknowledgement | *Kamehameha Schools*
- Federal Message | **Deputy Assistant Secretary Heidi Frechette**, *(Video Message) Office of Native American Programs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)*
- AMERIND Message | **Derek Valdo**, *CEO, AMERIND*
- NAIHC Message | **Chelsea E. Fish**, *Executive Director, NAIHC*
- Partner Message | **Larry Wright**, *Executive Director, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)*
- Partner Message | **Tonya Plummer**, *Director, Native American Programs, Enterprise Community Partners*
- Federal Message | **Waleah Johns**, *Director, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, U.S. Department of Energy*
- Sponsor Appreciation Presentation
- Sponsor Message | **Wilbur Red Tomahawk**, *President/CEO/Founding Owner, RTHawk Housing Alliance*
- Partner Message | **Ann Trujillo**, *Executive Director, Pala Housing Resource Center*

# Closing Plenary Session

Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> • Monarchy Ballroom

- Co-Host Welcome | **Chelsea E. Fish**, *Executive Director, NAIHC*
- Co-Host Welcome | **Derek Valdo**, *CEO, AMERIND*
- Guest Speaker
- Indigenous Housing Presentation
- Tradeshow Passport Giveaway
- Closing Remarks
- Closing Blessing | **Danny Akaka, Jr.**, *Cultural Advisor, Auberge Resorts*





# KUMU MICAH KAMOHOALI'I

**B**orn and raised in Waimea, Hawai'i, Kumu Micah Kamohoali'i traces his genealogy directly to the famed warrior King Kamehameha and the fire goddess Pelehonuamea and her shark brother Kamohoali'i.

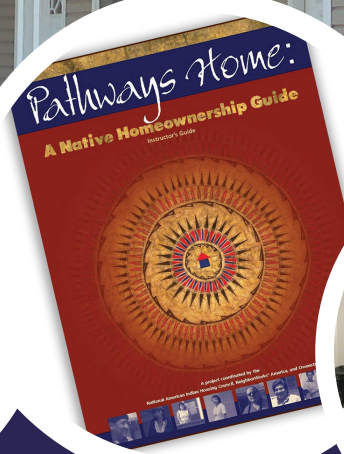
**He holds a M.A. in Archaeology** and is well-regarded in Hawai'i for being an Hawaiian scholar, Hawaiian language and cultural consultant, teacher, historian, genealogist, artist and a celebrated indigenous storyteller. He has worked in many mediums of art including fashion, film production and Hawaiian music. He is a 2020 Na Hoku Hanohano Award winner.

**He is the Kumu Hula of Halau Na Kipu'upu'u**, a traditional Hawaiian school of dance focusing on native practice and protocols of the Waimea community. They are the cultural division of the Waimea Hawaiian Homestead Association. World renowned and celebrated as one of Hawai'i's most authentic, Halau Na Kipu'upu'u is a powerhouse of energy and has received highly acclaimed honors and accolades for performances and presentation touring in many countries around the world.

**Kamohoali'i is CEO of Dezigns by Kamohoali'i**, a clothing company inspired by his family's extensive ties to the art of bark cloth kapa making. He is Hawai'i's first fashion designer invited and presented in the "Big Four" of fashion weeks – New York, London, Milan, and Paris. He has been featured in Vogue, Vanity Fair, Forbes, and numerous publications for being the first Native Hawaiian invited to showcase on the official New York Fashion Week Platform, where he brought down the house at New York Fashion Week 2021. He is celebrated as Hawai'i's premier designer, taking the fashion world by storm.

**In 2022, he won two Silver Telly Awards** for his show-stopping commercial called Kuku Kapa and garnered an Emmy nomination for his work in fashion and film. He is a steadfast advocate for authenticity of Hawaiian culture and is always active in the native Hawaiian community.





# Pathways Home: For the Homebuyer

Obtain a homebuyer's education certificate through the National American Indian Housing Council's *Pathways Home: A Native Homeownership Guide* eLearning program! The course is designed for prospective homebuyers in tribal communities nationwide and may be required for lenders.

Cost:  
**\$20**  
/course

## Target Audience

- ✔ Mortgage-ready households
- ✔ Tribal housing professionals
- ✔ Interested individuals
- ✔ Any tribal citizen

**REGISTER ANYTIME!**

[www.naihc.net/elearning](http://www.naihc.net/elearning)

National American Indian Housing Council  
122 C Street NW, Suite 505 | Washington, DC 20001 | 202-789-1754 | [naihc.net](http://naihc.net)



# U.S. Census Bureau Tribal Listening Session



*Monday, May 8 | 1:00-3:00 pm | Kona 5*

In this session, the Census Bureau will share updates on the content, design, and release plans for upcoming 2020 Census data products, including the Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (DHC), Detailed DHC-A, and Detailed DHC-B. The DHC includes many subjects, such as sex and age, race, Hispanic or Latino origin, relationship to householder, group quarters population, household type, family type, tenure (i.e., owners and renters), and vacancy. The Detailed DHC-A and Detailed DHC-B provide population counts, sex and age, household type, and tenure statistics for detailed Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander groups and American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages.

## **Presenters:**

**Dee Alexander**, *Tribal Affairs Coordinator, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs*

**Jessica Imotichey**, *Tribal Relations Specialist, LA Regional Office*

**Alexandra Krause**, *Survey Statistician, Decennial Programs Branch*

**Matthew Spence**, *Sr. Advisor for Special Population Statistics and Disclosure Avoidance*

**Madeline Sovich**, *Geographer, International and National Engagement Branch*

**Rex Kung**, *Program Analyst, Dissemination Outreach Branch, Center for Enterprise Dissemination*

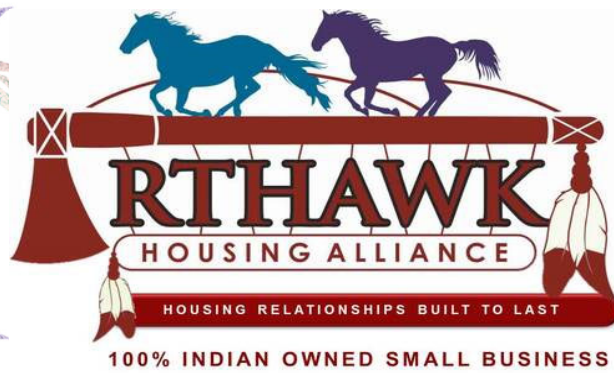


E ala e nā alaka'i 'ōiwi,  
e ala e ka lāhui

Driven by their passion, led by their values and grounded in their Hawaiian identity, 'ōiwi leaders strive to create a better Hawai'i and a better world. We celebrate their commitment to helping our lāhui rise.



**Kamehameha Schools®**



**ALOHA!**

***RTHawk Housing Alliance LLC Welcomes everyone to the  
2023 AMERIND / NAIHC Annual Convention & Tradeshow***



**Wilbur Red Tomahawk**  
President, CEO & Founding Owner

Enrolled member of  
Standing Rock Sioux Nation  
35+ Years Experience in Tribal  
Executive Leadership

*Successfully developing Affordable Housing  
Programs and providing Asset Management  
Services for Native American Communities  
throughout Indian Country*

*Specializing in  
Low Income Housing Tax Credit  
(LIHTC) program projects  
For Native American, Alaska Native,  
and Native Hawaiian Tribal  
Communities*

***Tribal Housing assistance when and where you need it!***

***With experience you can count on:***

***12 Team Members***

***60+ Years Experience***

***Please stop by and see us in the Exhibit Hall  
and sign up for one of our free prize drawings***

**TERO CERTIFIED**



**TRIBALLY CHARTERED**  
Standing Rock Sioux Nation





## Peace of mind is our priority, Protecting our people is our promise.

Your peace of mind is important to us at AMERIND. We are committed to protecting, empowering and strengthening Indian Country. We will be here for as long as Tribes need us - keeping Indian money right here in Indian Country. **AMERIND is your 100% Tribally owned and trusted insurance partner today and in the future.**

**To learn more or to receive a quote, visit [AMERIND.com](https://www.amerind.com)**



Property | Liability | Workers' Compensation |  
Commercial Auto | Cyber | Critical Infrastructure



#020751 A- Excellent

# Day 2

# Breakout Sessions

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Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

## **Breakout Sessions Block 1**

1:45-2:45pm

## **Breakout Sessions Block 2**

3:00-4:00pm



Underwriting Human Resources Safety Workers' Comp. ACI Executive IT Finance Claims 

## Money in the AMERIND World

**Presenter:** Allie Myga, *Director of Finance, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 1

**Session Track:** Finance 

This session discusses how AMERIND handles the money that flows through the company for premiums, claims, commissions, refunds, and investments. Presenters show how the insured's money works for them and reviews the life of a policy and how equity is created through premiums paid. Discussion includes ratios, loss and expense ratios, and how unrestricted assets are invested for future use and growth of AMERIND.

## Homeowners and Renters 101

**Presenter:** Shannon Lastyona,  
*Underwriting Manager, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 2

**Session Track:** Underwriting 

Insurance terminology and coverage definitions can be complicated. In the session, the presenter reviews the basic terminology of homeowners insurance, compares homeowner's policy and renter's policy, shows how the two coverages differ. The session also covers the process for tribal members to qualify and apply for a homeowner's policy as well as the various ways AMERIND can provide insurance to tribal members.

## Assessing Risk and Developing Sustainable Risk Management Plans

**Presenter:** Delane Big Crow, *Safety Services Manager, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 3

**Session Track:** Safety 

With the increase in losses and costs associated with claims, AMERIND's Safety Services Team recognizes the need for appropriate risk management to control losses within housing authorities. This session breaks down steps the Safety Team takes to assist in the Identification, Assessment, and Prevention of Risk and Loss facing tribal communities. The team discusses the method used to support housing authorities in developing and sustaining risk management plans created for AMERIND members.

## A Deep Dive into the Pool of Federal Grants

**Presenter:** Felix McGowan, *Director of Critical Infrastructure, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 4

**Session Track:** ACI 

Join the AMERIND Critical Infrastructure team for a dive deep into the pool of federal grants and learn about new and improved opportunities and how AMERIND can help you navigate these waters. Presenters also cover the many new ways for Indian Country to expand broadband access, build new pieces of critical infrastructure, and get additional support to serve their communities.

## Claims Investigation Processes

**Presenter:** Pattie Perez, *Claims Representative II, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 5

**Session Track:** Workers' Comp. 

Presenters guide participants through the completion of an Employee Injury Report, its submission, and the steps taken to investigate both a Medical Only Claim and an Indemnity Claim. Have you ever wondered how compensability is determined? And when can a claim be closed? Join the session for an interactive presentation into the investigation processes.

## FNOL Online Training

**Presenter:** Alan Romero, *Director of Claims, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 6

**Session Track:** Claims 

Did you know all property and liability claims can be submitted online at the AMERIND website [www.amerind.com](http://www.amerind.com)? No more forms! This session shows a live demo on submitting a property or liability "First Notice of Loss" submission online.

## AMERIND Breakout Tracks & Sessions

### Insuring your Commercial Auto with AMERIND

**Presenters:** Randolph Griego, *Underwriter II, AMERIND*  
Andrew Shipman, *Underwriting II, AMERIND*

Room: Kona 1

Session Track: **Underwriting** 

Feel confident about your auto fleet with commercial auto coverage under AMERIND's Tribal Auto Program. AMERIND provides Commercial Auto Coverage for tribal housing authorities, tribal governments, and entities. It gives options by packaging auto coverage with property and casualty policies under AMERIND. Presenters cover risk management techniques to help reduce auto risks and claims and review how to manage auto schedule and the process of reporting claims and changes to AMERIND.

### Fire Losses in Indian Country: Prevention and Assessing Fire Risk

**Presenter:** Natowa Garcia, *Safety Services Specialist, AMERIND*

Room: Kona 4

Session Track: **Safety** 

Fire loss makes up over 70% of incurred losses in from the IHBG program. AMERIND's Safety Services Team recognizes its IHBG members require fire risk assessments and fire prevention plans to reduce fire loss. AMERIND's Safety Team shares the tools they utilize to develop and maintain a fire safety plan to assist IHBG members in reducing fire loss risk in their communities.

### Strategies for Attracting and Retaining Your Best Team Ever

**Presenter:** Lynnette Toya, *HR Generalist, AMERIND*  
Gia Gilk, *Training Specialist, AMERIND*

Room: Kona 5

Session Track: **Human Resources** 

Organizations are looking for the next generation of leaders. Where are they? How do you hire them, and how can you keep them? More importantly, how do you help them become the leaders you need? Presenters address strategies and provide resources for recruiting, hiring, and developing employees to carry organizations into the future.

## BLOCK 2

3:00pm-4:00pm

### Kahua Waiwai

**Presenter:** Liliana Napoleon, *Hawaiian Community Assets*

Room: Kings 1

Session Track: **Gender-based Violence & Housing Services** 

Kahua Waiwai espouses the philosophy of "A Sense of Place." The home is viewed as a foundation (Kahua). Upon this foundation is the family's spiritual values/teachings (Waiwai). Hawaiian Community Assets shares how it embodies the spirit of Kahua Waiwai in creating affordable housing, culturally-relevant financial education, and asset building programs for Native Hawaiians.

### Supportive Systems to Expand Tribal Homeownership

**Presenters:** Mel Willie, *Director of Native Strategy, NeighborWorks America*

Susan Hammond, *Relationship Manager for Native CDFIs, Fahe*

Jacqueline Pata, *President/CEO, Tlingit & Haida/ Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority and Haa Yakaawu Financial Corporation*

Room: Kings 2

Session Track: **Asset Building** 

Building a sustainable and vibrant tribal homeownership program is both an art and science. This session not only explores best practices, from homebuyer education to financing, but it also takes a deep dive with experts who share strategies and knowledge on critical systems that support a healthy mortgage lending environment.

### Supercharge Housing Energy Projects: The Inflation Reduction Act

**Presenters:** John Clancy, *Energy Strategies Team Leader and Indian Nations Team Co-Leader, Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.*

Room: Kings 3

Session Track: **Federal Updates & Issues** 

The IRA unlocked hundreds of billions of dollars in new and expanded grants and tax credits, some dedicated solely to tribes. Utilizing key IRA provisions and combined with existing federal programs and tribal regulatory authority, hear how tribes can now implement cost-effective clean energy and electric vehicle charging projects while substantially lowering energy costs.

Housing Program Administration 

Gender-based Violence & Housing Services 

Homelessness in Tribal Communities 

Legal/Advocacy Updates 

Federal Updates & Issues 

Asset Building 

Opioid Epidemic 

## Tribal HUD-VASH Case Study: Housing Veterans in Navajo

**Presenters:** **Brigid Korce**, *Consultant, BeauxSimone Consulting*  
**Kimberlie Bahe**, *Tribal HUD VASH Program Manager, Navajo Housing Authority*

**Room:** Queens 4

**Homelessness in Tribal Communities** 

As one of the original Tribal HUD-VASH pilot projects, the Navajo Nation takes great care to serve veterans with housing. This session highlights the Navajo Nation's efforts providing housing to homeless veterans and shares best practices working with the VA, building partnerships, and cultivating landlord relationships off reservation land.

## Implementing Private Home Repair Programs

**Presenters:** **Rebecca Kidder**, *Equity Partner, Peebles Kidder Bergin Robinson LLP*

**Shayla Bowles**, *Associate Attorney, Peebles Kidder Bergin Robinson LLP*

**Joseph Shields**, *Executive Director, Crow Creek Housing Authority*

**Hannah Curley**, *Chair of the Board of the Commissioners, Quinault Housing Authority*

**Mariah Ralston**, *Executive Director, Quinault Housing Authority*

**Room:** Queens 5

**Housing Program Administration** 

This presentation is an overview of private home repair programs that covers the value of the service, various funding sources, and governing policies such as requirements for IHBG-funded and Treasury HAF programs. Presenters also cover best practices to successfully administer and implement a private home repair program.

## How to Use HUD 184 Flexibility and Versatility

**Presenter:** **Nancy Bainbridge**, *EVP/Director Tribal and Construction Lending, Chickasaw Community Bank*

**Room:** Queens 6

**Session Track:** **Asset Building** 

Designed just for the tribe or TDHE to accommodate your workforce and the market surrounding the tribe/TDHES and Businesses with the Tribe or TDHE as the borrower. Using the HUD 184 removes any income restrictions that other funds might require. This session will walk you through the process.

## Lending in Indian Country with Freddie Mac

**Presenters:** **David Heisterkamp**, *Managing Partner, Wagenlander & Heisterkamp LLC*  
**Catherine Houlihan**, *Manager of Single-Family Affordable Lending Strategy and Initiatives, Freddie Mac*  
**Shayna Ferguson**, *Manager/Loan Officer, Lakota Federal Credit Union*  
**Gary LaPointe**, *CEO, Sicangu Wicoti Awayankapi (SWA) Corporation*

**Room:** Kona 1

**Session Track:** **Asset Building** 

Is your tribe prepared to participate in Freddie Mac's new loan offerings for originating and buying mortgages in Indian Country? This session presents a matrix of mortgage laws compiled from six South Dakota reservations and presenters share how local lenders are working to launch new mortgage initiatives in those communities.

## Legal Update: Marijuana Laws and Indian County

**Presenter:** **Sylvia Wirba**, *Partner/Attorney, Wagenlander & Heisterkamp LLC*

**Room:** Kona 4

**Legal/Advocacy Updates** 

As some states begin to legalize cannabis for recreational and medical use, some tribes are exploring legalization or cultivation on tribal land. This presentation provides an overview of developing marijuana law in Indian Country and describes the challenges that TDHEs may face if marijuana is legalized by their tribe.

## Transitioning LIHTC to Homeownership

**Presenters:** **Robin Thorne**, *Vice President and Training & Asset Management, RTHawk Housing Alliance, LLC*  
**Jason Adams**, *Owner/Consultant, Ace Housing Development, LLC*

**Room:** Kona 5

**Session Track:** **Asset Building** 

Presenters provide a history and overview of the LIHTC program and explain how tribes and other entities may convert rental units to homeownership units following the initial 15-year Compliance Period and exercising a Right of First Refusal. The session also covers the strategies that allow for resident ownership, including lease-purchase agreements and homeownership loan products, such as HUD Section 184 and USDA Section 502.

# Day 3

# Breakout Sessions

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Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

**Breakout Sessions Block 3**

8:00-9:00am

**Breakout Sessions Block 4**

12:30-1:30pm

**Breakout Sessions Block 5**

1:45-2:45pm

**Breakout Sessions Block 6**

3:30-4:30pm



## Implementing HEARTH: Is My Tribe Ready?

**Presenters:** Denise Zuni, Attorney, *Sheh Wheef Law Offices PC*  
Sheila Herrera, Executive Director, *Tiwa Lending Services*  
Deborah Webster, Principal, *Concept Consulting Group*

Room: Kings 1

Legal/Advocacy Updates 

This session follows two tribes' paths to implementing HEARTH and shares tips and tools required for preparing for HEARTH implementation. Presenters provide a sample residential checklist, HEARTH lease, and recording process.

## Shifting Mindsets: Taking Clients from Rental to Homeownership

**Presenters:** Lanalle Smith, Senior Programs Officer, *Capacity Building, Oweesta Corporation*  
Sayre Savage, Program Officer, *Oweesta Corporation*

Room: Kings 2

Session Track: Asset Building 

This session explores financial education paths to incorporate into current tribal housing programming. Participants learn best practices in developing financial education programs that meet the community's specific needs. When armed with tools, skills, and confidence, Native community members are empowered to make informed financial decisions.

## A Holistic Approach to Planning... Maximizing Federal Resources

**Presenters:** Rudy Soto, Idaho State Director, *USDA Rural Development*  
Sean Henderson, Infrastructure Economic Development Coordinator, *Office of Indian Economic Development, DOI*  
Tonya Plummer, Native American Housing Director, *Enterprise Community Partners*  
Jeremiah Powless, Program Officer, *Enterprise Community Partners*

Room: Kings 3

Federal Updates & Issues 

This panel covers the funding and policy updates on the recent bipartisan infrastructure law and the Inflation Reduction Act. Panelists also share resources and lessons learned from precedent with disbursement of federal funds. Prepare your tribe for a whole-of-government approach to housing and community planning!

## Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing for Returning Citizens

**Presenters:** Stephen Hunt, Morning Star Coordinator, *Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Tribal Defenders Office*  
Susette Billedeaux, Flathead Reservation Reentry Program, *Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Tribal Defenders Office*  
Katie Symons, CFO/Consultant, *BeauxSimone Consulting*

Room: Queens 4

Homelessness in Tribal Communities 

In this session, presenters share the creation story of Morning Star, a unique Permanent Supportive Housing program for returning citizens located on the Flathead Reservation in Montana that offers holistic housing and defense services. Returning citizens experience collateral consequences including eviction and homelessness.

## Introduction to LIHTC: Building More Homes for Tribal Members

**Presenters:** Alexandria Murnan, Director of Affordable Housing, *Travois*  
Adam Teefey, Director of Design, *Travois Design*  
Abby Day, Project Manager, *Travois*

Room: Queens 5

Session Track: Asset Building 

Learn how your tribe can leverage Low Income Housing Tax Credits to build or rehabilitate housing in your community. Presenters review the basics and present a handful of short case studies to show how tribes have successfully used the program to fund construction for affordable housing.

## Making Homeownership Work!

**Presenters:** Floyd Tortalita, Executive Director, *Pueblo of Acoma Housing Authority*  
Thanay Binford, Homeownership Coordinator, *Ohkay Owingeh Housing Authority*  
Deborah Webster, Principal, *Concept Consulting Group, LLC*

Room: Queens 6

Session Track: Asset Building 

Homeownership is key to building viable communities and helping families create stability and grow financially. However, there are challenges to developing projects and sustaining homeownership over time. Learn how two tribes navigated the challenges in an ever-changing environment to make homeownership programs and developments work in their communities.

## Building Partnerships Among Tribal Domestic Violence Advocates and Tribal Housing Authorities

**Presenter:** Victoria Ybanez, *Executive Director, Red Wind Consulting*

**Room:** Kona 1

**Gender-based Violence & Housing Services** 

This session explores ways tribal domestic violence advocates can build partnerships with Tribally Designated Housing Entities to address barriers and challenges in creating safe housing options for survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, stalking, human trafficking, and MMIW. Presenter explores promising practices and practical strategies.

## Pros and Cons of the NAHASDA IHBG Formula

**Presenters:** Rebecca Kidder, *Equity Partner, Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP*

Shayla Bowles, *Associate Attorney, Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP*

Xavier Barraza, *Senior Associate Attorney, Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP*

**Room:** Kona 4

**Housing Program Administration** 

This presentation reviews the NAHASDA IHBG Formula factors and the use of Census and other data. Attendees learn how funding is calculated under the IHBG formula, the challenges of using this formula for serving low-income populations, and the current regulatory methods for challenging current allocations

## The Economics of Opioids

**Presenter:** Mike Andrews, *Sr. Vice President, McGuire Woods*

**Room:** Kona 5

**Session Track:** Opioid Epidemic 

Opioid abuse in America is at its highest since the war of drugs was declared in the 1970s. As a result, rural communities are left spending millions to combat the epidemic. What is the actual cost? Presenters explore both direct and indirect costs to housing.

# BLOCK 4

12:30pm-1:30pm

## Innovative Collaborations: Leveraging Partnerships to Expand Mortgage Lending Options

**Presenters:** Sharon Vogel, *Executive Director, Cheyenne River Housing Authority*

Benjamin Navarro, *Advisor, Fannie Mae*

Denise Zuni, *Esq., Owner, She'eh Wheef Law Offices*

Deborah Webster, *Principal, Concept Consulting Group, LLC*

Joanna Donohoe, *Consultant, Seven Sisters Community Development Group, LLC*

**Room:** Kings 1

**Housing Program Administration** 

Promoting homeownership opportunities can be an important component of meeting housing needs in Native communities. Fannie Mae plays a key role in providing funding to lenders who make mortgage loans on tribal trust and restricted lands. Learn how to access their available mortgage loan programs and how various stakeholders, including TDHEs, Native CDFIs, and other lenders can work together to increase mortgage lending options for tribal members.

## Title VI: What It Can Do to Help Tribes!

**Presenter:** Nancy Bainbridge, *EVP/Director of Tribal & Construction Lending*

**Room:** Kings 2

**Session Track:** Asset Building 

Attend this session with an experienced Title VI lender and learn how the Title VI program supports new construction, rehabbing homes, tax credits, transformational housing, community centers, playgrounds, and more. Though the program is customizable to each tribe, the presenter shares tips on how to start the process and provides a step-by-step guide through the program requirements.

## USDA Rural Development Business and Infrastructure Programs

**Presenters:** Tedd Buelow, *Tribal Coordinator, USDA Rural Development*

Melissa Sturdivant, *Tribal Relations Specialist, USDA Rural Development*

Chris Kanazawa, *State Director, USDA Rural Development*

**Room:** Kings 3

**Federal Updates & Issues** 

This session provides an overview of USDA Rural Development's (RD) Business and Infrastructure Programs that can help address non-housing and related priorities. Presenters cover RD's many programs in the areas of water and environment, community facilities, broadband, energy, and business and economic development.

## Enhancing and Implementing Homeownership in Native Communities

**Presenters:** **Tonya Plummer**, *Director, Native American Housing Programs, Enterprise Community Partners*  
**Jamie Navenma**, *Executive Director, Laguna Housing Development and Management Enterprise*  
**Jason Adams**, *Owner, Ace Housing & Development, LLC*

**Room:** Queens 4

**Session Track:**

Asset Building 

This session is based on the companion guide to the Tribal Leaders Handbook on Homeownership, written in collaboration with Enterprise and the Center for Indian Country Development. Presenters delve into every component of homeownership programming—helping practitioners to determine what assets are already in place, identify gaps, and outline next steps.

## Funding for Tribal Housing Clean Energy

**Presenters:** **Pilar Thomas**, *Partner, Quarles & Brady LLP*  
**Luis Ochoa**, *Partner, Quarles & Brady LLP*

**Room:** Queens 5

Legal/Advocacy Updates 

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act provides billions in funding for tribal housing clean energy projects. Presenters share more information about available funding opportunities and steps tribal housing authorities can take to access the funds.

## A Board Member's Graduate School Course: Robert's Rules of Order

**Presenter:** **Joseph Diehl**, *Managing Director, Diehl & Co. LLC*

**Room:** Queens 6

Legal/Advocacy Updates 

This session is a follow up to the Basics of Robert's Rules of Order offered at the 2022 Legal Symposium. Now, take a deeper dive into the intricacies of this parliamentary rulebook. In the first segment, a basic presentation summarizes all key motions and rules before diving into some of the more thorny complexities.

## Implementing Human Rights and Indigenous Responsibilities Frameworks for GBV Survivors

**Presenters:** **Caroline LaPorte**, *Director, STARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center*  
**Jocelyn Getgen Kestenbaum**, *Associate Professor of Clinical Law, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law*

**Room:** Kona 1

Gender-based Violence & Housing Services 

The discussion in this session centers on the human rights framework which states it is obligated to protect and fulfill access to safe housing for all. Panelists offer ways for indigenous values/norms of reciprocal responsibilities to care for the community and will inform the implementation of the right to housing/shelter access for indigenous survivors of gender-based violence.

## Innovative Strategies for Addressing Drug Related Lease Violations

**Presenters:** **Rebecca Kidder**, *Equity Partner, Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP*

**Shayla Bowles**, *Associate Attorney, Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP*

**Hannah Curley**, *Board Chairperson, Quinault Housing Authority*

**Mariah Ralston**, *Executive Director, Quinault Housing Authority*

**Coby Rabbithead**, *Executive Director, Fort Berthold Housing Authority*

**Bill Jacobs**, *Insurance Coordinator, Fort Berthold Housing Authority*

**Room:** Kona 4

Session Track: Opioid Epidemic 

This presentation discusses innovative methods to remedy drug related lease violations including using an administrative eviction process under revised tribal laws, lease compliance contracts that include wrap around services instead of eviction, Wellness Courts, and tenant participation in remediating unit contamination.

## Best Practices for Data Collection in Indian Country

**Presenters:** **Kevin Klingbeil**, *Managing Director, Big Water Consulting*

**David Dixon**, *Research Associate, Big Water Consulting*

**Room:** Kona 5

Housing Program Administration 

Data-driven decisions are important for housing, community health, workforce development, and many other tribal programs. However, many public data sets have incomplete or inaccurate information about Native communities. This presentation outlines the what, why, and how of tribal data collection and provides a path to tribal data sovereignty.



# BLOCK 5

1:45-2:45pm

## Team Building for Housing Directors

Presenter: Joseph Diehl, *Managing Director, Diehl & Co. LLC*

Room: Kings 1

Housing Program Administration 

Trust is the foundation upon which all successful teams are built. Lencioni's Five Dysfunctions of a Team says dysfunction is inevitable when dealing with fallible, imperfect human beings. The presenter shares key elements and benefits arising from the model using examples from five housing professional retreats that he facilitated.

## From a Dream to Implementation: Pueblo of Acoma Case Study

Presenters: Trent Rogers, *Senior Project Manager, Travois*  
Adam Teefey, *Director of Design, Travois Design*  
Floyd Tortilita, *Executive Director, Pueblo of Acoma Housing Authority*

Room: Kings 2

Session Track: Asset Building 

The Pueblo of Acoma Housing Authority recently completed two affordable housing developments with a combined 60 units and community amenities. The session reviews each major step of the projects - from creating a project concept and designing culturally relevant homes to securing funding from multiple sources and construction completion.

## USDA Rural Development Section 502 Programs: A Deeper Dive

Presenters: Tedd Buelow, *Tribal Coordinator, USDA Rural Development*  
Andria Hively, *Branch Chief SFH Direct Special Programs, USDA Rural Development*  
Kendra Harmon, *Finance and Loan Analyst, Single-Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program, USDA Rural Development*  
Chris Kanazawa – *State Director, USDA Rural Development Hawaii*

Room: Kings 3

Federal Updates & Issues 

USDA Rural Development offers a direct and guaranteed homeownership program. Presenters share how each program complements one another and helps to improve homeownership opportunities in rural areas, including on and off trust land. The presentation also includes how the program works for lenders.

## VAWA: Increasing Housing Protections for Survivors of Gender-based Violence

Presenter: Caroline LaPorte, *Director, STARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center*

Room: Queens 4

Gender-based Violence & Housing Services 

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was reauthorized several times to include provision to protect Native women. VAWA 2005, 2013, and now 2022 also added increased protections that include shelter and housing access for survivors. This session explores the changes to VAWA regarding housing instability/homelessness and gender-based violence.

## Health and Housing Inspections

Presenter: Jeff Ackley, *Housing Administrator, Lac du Flambeau Chippewa Housing Authority*

Room: Queens 5

Housing Program Administration 

This session explores the connection between the importance and benefits of health and improved housing inspections.

## Management and Operations: Keys to Building a Successful Team

Presenter: Crystal Banks-Mann, *Assistant Director, Travois Asset Management*

Room: Queens 6

Housing Program Administration 

How well do you know yourself and your colleagues? Developing trusting relationships is essential to working effectively as a team and reducing turnover. This interactive session allows participants to dig into their own strengths and challenges while learning how to build trust and work effectively with others.



## NAIHC Breakout Tracks & Sessions

### Nuts and Bolts of Tribal HUD VASH

**Presenters:** Brigid Korce, *Consultant, BeauxSimone Consulting*

**Zoe LeBeau,** *CEO and Consultant, BeauxSimone Consulting*  
**Katie Symons,** *CFO, BeauxSimone Consulting*

**Room:** Kona 1

**Homelessness in Tribal Communities** 

In this session, attendees learn the basics of the Tribal HUD VASH program and tools to navigate funding opportunities and requirements. Presenters outline Tribal HUD VASH Permanent Supportive Housing Model for veterans experiencing homelessness who could benefit from services provided through the VA. The presentation also incorporates case studies from current program recipients.

### Program Administration: Files, Files, Files

**Presenters:** Denise Zuni, *Attorney, Sheh Wheel Law Offices PC*

**Virginia Kallestewa,** *Assistant Executive Director, Zuni Housing Authority*

**Room:** Kona 4

**Housing Program Administration** 

This presentation covers the importance of good program administration and record keeping and reviews record keeping requirements across all program areas. Presenters discuss the importance of annual planning and budgets and boards members' role in ensuring effective program administration and preventing fraud.

### Navigating the Procurement Process and Construction Management ABCs

**Presenters:** Rebecca Kidder, *Equity Partner, Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP*

**Shayla Bowles,** *Associate Attorney, Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP*

**Joseph Shields,** *Executive Director, Crow Creek Housing Authority*

**Coby Rabbithead,** *Executive Director, Fort Berthold Housing Authority*

**Bill Jacobs,** *Insurance Coordinator, Fort Berthold Housing Authority*

**Room:** Kona 5

**Housing Program Administration** 

This presentation examines best practices for navigating and overcoming common issues in the competitive procurement process. Presenters share the steps to successfully manage construction projects from start to finish, including the construction contract methods to use to prevent, manage, and resolve unanticipated risks and expenses as well as ways to properly use change orders.

## BLOCK 6

3:30-4:30pm

### FNOL Online Training

**Presenter:** Alan Romero, *Director of Claims, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 1

**Session Track:** Claims 

Did you know all property and liability claims can be submitted online at the AMERIND website [www.amerind.com](http://www.amerind.com)? No more forms! This session shows a live demo on submitting a property or liability "First Notice of Loss" submission online.

### Homeowners and Renters 101

**Presenter:** Shannon Lastyona, *Underwriting Manager, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 2

**Session Track:** Underwriting 

Insurance terminology and coverage definitions can be complicated. In the session, the presenter reviews the basic terminology of homeowners insurance, compares homeowner's policy and renter's policy, shows how the two coverages differ. The session also covers the process for tribal members to qualify and apply for a homeowner's policy as well as the various ways AMERIND can provide insurance to tribal members.

### Insuring your Commercial Auto with AMERIND

**Presenters:** Randolph Griego, *Underwriter II, AMERIND*  
**Andrew Shipman,** *Underwriting II, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 3

**Session Track:** Underwriting 

Feel confident about your auto fleet with commercial auto coverage under AMERIND's Tribal Auto Program. AMERIND provides Commercial Auto Coverage for tribal housing authorities, tribal governments, and entities. It gives options by packaging auto coverage with property and casualty policies under AMERIND. Presenters cover risk management techniques to help reduce auto risks and claims and review how to manage auto schedule and the process of reporting claims and changes to AMERIND.

## Money in the AMERIND World

Presenter: Allie Myga, Director of Finance, AMERIND

Room: Queens 4 | Session Track: Finance 

This session discusses how AMERIND handles the money that flows through the company for premiums, claims, commissions, refunds, and investments. Presenters show how the insured's money works for them and reviews the life of a policy and how equity is created through premiums paid. Discussion includes ratios, loss and expense ratios, and how unrestricted assets are invested for future use and growth of AMERIND.

## Building Strong Digital Educators and Navigators in Indian Country

Presenter: Davida Delmar, Digital Inclusion Manager, AMERIND

Room: Queens 5 | Session Track: ACI 

Bridging the "Digital Divide" in Indian Country by increasing access to high-speed broadband internet is essential to providing telehealth, education, and economic development opportunities to our Tribal communities. Another key piece of the broadband puzzle is the need for digital education and digital navigators to support the communities to access broadband and build true equity and inclusion for Indian Country in the digital world. Join AMERIND to learn more about the efforts of the National Digital Inclusion Alliance, AMERIND Critical Infrastructure, and others to place digital navigators in Tribal communities to enhance education and further digital equity and digital inclusion.

## WC Compensability: Why is a Claim Covered or Not Covered?

Presenter: Mike Melchior, Tribal Workers, Compensation Claims Manager, AMERIND

Room: Queens 6 | Session Track: Workers' Comp. 

Are you sure that's covered? Test your knowledge to determine if the injury is covered or not covered – you just might be surprised! Presenters review some of the more "interesting" claims that AMERIND has handled over the past year.

## Claims Investigation Processes

Presenter: Pattie Perez, Claims Representative II, AMERIND

Room: Kona 1 | Session Track: Workers' Comp. 

Presenters guide participants through the completion of an Employee Injury Report, its submission, and the steps taken to investigate both a Medical Only Claim and an Indemnity Claim. Have you ever wondered how compensability is determined? And when can a claim be closed? Join the session for an interactive presentation into the investigation processes.

## Creating a Safer Workplace: Job Hazard Analysis and Ergonomic Assessments

Presenter: Natowa Garcia, Safety Services Specialist, AMERIND

Room: Kona 4 | Session Track: Safety 

AMERIND's Safety Team recognizes the importance of workplace safety in our Housing Authorities. From field maintenance employees to office staff, AMERIND's SST examines the value of ensuring our employees work in a safe and hazard-free job site. The team discusses the process AMERIND's SST uses to conduct ergonomic assessments and job hazard analyses for our members.

## Active Shooter Threats and Developing Emergency Response Plans

Presenter: Santiago Morales, Safety Representative, AMERIND

Room: Kona 5 | Session Track: Safety 

As of March 26, 2023, there have been over 108 active shooter/mass shooting incidents in the United States. Preparation and planning are critical for survival during events like these. AMERIND's Safety team talk about ways to identify, recognize, and react to an active shooter incident and break down the creation and implementation of an emergency response plan for IHBG members.



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# Day 4

# Breakout Sessions

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Thursday, May 11th

**Breakout Sessions Block 7**

8:00-9:00am

**Breakout Sessions Block 8**

9:00-10:00am

**Breakout Sessions Block 9**

10:15-11:15am

**Breakout Sessions Block 10**

1:45-2:45pm

**Breakout Sessions Block 11**

3:00-4:00pm



# BLOCK 7

8:00am-9:00am

## Board of Commissioners Training

**Presenters:** Cheryl Causley, *Principal, Cheryl A. Causley and Associates*  
Retha Leno, *Principal, Ladyhawk Consulting LLC*

**Room:** Kings 1

**Housing Program Administration** 

This presentation provides housing board of commissioners/directors with a thorough understanding of NAHASDA and touches on the oversight and duties required of board members. Participants gain knowledge of the federal rules and regulations that are required when accepting funding from HUD.

## Empowering Coalitions to Promote Homeownership Opportunities

**Presenters:** Denise Zuni, *Attorney, Sheh Wheel Law Offices PC*  
Tawney Brunsch, *Executive Director, Lakota Funds*  
Joanna Donohoe, *Partner, Seven Sisters Community Development Group*

**Room:** Kings 2

**Session Track:** Asset Building 

Presenting the stories of two housing coalitions and their formalization to promote homeownership opportunities for Native people and funding to tribes and housing entities. Hear about collaborations to increase the flow of mortgage capital to Native communities. Presenters also discuss the need for competent governance, capacity, and fiscal management.

## Conflict of Interest Requirements

**Presenter:** Christine Dennis, *Owner, Tribal Consulting Resources, PLLC*

**Room:** Kings 3

**Federal Updates & Issues** 

The session's discussion focuses on compliance with the requirements of both 2 CFR 200 and 24 CFR 1000 regarding conflict-of-interest requirements and procedures along with any required disclosures.

## Introducing the Pouhana O Nā Wāhine

**Presenters:** Dayna Schultz, *Executive Director, Pouhana O Nā Wāhine*  
Nikki Cristobal, *Co-Founder and Executive Director, Kamāwaelualalni*

**Room:** Queens 4

**Gender-based Violence & Housing Services** 

Pouhana O Nā Wāhine (PONW) is the new Native Hawaiian resource center created to reduce domestic violence disparities among Native Hawaiians. PONW is dedicated to restoring Native Hawaiian beliefs and ceremonies while helping to increase survivors' safety through training, technical assistance, partnering at the community/state/national levels, and developing policies and resources.

## Self-Preservation in the Counseling Space

**Presenter:** Lanalle Smith, *Senior Programs Officer, Capacity Building, Oweesta Corporation*

**Room:** Queens 5

**Session Track:** Asset Building 

Join Oweesta in learning about honoring values, setting boundaries, and creating a roadmap of success and burn-out prevention. This session guides participants through building practices of self-resilience, workshops methods in setting boundaries with housing clients, and develops ways to stay accountable when enforcing these practices.

## How to Convey Low-Income Tax Credit Homes into Homeownership Using the 184 Loan

**Presenters:** Robin Thorne, *Vice President, Training & Asset Management, RTHawk Housing Alliance, LLC*  
Darkfeather Ancheta, *HUD 184 Tribal Outreach, 1st Tribal Lending*

**Room:** Queens 6

**Session Track:** Asset Building 

This session's discussion surrounds the homebuying process and covers lender and program requirements, so Native borrowers are more prepared for the homebuying process.

## DOE Programs: Access to Capital and Tribal Home Energy Rebates

**Presenter:** Dr. Tommy Jones, *Deployment Specialist, DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs*  
**Adam Hasz, Home Energy Rebates Implementation Advisor, DOE Office of State and Community Energy Programs**

Room: Kona 1

Federal Updates & Issues 

Representatives from the Department of Energy discuss access to capital for energy access and electrification of tribal housing, as well as the new Tribal Home Energy Rebates program. A Q&A session follows the presentations from the Offices of Indian Energy Policy and Programs and State and Community Energy Programs.

## Tiny Hemp Homes as an Addiction Solution

**Presenters:** Mary Jane Oatman, *Executive Director, Indigenous Cannabis Industry Association*  
**Lisa Sundberg, Founder, Indigenous Habitat Institute**

Room: Kona 4

Homelessness in Tribal Communities 

The Indigenous Habitat Institute is partnering with tribal housing authorities to create solutions that are aligned with sustainable development goals to grow Indian Country - "seed to home." Learn about the Int'l knowledge transfer that offers a possible answer to the current housing crisis.

## Successfully Managing Multiple Projects at the Same Time

**Presenters:** Laura Herron, *Architect II, Travois*  
**Trent Rodgers, Senior Project Manager, Travois**

Room: Kona 5

Housing Program Administration 

This presentation features the story of Yurok Indian Housing Authority's recent success building two Low Income Housing Tax Credit projects at the same time. Presenters share each phase of the developments including application, design and construction, and how both projects were awarded by the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee.

# BLOCK 8

9:00am-10:00am

## Cyber Security

**Presenter:** Aaron Archuleta, *Systems Administrator, AMERIND*

Room: Kings 1

Session Track: IT 

Threats are evolving. Is your organization staying ahead? Administrators and high-value accounts are heavily targeted. How can you protect your systems from unverified account sign-ins? Auditing is not out of the box. Many companies are oblivious to what is really going on in their networks.

## Injury Country Today - Protecting Your Employee and Reducing Your Workers' Compensations Costs

**Presenter:** Andrew Shipman, *Underwriting II, AMERIND*

Room: Kings 2

Session Track: Underwriting 

Employee injury in the workplace strikes swiftly and can have devastating effects on operations. Organizations must ask, "As an employer, what practices does my Workers' Compensation insurer like to see? How can I minimize other costs related to employee injuries?" These questions share many of the same answers, which presenters discuss from the perspectives of a tribal employer and tribal insurer.

## Understanding the Underwriting Process and Pricing

**Presenters:** Shannon Lastonya, *Underwriting Manager, AMERIND*  
**Randolph Griego, Underwriter II, AMERIND**

Room: Kings 3

Session Track: Underwriting 

Have you ever wondered why insurance carriers increase prices? This session reviews the underwriting process and how inflation, increased catastrophes, labor shortages, and the economy impacts the replacement values of homes and overall insurance premiums. Presenters focus on how schedule management affects rates and review the process for submitting changes to AMERIND.

## A Deep Dive into the Pool of Federal Grants

**Presenter:** Felix McGowan, *Director of Critical Infrastructure, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 4 | **Session Track:** ACI 

Over the last several years, the federal grant opportunities for Tribal Nations and Tribal entities have grown substantially with new programs, expanded accessibility, and increased funding across the entire federal government. There are also many new ways for Indian Country to expand broadband access, build new pieces of critical infrastructure, and get additional support to serve their communities. Join the AMERIND Critical Infrastructure team to dive deep into the pool of federal grants and learn about new and improved opportunities and how AMERIND can help you navigate these waters.

## WC Compensability: Why is a Claim Covered or Not Covered?

**Presenter:** Mike Melchior, *Tribal Workers, Compensation Claims Manager, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 5 | **Session Track:** Workers' Comp. 

Are you sure that's covered? Test your knowledge to determine if the injury is covered or not covered – you just might be surprised! Presenters review some of the more "interesting" claims that AMERIND has handled over the past year.

## Understanding the Claim Process

**Presenter:** Alan Romero, *Director of Claims, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 6 | **Session Track:** Claims 

Have you ever wondered what the next steps of the claim process are after successfully reporting your claim online to the Claims Department? This training session provides a clear understanding of the claim process from start to finish. Presenters discuss the following action steps followed by the Insured: 1) third-party adjuster and field inspection process; 2) desk adjuster coverage evaluation process; 3) resolution process; and 4) closing the claim file.

## What has AMERIND Done for You Lately?

**Presenter:** Derek Valdo, *Chief Executive Officer, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kona 1 | **Session Track:** Executive 

This session goes over the various benefits of being an AMERIND member. AMERIND shares its impact across Indian Country expanding beyond just housing. Attendees can see how the company gives back to Indian Country. AMERIND does more than you know – come to this session to hear more.

## Assessing Risk and Developing Sustainable Risk Management Plans

**Presenter:** Delane Big Crow, *Safety Services Manager, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kona 4 | **Session Track:** Safety 

With the increase in losses and costs associated with claims, AMERIND's Safety Services Team recognizes the need for appropriate risk management to control losses within housing authorities. This session breaks down steps the Safety Team takes to assist in the Identification, Assessment, and Prevention of Risk and Loss facing tribal communities. The team discusses the method used to support housing authorities in developing and sustaining risk management plans created for AMERIND members.

## Fire Losses in Indian Country: Prevention and Assessing Fire Risk – Repeat Session

**Presenters:** Natowa Garcia, *Safety Services Specialist, AMERIND*

**Santiago Morales, Safety Representative, AMERIND**

**Room:** Kona 5 | **Session Track:** Safety 

Fire loss makes up over 70% of incurred losses in from the IHBG program. AMERIND's Safety Services Team recognizes its IHBG members require fire risk assessments and fire prevention plans to reduce fire loss. AMERIND's Safety Team shares the tools they utilize to develop and maintain a fire safety plan to assist IHBG members in reducing fire loss risk in their communities.



# BLOCK 9

10:15 am–11:15 am

## Creating a Safe Outdoor Gathering Space for Tribal Residents

**Presenters:** Joseph Diehl, *Managing Director, Diehl & Co. LLC*

Jeff Caldwell, *President and Founder, Heating Green*

**Room:** Kings 1

**Housing Program Administration** 

This session explores ways to create a “safe space” outdoors for residents to gather, get grounded, or share their journey. Outdoor space is an inexpensive healing solution for those facing historic oppression, intergenerational trauma, and resolving negative coping/addiction issues. Presenters show how this space and professional group coaching/therapy support can build resiliency, self-awareness, and overcome trauma.

## Improve Goal Achievement through Coaching

**Presenter:** Lanalle Smith, *Senior Programs Officer, Capacity Building, Oweesta Corporation*

**Room:** Kings 2

**Session Track:** **Asset Building** 

Session participants learn methods to incorporate coaching into housing counseling sessions for improved goal achievement. Learn to support housing clients by focusing on strengthening their financial mindset and behavior to make informed decisions. This interactive session provides a framework to empower counselors to engage in impactful one-on-one sessions.

## Housing Transparency

**Presenter:** Jeff Ackley, Jr., *Executive Director, Lac Du Flambeau Chippewa Housing Authority*

**Room:** Kings 3

**Housing Program Administration** 

Creating an open and transparent operation for TDHEs/housing departments is essential for overall program success. With a new self-monitoring platform, housing program teams can be on their way to building successful and sustainable programs and services for tribal members.

## Addressing Homelessness in Tribal Communities: Data and Policies

**Presenters:** Kevin Klingbeil, *Managing Director, Big Water Consulting*

Katie Symons, *Supportive Housing Consultant, BeauxSimone Consulting*

**Room:** Queens 4

**Homelessness in Tribal Communities** 

Homelessness in tribal communities seldom looks like it does in urban areas, yet funding for homelessness doesn't accommodate these unique needs. This presentation highlights changes in the Continuum of Care program and provides case studies of strategies taken by several tribal communities to meet the needs of their members.

## Success in Multi-phase Affordable Housing Development

**Presenters:** Jerad Jesse, *Architect II, Travois*

Meaghan Pasbrig, *Project Manager, Travois*

Rolando Jaimez, *Deputy Director, Pascua Yaqui Housing Department*

Keith L. Gregory, *Director, Pascua Yaqui Housing Department*

**Room:** Queens 5

**Housing Program Administration** 

Hear directly from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe about their experience building a multi-phase project intended to meet a wide range of housing needs. Presenters elaborate on the complexities of undertaking multiple large projects simultaneously, effective communication with contractors, and layer multiple funding sources.

## Freddie Mac's New Mortgage Product for Supporting Native Homeownership

**Presenters:** Simone Beaty, *Senior Director, Single Family Affordable Lending Strategy and Initiatives, Freddie Mac*

Catherine Houlihan, *Manager, Single-Family Affordable Lending Strategy and Initiatives, Freddie Mac*

David Westfall, *Affordable Lending Initiatives, Freddie Mac*

**Room:** Queens 6

**Session Track:** **Asset Building** 

In preparation for the launch of their new HeritageOne Mortgage in 2023, Freddie Mac shares valuable feedback from lenders/tribes and highlight the collaborations with our partners who actively serve Native communities, which contributed to its development. Join the session to learn how Native Americans and Alaska Natives can attain and sustain homeownership through HeritageOne Mortgage.

## NAIHC Breakout Tracks & Sessions

### Major Challenges in Accessing Safe/ Supportive Housing for Survivors of Gender-based Violence

**Presenters:** *Caroline LaPorte, Director, STTARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center*

*Gwen Packard, Senior Housing Specialist, STTARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center*

**Room:** Kona 1

**Gender-based Violence & Housing Services** 

This session focuses on lessons from survivor listening sessions including barriers survivors face in accessing safe shelter, practice/policy recommendations, low barrier access for survivors, the role of housing in safety planning/ healing for survivors, and the role of staff in preventing/ responding to instances of violence on and off reservation housing.

### The Need for Real Property Conveyance and Recording Policies

**Presenters:** *Denise Zuni, Attorney, Sheh Wheef of Law Offices PC*

*Sheila Herrera, Executive Director, Tiwa Lending Services*

**Room:** Kona 4

**Legal/Advocacy Updates** 

This session covers the importance of having tribal land conveyance and recording policies in the world of home mortgages. Presenters share one tribe's path to building a team that created tribal laws and policies. Sample resolutions, laws, and policies are referenced.

### Placemaking in Anahola: A Tribal USDA RPIC Initiative

**Presenters:** *Rolina Faagai, Program Manager, Enterprise Community Partners*

*Iwalani Laybron-McBrayer, Board Chairwoman, Homestead CDC*

*Denise Salmeron, Business Programs Director, USDA Rural Development, Hawaii*

*Evelyn Immonen, Program Officer, Enterprise Community Partners*

*Jennie Rodgers, Vice President, Mountain and Tribal Nations & Rural Communities, Enterprise Community Partners*

**Room:** Kona 5

**Session Track:** **Asset Building** 

It first started with a vision, and now Homestead CDC and Enterprise have valuable lessons to share about building an indigenous economy in rural Kauai. Presenters discuss using funding from USDA Rural Development Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge (RPIC) to support housing, food sovereignty, small businesses, and infrastructure goals for and by Native Hawaiians.


## BLOCK 10

1:45 pm–2:45 pm

### Reinsurance: How Much Is Enough?

**Presenter:** *Derek Valdo, Chief Executive Officer, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 1

**Session Track:** **Executive** 

Catastrophic events occur more frequently with more severity. AMERIND purchases reinsurance to protect Indian Country and get property fixed quickly, giving members peace of mind that any covered event can be repaired or replaced. While reinsurance covers catastrophic events, reinsurers have increased reduced capacity, and increased retentions and costs. Come to this session to see if AMERIND has enough reserves to weather any storm and be here for as long as tribes need it.

### Injury Country Today - Protecting Your Employee and Reducing Your Workers' Compensations Costs

**Presenter:** *Andrew Shipman, Underwriting II, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 2

**Session Track:** **Underwriting** 

Employee injury in the workplace strikes swiftly and can have devastating effects on operations. Organizations must ask, "As an employer, what practices does my Workers' Compensation insurer like to see? How can I minimize other costs related to employee injuries?" These questions share many of the same answers, which presenters discuss from the perspectives of a tribal employer and tribal insurer.

### Understanding the Underwriting Process and Pricing

**Presenters:** *Shannon Lastonya, Underwriting Manager, AMERIND*

*Randolph Griego, Underwriter II, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kings 3

**Session Track:** **Underwriting** 

Have you ever wondered why insurance carriers increase prices? This session reviews the underwriting process and how inflation, increased catastrophes, labor shortages, and the economy impacts the replacement values of homes and overall insurance premiums. Presenters focus on how schedule management affects rates and review the process for submitting changes to AMERIND.

'Riding the Waves of Culture and Collaboration'

## Creating a Safer Workplace: Job Hazard Analysis and Ergonomic Assessments

**Presenter:** Natowa Garcia, *Safety Services Specialist, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 4 | **Session Track:** Safety 

AMERIND's Safety Team recognizes the importance of workplace safety in our Housing Authorities. From field maintenance employees to office staff, AMERIND's SST examines the value of ensuring our employees work in a safe and hazard-free job site. The team discusses the process AMERIND's SST uses to conduct ergonomic assessments and job hazard analyses for our members.

## Building Strong Digital Educators and Navigators in Indian Country

**Presenter:** Davida Delmar, *Digital Inclusion Manager, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 5 | **Session Track:** ACI 

Bridging the "Digital Divide" in Indian Country by increasing access to high-speed broadband internet is essential to providing telehealth, education, and economic development opportunities to our tribal communities. Another critical piece of the broadband puzzle is the need for digital education and digital navigators to support the communities to access broadband and build true equity and inclusion for Indian Country in the digital world. Join AMERIND to learn more about the efforts of the National Digital Inclusion Alliance, AMERIND Critical Infrastructure, and others to place digital navigators in Tribal communities to enhance education and further digital equity and digital inclusion.

## Liability Basics

**Presenter:** Alan Romero, *Director of Claims, AMERIND*

**Room:** Queens 6 | **Session Track:** Claims 

Attend this live demo to learn how to submit a general liability claim online and gain a better understanding of the following liability basics: 1) submit a claim online; 2) complete an incident report; 3) understand a summons and complaint; and 4) understand the liability process from start to finish and commonly used key terms.

## Artificial Intelligence

**Presenter:** Arthur McConnachie, *IT Manager, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kona 1 | **Session Track:** IT 

AI has been in the news lately. What is it? How was it developed? What are its current business applications? Will it lead to a post-apocalyptic dystopia, or is it the future of work?

## Strategies for Attracting and Retaining Your Best Team Ever

**Presenter:** Lynnette Toya, *HR Generalist, AMERIND*  
Gia Gilk, *Training Specialist, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kona 4 | **Session Track:** Human Resources 

Organizations are looking for the next generation of leaders. Where are they? How do you hire them, and how can you keep them? More importantly, how do you help them become the leaders you need? Presenters address strategies and provide resources for recruiting, hiring, and developing employees to carry organizations into the future.

## Active Shooter Threats and Developing Emergency Response Plans

**Presenter:** Santiago Morales, *Safety Representative, AMERIND*

**Room:** Kona 5 | **Session Track:** Safety 

As of March 26, 2023, there have been over 108 active shooter/mass shooting incidents in the United States. Preparation and planning are critical for survival during events like these. AMERIND's Safety team talk about ways to identify, recognize, and react to an active shooter incident and break down the creation and implementation of an emergency response plan for IHBG members.



# BLOCK 11

3:00 pm–4:00 pm

## Addressing Homelessness in Tribal Communities Case Study

**Presenters:** Zoe LeBeau, CEO and Consultant, BeauxSimone Consulting

**Katie Symons**, CFO and Consultant, Beauxsimone Consulting

**Room:** Kings 1

**Homelessness in Tribal Communities** 

This presentation highlights case studies that highlight how tribal communities are addressing homelessness or housing instability with Permanent Supportive Housing and providing relative-centered, trauma-informed housing and supportive services.

## Credit Action Planning: A Tool for Financial Success

**Presenter:** Lanalle Smith, Senior Programs Officer, Capacity Building, Oweesta Corporation

**Room:** Kings 2

**Session Track:** Asset Building 

This interactive workshop focuses on moving clients into a better space financially with an action planning tool. In this session, presenters demystify credit terminology, discuss credit from an asset-based standpoint, and work through the credit report to create an asset-building roadmap for a positive credit journey.

## Creating and Maintaining Personnel and Tenant Files

**Presenters:** Denise Zuni, Attorney, Sheh Wheel Law Offices PC

**Virginia Kallestewa**, Assistant Executive Director, Zuni Housing Authority

**Room:** Kings 3

**Legal/Advocacy Updates** 

This session's discussion and demonstration focuses on the creation and maintenance of personnel and tenant files. Participants learn how to ensure files contain all relevant documents and activity logs, stand up to monitoring and auditing, and are ready for administrative and judicial hearings.


## Preparing a Roadmap for Developing Urban Native Housing

**Moderator:** Kevin Klingbeil, Managing Director, Big Water Consulting

**Presenters:** Sami Jo Difuntorum, Executive Director, Siletz Tribal Housing

**Derrick Belgarde**, Executive Director, Chief Seattle Club  
**Lorraine Davis**, CEO, Native American Development Center and Native Inc.

**Room:** Queens 4

**Session Track:** Asset Building 

A panel of Native housing and service providers will discuss barriers to and opportunities for developing and operating urban Native housing as well as lessons learned by organizations that have developed urban Native housing, including relationship-building, layered funding/financing, sourcing technical/professional support, and partnership models for tribes and urban Native nonprofits.

## Board Member Basics

**Presenter:** Christine Dennis, Owner, Tribal Consulting Resources, PLLC

**Room:** Queens 5

**Housing Program Administration** 

This session is an overview of basic information and regulations for board member compliance under NAHASDA requirements.

## Introducing the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center

**Presenters:** Tami Truett Jerue, Executive Director, Alaska Native Women's Resource Center

**Caroline LaPorte**, Director, STTARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center

**Gwen Packard**, Senior Housing Specialist, STTARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center

**Room:** Queens 6

**Gender-based Violence & Housing Services** 

This presentation covers the history of the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center and its work strengthening local and tribal government's responses to family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence by offering culturally sensitive statewide information, training, and technical assistance that is designed to reduce tribal disparities within Alaska Native communities.

'Riding the Waves of Culture and Collaboration'

## Introducing the StrongHearts Native Helpline

**Presenter:** **Lori Jump**, *Executive Director, StrongHearts Native Helpline*

**Room:** Kona 1

**Gender-based Violence & Housing Services** 

This presentation introduces StrongHearts Native Helpline as a resource for domestic violence survivors and shares the ways StrongHearts can be helpful to advocates, tribal nations/councils, and tribal housing authorities/departments/TDHEs. Presenters provide up-to-date data on domestic violence and sexual assault and specific data on the need for housing/shelter.

## Housing Operations: The Unsung Heroes

**Presenters:** **Crystal Banks-Mann**, *Assistant Director, Travois Asset Management*  
**Kristen Wamego**, *Asset Manager, Travois Asset Management*

**Room:** Kona 4

**Housing Program Administration** 

The work is not over once the LIHTC project is awarded credits and closes with the equity partner. There are still many milestones to navigate for years to come. Join the session to hear presenters discuss the ongoing operating challenges and praise the unsung heroes whose hard work keeps programs in compliance.

## Keys to Writing Effective Corporate and Foundation Grant Proposals

**Presenter:** **Joseph Diehl**, *Managing Director, Diehl & Co. LLC*

**Room:** Kona 5

**Housing Program Administration** 

Grant writing can be a frustrating experience for many organizations. There is no one-size-fits-all approach. This course covers both time-saving and effective techniques to succeed in selective targeting of funding sources, building a relationship with the funder, and writing a successful proposal.

## SPEAKER BIOS

**JASON ADAMS** spent 26 years in Indian Housing, the first 11 years in Indian Housing development as the Housing Development Manager for the Salish & Kootenai Housing Authority. For the remaining 15 years of his career at the Salish & Kootenai Housing Authority, he served as the Executive Director. ACE Housing & Development, LLC was started in the spring of 2021 by Jason and Autumn Adams to provide consultant services to tribes, tribal housing authorities and others for all affordable housing. The company is Indian Preference certified with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CS&KT).

**JEFF ACKLEY** is a community and housing visionary leader in developments in our Tribal communities. Jeff was cited for being a dynamic housing young professional who brings new ideas along with a fresh perspective to the task of providing affordable housing. Not taking "No" for an answer Jeff continually works to overcome obstacles in all our Native communities. He also balances many obligations as a community leader, President of the Crandon school board and owner of BAHJ Contracting & Consulting with determination and persistence. Jeff's motto "always allow your vision to extend far beyond your reach"

**MIKE ANDREWS** joins McGuireWoods Consulting as Senior Vice President in the Federal Public Affairs group after a successful career on Capitol Hill. He also serves as partner with McGuireWoods LLP. With over 20 years of experience of federal Indian law and legislative strategies with a bipartisan, results driven focus, Mike leads McGuireWoods Consulting's policy work on matters impacting Native American tribes. In addition, Mike works with clients on health care, agriculture, housing, energy, land use, homeland security, procurement, congressional oversight, economic development and financial services issues.

**ARON ARCHULETA** U.S. Dept. of Defense Security Cleared IT Specialist. Systems administrator (4 years) as well as Acting Product Development Director of AMERIND Risk Management Corporation. Associates of Engineering Technology from Universal Technical Institute, AZ 2000. CompTIA A+CE/NET+CE/Security+CE certified. Associate in General Insurance 2020.

**KIMBERLIE BAHE** has been instrumental in the implementation and success of the Navajo Nation Tribal HUD VASH Program. The Program has been successful in its partnership with the Veteran's Administration and is a model for best practices in working together to end veteran homelessness. Tribal HUD VASH is just one aspect of the many innovative ways that the Navajo Nation serves its many veteran tribal members.

**NANCY BAINBRIDGE** is the Executive Vice President and Director of Tribal and Construction Lending Department at Chickasaw Community Bank (formerly Bank2) which is 100% owned by the Chickasaw Nation. She has worked for the Bank for 12 years and uses her 40 years of commercial, construction, and tribal lending experience to help tribes find solutions to housing challenges. She holds several Native American lending certificates in HUD Section 184 and Title VI. Nancy has an Economics Degree from Northwestern University.

**CRYSTAL BANKS-MANN** is the Assistant Director of Asset Management with Travois. She has worked in the low-income housing industry for more than 20 years and currently holds several designations including Housing Credit Certified Professional (HCCP), a Specialist in Housing Credit Management (SHCM), and Housing Compliance Manager for Rural Development programs (HCM-R). She is also certified as a Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) and Tax Credit Compliance Professional (NTCCP). Crystal leads trainings for compliance professionals seeking the NTCCP certification as a consultant with the National American Indian Housing Council.

**XAVIER A. BARRAZA** is a Senior Associate Attorney with Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP. He has over 14 years of policy and legal experience representing tribal governments. Xavier started his career as the lead housing staffer for Chairman Senator Dorgan (D-ND) and then Chairman Senator Akaka (D-HI) of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. During his time on the Committee, he helped pass the 2010 NAHASDA amendments, the Indian Veterans Housing Opportunity Act, and the Hearth Act. Xavier understands the importance of Indian Housing; having grown up in a tiny BIA-HIP home, he continues to advocate for the advancement of Indian housing. He is a citizen of the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians.

**SIMONE BEATY** is the Senior Director of Affordable Lending for Freddie Mac's Single-Family Mission and Community Engagement Division where she focuses on housing policy to support underserved markets, including rural housing, manufactured housing, shared equity and energy efficiency on single-family properties. Simone has more than 25 years of experience in the mortgage industry. With Freddie Mac since 2004, she was previously the director of servicing policy for nine years and her responsibilities included developing servicing policies related to loss mitigation. She was instrumental in developing Freddie Mac's policy and implementation of the federal government's Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP), the Neighborhood Stabilization Initiative and the standardization of servicing requirements under the Servicing Alignment Initiative with the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

**DERRICK BELGARDE** is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, and also Chippewa-Cree from Rocky Boy Montana. He serves on the board of Community Roots Housing, Downtown Emergency Service Center, Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness, and the Housing Development Consortium. He completed his undergraduate in Public Affairs Magna Cum Laude, and went on to complete his Master's in Public Administration, both at Seattle University. He is a proud father of three and is married to the wonderful Lua Belgarde.

**DELANE BIG CROW**, AMERIND's Safety Services Manager, has been with AMERIND for four years. He is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe in Pine Ridge, SD. His 13+ years of safety and risk management experience include working as a Tribal Risk/Safety Manager as well as a Loss Prevention/Safety Manager with a large retail company. Delane is an Authorized Instructor/Trainer with the Occupational, Safety and Health Administration, a Certified Defensive Driving, First Aid/ CPR/ AED and Basic Life Support instructor with the National Safety Council, and a Certified Fire Inspector with the National Fire Protection Association. Delane and AMERIND's Safety Team work hard to increase the safety knowledge in Indian Country and reduce risks communities face while adhering to our goal of "Tribes protecting Tribes."

**THANAY (LITTLE SUN) BINFORD** is has been the Property Manager/Homeowner Counselor with the Ohkay Owingeh Housing Authority for the past six years where he enjoys helping his community members realize their homeownership dreams. Thanay has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Personal Financial Planning from Texas Tech University and is an Ohkay Owingeh tribal member.

**TAWNEY BRUNSCH**, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, is the Executive Director of Lakota Funds, a Native community development financial institution (CDFI) serving the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. She has led the organization to achieve key organizational benchmarks, including expanding Lakota Funds' lending area, becoming an FSA-guaranteed ag lender, chartering the Lakota Federal Credit Union, and serving as the fiscal agent for the South Dakota Native Homeownership Coalition. She has served on the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines Advisory Council and as the Chair of the Community Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Board.

**SHAYLA BOWLES** is an Associate Attorney at Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP at the Rapid City, SD office. Mrs. Bowles has three years of experience in working for tribes and tribal entities including TDHEs. Currently, her work includes drafting and reviewing construction contracts, land leases and land leasing documents, resolutions and policies, assisting with design and implementation of programs including the Department of Treasury HAF Program, representing TDHE's in evictions and lease compliance matters, and advising clients on federal procurement and financial management requirements. Shayla is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation.



**T****EDD BUELOW** is the Tribal Coordinator for USDA Rural Development. In this role he leads the tribal team that works to increase access to RD's programs for Tribes, Tribal members and organizations focused on improving the quality of life and economic opportunity throughout Indian Country and Alaska. In between stints at USDA, Tedd worked for the CDFI Fund's Native American Program team. Prior to that he worked for RD's Community Development Program as a desk officer for the NW region. Tedd began his federal career volunteering with the Peace Corps in the Eastern High Atlas National Park in Morocco.

**P****HIL BUSH** is Chairman of AMERIND and Executive Director of the Modoc Lassen Indian Housing Authority. With over 30 years of experience, Phil is a recognized regional and national advocate for Native American housing and a well-qualified and proven consultant in economic enterprise development and housing needs of Native American communities. Phil has served on several national policymaking advisory committees and held key positions including: four-term chairman of AMERIND, one-term chairman of AMERIND Risk Management Corporation Cell Commission, member of the 1997-99 NAHASDA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee, and chairman of the Nevada/California Indian Housing Authority Association since 1991.

**J****EFF CALDWELL** is the President and founder of Heating Green in Bellingham, WA. After beginning his career working in the aerospace and healthcare products industries, he founded Heating Green in 2007. Hailing from Maine, Jeff's education includes studies in business management and mechanical engineering technology. Heating Green was a natural extension of the combination of these passions, allowing him to focus on understanding great products and bringing them to markets where customers appreciate their value. Heating Green is a member of Region VI (NWIHA) serving tribes in the PNW.

**C****HERYL A. CAUSLEY** is an enrolled member of the Bay Mills Tribe of Chippewa Indians and served as their Housing Director for 28 years. Ms. Causley served on the of the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) Board of Directors as Chairwoman for four years and Vice Chair and Secretary of the Board of Directors for NAIHC from 1998 until 2010. At the regional level, she served as Chairperson of the Great Lakes Indian Housing Association for seven years. Ms. Causley's lifetime passion has been Indian housing and helping all tribes provide for Native people.

**J****OHAN CLANCY** is a leader of Godfrey & Kahn's Energy Strategies Practice Group and its Indian Nations Group. John provides environmental and energy-related services to a wide variety of entities, including tribal, industrial, commercial, municipal clients. John works with tribes and others to finance and develop clean energy projects, taking advantage of federal, state, utility and foundation funding as well as tax and other

incentives to lower the cost and increase the return of those projects. John also represents tribal clients on reservation protection initiatives, including tribal regulatory authority under the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act, and enforcing Tribal Class I Air status and rights.

**N****IKKI CRISTOBAL** is from the island of Kaua'i. She holds her Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Policy. Nikki is the Co-Founder and Executive Director for the grassroots native Hawaiian culture, education, and public arts nonprofit, Kamāwaeluani. Nikki is also the Principal Investigator for the Missing and Murdered Native Hawaiian Women, Girls, Māhū Report- a ka pae 'āina wide report mandated by the Hawai'i legislature and part of the MMIW2S international movement. Nikki serves as the Policy and Research Specialist for Pouhana O Nā Wāhine.

**H****ANNAH CURLEY** has served as the Chairperson for the Quinault Housing Authority (QHA) Board of Commissioners for the last three years. She is also the Chairperson for the Quinault Enterprise Board. Ms. Curley is currently employed as the Quinault Enrollment/Burial Assistance Administrator. Ms. Curley has raised six grandchildren and has been 18 years clean from drugs. She is proud to serve the members of the Quinault Indian Nation and the local community where she is an enrolled member from Taholah, Washington.

**L****ORRAINE DAVIS** is an enrolled member of the Sisseton Wahpeton (Dakota) Oyate (SD/ND) and descendant of the Arikara of the MHA Nation (ND). Mrs. Davis is the Founder and CEO of Native Community Development, Inc. (dba NATIVE, Inc.) in Bismarck, North Dakota. NATIVE, Inc., is a community development corporation providing coordinated and a continuum of care model of services involving homelessness and housing, behavioral health services, workforce development, transportation and community-based education designed to holistically meet the needs of Native Americans and other low-income populations living in urban areas of North Dakota.

**A****BBY DAY** is a Project Manager with Travois where she works with tribal clients to prepare, review, and submit Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) applications for affordable housing projects. Abby assists clients with gathering due diligence items to meet carryover, closing, 8609, and final pay requirements. She uses her past experience in grant writing to help clients apply for and receive gap financing through the Affordable Housing Program (AHP), administered by the Federal Home Loan Bank system. Abby also advocates for changes to Qualified Allocation Plans (QAPs) to ensure that tribally sponsored projects can compete evenly with other projects.

**D****AVIDA DELMAR** is the Digital Inclusions Manager at AMERIND Critical Infrastructure. Prior to joining ACI, Davida worked for Native Nations Institute at University of Arizona, American Indian College Fund, and the Northern Arizona University – Office of Inclusion She has strong experience in her career working to support

tribal communities to build programs, create sustainable tools, and uplift Native voices in the areas of training, governance, nation building, and program design. Davida received her Bachelor of Arts from Brown University and a Master of Public Administration degree from Northern Arizona University. She is a citizen of the Navajo Nation.

**CHRISTINE DENNIS** is a Certified Public Accountant and COSO Internal Control Certification specializing in all tribal government activities including housing, casinos, and economic development. She has worked with over 80 tribes throughout the United States over the last 25 years and is a training and technical assistance provider and presenter specializing in federal regulations for tribal entities.

**JOSEPH B. DIEHL** CPA JD is the Managing Director of Diehl & Co. LLC, a Seattle-based consulting organization. Joe brings over five decades of experience in both the for-profit and nonprofit sectors. His roots in business began at the entry level and eventually rising to senior levels. His recent experiences include Executive Director of the Northwest Indian Housing Association (1998-2014) and Deputy Director of NAIHC (2017-2019). At NAIHC, Joe helped implement an eLearning platform and the CostPoint general ledger system. He earned his BS (Accountancy) at Northern Illinois University and JD at UIC-Law (formerly known as John Marshall Law School).

**SAMI JO DIFUNTORUM** is the Housing Executive Director for the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and Vice Chair and Region 6 representative for the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) Board of Directors. Sami Jo's experience in tribal housing spans 26 years and includes providing testimony to the US Congress during the reauthorization of NAHASDA, representing the NAIHC at the White House Tribal Leader Meeting, and membership on the Indian Housing Block Grant Formula Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. Ms. Difuntorum has served on numerous boards and committees including co-chair of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Housing Committee, Chair of the NAIHC Legislative Committee, Vice-Chair of the Northwest Indian Housing Association, Chair of the National Congress of American Indians Housing Subcommittee, and as board member of the former Lincoln Community Development Corporation. Sami Jo is a member of the Kwekake band of Shasta from the Upper Klamath River canyon of Northern California.

**DAVID DIXON** is a Research Associate with Big Water Consulting where he works with tribes to collect data on housing and homelessness and translates that data into action. David holds a master's degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is passionate about creating healthy, climate-resilient housing.

**JOANNA DONOHUE** is a partner with Seven Sister Community Development Group, LLC specializing in affordable homeownership opportunities in Native communities. She has 30 years of experience working on banking, housing, and community development issues. She has helped to establish and facilitate national and regional homeownership coalitions including the One-Stop Mortgage Center Initiative, NM Tribal Homeownership Coalition, SD Native Homeownership Coalition, and the National Native Homeownership Coalition. Joanna earned a Bachelor of Arts in American Government from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA in 1989 and a Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC in 1996.

**CHELSEA EVANS** is the Executive Director of the Hawaiian Community Assets where she runs Hawaii's largest housing and urban development-certified housing counseling agency, serving more than 1,500 local residents annually with free financial counseling, income support, and career coaching. As HCA's Executive Director, Chelsea is committed to building a thriving community that provides people with options for life experiences in Hawaii.

**ROLINA FAAGAI** is a Native Hawaiian born and raised in Kaneohe on the island of Oahu. She is an enrolled member of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations (SCHHA), a public policy analyst on Hawaiian trust lands, and is the Vice-Chair of the governing board of Hawaiian Lending and Investments (HLI). HLI is a Native CDFI delivering financial resources to Hawaiian trust land communities in the State of Hawai'i. Ms. Faagai is employed as the Deputy Director of Economic Development for the nonprofit Homestead Community Development Corporation (HCDC).

**SHAYNA FERGUSON** is the Manager of Lakota Federal Credit Union in Kyle, SD where she oversees day-to-day operations, accounts payable and receivable, payroll, grant reporting, back-office balancing, loan requests, and mortgage lending. Her goals are to provide the surrounding communities with access to financial institutions, help the Oglala and Rosebud Sioux Tribes utilize its products and services, and bring awareness of homeownership and how it is possible on the reservation. Shayna is a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

**H EIDI FRECHETTE** serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs, within HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing. In this capacity, she manages a budget of more than \$700 million and leads a team of approximately 140 professional employees in Washington, DC, and seven other locations across the nation. This team supports more than 567 American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities that are working with HUD to provide their low-income residents with decent affordable housing, expand and improve housing infrastructure, provide opportunities for low-income residents to become self-sufficient, and develop thriving economies. Ms. Frechette,

who is Menominee and Brothertown from Wisconsin, has over 20 years of experience in Native American law, policy, and legislative affairs.

**NATOWA GARCIA** is of AMERIND's Safety Services Team where he provides safety training and inspections for AMERIND clients, ensuring Native America is safe and prepared in the event of an emergency. Some of the safety trainings include, First Aid/CPR, Defensive Driving, Workplace Violence prevention training, Active Shooter, and Office Ergonomics, among others. Natowa puts his unique perspective from past experiences working and living on the Santa Ana Pueblo into his safety training which allows for more conversation during the sessions. Natowa is a member of Santa Ana Pueblo.

**RICK A. GARCIA, ESQ.** serves as the Co-Director of Law and Policy for the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center. Since 2018, Rick has provided training and technical assistance to Alaska tribal courts and justice systems. Prior to joining AKNWRC, Rick served as the Tribal Justice Director and Associate General Counsel for the Association of Village Council Presidents and as a District Court Magistrate Judge for the Alaska Court System, based in Aniak and Hooper Bay. Rick graduated cum laude from the Southern Illinois School of Law in 2009 and is licensed in the state courts of Florida and Alaska.

**JOCELYN GETGEN-KESTENBAUM** is the Director of the Benjamin B. Ferencz Human Rights and Atrocity Prevention Clinic and the Cardozo Law Institute in Holocaust and Human Rights (CLIHHR). Her scholarship focuses on human rights, public health, and atrocity prevention, especially related to preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based crimes, slavery and the slave trade, indigenous rights, and human rights violations against minority groups. She holds a J.D. from Cornell Law School and an MPH from the John Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

**GIA GILK** is the Training and Development Specialist at AMERIND where she supports staff who are earning insurance designations, creates and implements customized team and individual training, and develops new strategies and processes that might push the limits a little. She has a bachelor's degree in Organizational Psychology and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Minnesota State University – Mankato. She earned Educational Specialist Certifications in Special Education from UC – Long Beach and Education Administration from University of New Mexico. Most recently and most excitingly, she earned two designations (AINS and AIS) in insurance.

**RANDOLPH (RANDY) GRIEGO** is a Commercial Lines Underwriter II at AMERIND. Randy is currently taking his Associate in Underwriting-Management (AU-M) and holds an Associate's degree in Underwriting (A.U.) and General Insurance (AINS), and holds various NTCCP designations. He is a member of the Pueblo of Acoma.

**SUSAN HAMMOND** is the Relationship Manager for Native CDFIs at Fahe, a CDFI serving in rural and Native communities with a mission to building the American Dream of homeownership. Her focus is to develop strong partnerships with Native CDFIs by providing training and support in accessing the secondary mortgage market, which will increase access to capital for NCDIFs while also addressing the severe housing needs faced by Native families and communities. She has dedicated her career to growing investments in Native economies and serving Native communities. Susan is a citizen of the Penobscot Nation.

**KENDRA HARMON** is a Finance and Loan Analyst with USDA's Rural Development Single-Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program where she provides marketing, training and outreach for lenders and partners across the country. For 18 years with Rural Development, Kendra has worked in housing and community programs with partners and stakeholders focusing on building viable, sustainable communities in rural America, including opportunities for homeownership to low- and moderate-income households through the Agency's guaranteed housing program.

**ADAM HASZ** serves as Implementation Advisor for the Home Energy Rebates Program in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of State and Community Energy Programs. Prior to this role, he works on strategic planning and project management for the DOE's Advanced Building Construction Initiative, an R&D and market transformation effort working to integrate zero-carbon solutions into U.S. construction and renovation practices. Throughout his work, Adam has focused on advancing a more equitable clean energy economy through research, policy, and planning.

**SEAN HENDERSON** is the Infrastructure and Economic Development Coordinator for the Department of the Interior, Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs in the Office of Indian Economic Development where he also serves as the AS-IA Remote Desk Officer within the Rural Partners Network. For 25 years, Sean has worked with federal and state governments in California and Alaska in real estate and finance. He's worked with multiple land and related real estate investors and builders in multiple states and was a founder and business development officer for several small businesses. More recently, Sean has worked for a large native owned corporation as the original head of diversification as the Real Estate and Business Development Director for nearly five years.

**DAVID HEISTERKAMP II** is a Managing Shareholder in the Denver law firm of Wagenlander & Heisterkamp, LLC. The firm is general counsel to many tribal housing programs throughout the country. It also represents public housing agencies in Colorado. Wagenlander & Heisterkamp has practiced Indian law for 47 years. In 2018, Dave was named the National American Indian Housing Council "Lawyer of the Year." Dave



Heisterkamp's undergraduate degree is from Dartmouth College and his law degree is from the University of Colorado.

**SHEILA D. HERRERA** is the Executive Director of Tiwa Lending Services with over 35 years' experience in the lending industry and with experience in coordinating and directing the implementation of economic/community development. As Tiwa Lending Services' Executive Director, Ms. Herrera operates and manages Tiwa Lending Services, leveraging resources for housing, community development. Ms. Herrera is one of the founding members of Tiwa Lending Services. She was instrumental in developing the incorporation documents to establish Tiwa Lending Services. Ms. Herrera received Visionary Leader Award for outstanding achievement FY2016.

**L AURA HERRON** is an Architect II with Travois and helps clients with their developments from all points in the design and construction process, including budgeting, research and planning, design development, coordination of final drawings and specifications sets and regular construction oversight. She is registered with the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). She is a licensed architect in Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota and Wisconsin and is working toward licensure in other states. Laura joined Travois in 2019 and brings expertise in designing and coordinating multifamily, single-family, rehabilitation and mixed-use developments.

**A NDRIA HIVELY** is Chief of the Special Programs and Initiatives Branch in the Single-Family Housing Direct Loan Division at USDSA Rural Development. The Special Programs branch administers the Home Repair Loans and Grants, Housing Preservation Grants, Self-Help Housing Grants, and Site Loan programs. Andria started her 17-year career at Rural Development in Washington State where she now works remotely for the National Office, Rural Housing Service. Before joining the agency, Andria worked in private lending after receiving her Master's in Business Administration from Eastern Washington University.

**C ATERINE HOULIHAN** is a Manager of Single-Family Affordable Lending Strategy and Initiatives in Freddie Mac's Mission and Community Engagement Division. She manages the rural housing initiative that supports Freddie Mac's underserved markets plan.

**M S. HOULIHAN** joined Freddie Mac in 2022 and previously worked in the nonprofit and government sectors as a researcher, grant writer, and grant manager specializing in community development, climate change mitigation, public safety, and historic preservation. Ms. Houlihan earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Florida International University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University.

**S TEPHEN HUNT** is Blackfeet (Amskapii Pikaanii), Nez Perce (Nimipuu), Sioux (Sisseton), Pend d'Oreille (Ql'ispé), Chippewa Cree (Ne Hiyawak), and was raised on the Flathead Indian Reservation. Stephen is the Coordinator for Morning Star. In 2020, Stephen was selected and awarded the inaugural NDN Changemaker fellowship. Stephen is the first elected board chairman of Snq'eyłmistn (The place where you do your best), a permanent home and working ranch for First People's Children in the foster care system. The ranch would be traditionally based, fully sustainable, and would build a foundation for Indigenous youth to be successful in any world.

**E VELYN IMMONEN** is a Program Officer for the Tribal Nations and Rural team at Enterprise Community Partners, where she provides technical assistance, training, and program management to support tribal communities seeking affordable housing. Her background in rental and homeownership began at the Housing Assistance Council where she supported research and information and managed the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design. She has a Master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Virginia. She is motivated by her family's heritage with Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, Standing Rock, and her personal connection to many tribes in North and South Dakota.

**J ERAD JESSEE**, provides support for Travois design clients through all of the phases of the design and construction process, conducts design charrettes, coordinates drawings and specifications sets, and completes work-in-place monitoring and reports and handles other project management tasks. Jerad skillfully coordinates relationships with communities, government entities and development teams to ensure feasible, safe and efficient developments. He has worked in the architectural design industry since 2011 on a variety of different project types. Jerad graduated from Kansas State University with a master of architecture degree and he holds architectural licenses in Missouri.

**W AHLEAH JOHNS** is the Director of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs. She is responsible for upholding and advancing the Office of Indian Energy's mission to maximize the development and deployment of energy solutions for the benefit of American Indians and Alaska Natives. Johns is a member of the Navajo (Diné) tribe and comes from northeastern Arizona. Her background is in renewable energy and community organizing, having co-founded Native Renewables, a nonprofit that builds renewable energy tribal capacity while addressing energy access. Her work with the Black Mesa Water Coalition and Navajo Green Economy Coalition has led to groundbreaking legislative victories for groundwater protection, green jobs, and environmental justice. In 2019, she was awarded the Nathan Cummings Foundation Fellowship. Johns is deeply honored to work with the Office of Indian Energy to help native communities lead the way in the transition to clean energy.

**D****R. TOMMY JONES** is the Deployment Specialist for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs. As a Deployment Specialist, Dr. Jones is responsible for assisting the Director and Deployment Supervisor with implementing the Office's Deployment Programs: Technical Assistance, Financial Assistance, and Education and Capacity Building. Dr. Jones is from Jones, Oklahoma and is an enrolled citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Naknek Native Village, and a Native shareholder of Bristol Bay Native Corporation of Alaska. He has extensive experience working with Alaska Native and American Indian tribes regarding governance, natural resources, and energy.

**L****ORI JUMP**, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, is the Executive Director of the StrongHearts Native Helpline. She brings a wealth of tribal advocacy experience to StrongHearts having worked for 25+ years as the Program Manager of the Advocacy Resource Center (ARC). The ARC is a comprehensive victim services program for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe, providing advocacy, shelter and civil legal representation for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Lori is also a founding member and former Executive Director of Uniting Three Fires Against Violence, Michigan's tribal coalition. Lori now serves as a board member for UTFAV.

**V****IRGINIA (GINA) KALLESTEWA** is currently the Assistant Executive Director at Zuni Housing Authority and has 20 years of work experience in Human Resources. She earned her professional certification as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) in 2006 and is currently pursuing her Senior credential. Gina has experience in conducting workplace investigations related to allegations of sexual harassment, hostile working environment and policy violations; personnel policy development and amendments; workplace safety and risk management; and personnel record management. Gina served in the capacity as coordinator of employee events and organized the annual Zuni Housing Fair and Employee Appreciation Events.

**R****EBECA KIDDER** is an Equity Partner at Peebles Kidder Bergin & Robinson LLP at the Rapid City, SD office. Mrs. Kidder has been recognized by U.S. News and World Report as a Best Lawyer in Native American Law in 2019 through 2022. Mrs. Kidder has over twenty-one (21) years of experience in working for TDHEs and Tribes. Currently, she represents TDHEs on projects as general counsel on issues from day-to-day administration to litigation, and housing related matters. She has assisted TDHEs with policy drafting; eviction and lease enforcement proceedings; project development and management, land leasing, construction contracting and financing.

**K****EVIN KLINGBEIL** Big Water Consulting is owned by Kevin Klingbeil, a geographer, Indian housing lawyer and former manager for the U.S. Census Bureau. Kevin has represented tribal housing clients in

government-to-government consultations and served as a technical expert for the IHBG Formula Negotiated Rulemaking Committee's Data Study Group in 2014-2016. Prior to working in the fields of Indian housing law and federal data collection, Kevin practiced environmental, natural resources, water and property law.

**B****RIGID KORCE** has been working in affordable housing for nearly twenty years and with BeauvSimone Consulting since 2015 focusing on supportive housing, including Tribal HUD-VASH. Brigid is committed to affordable housing to build equity, stability, and health for all and has significant direct service and program management experience. From 2014 through 2021, she worked for a southwest Colorado housing non-profit working with federal and state-funded housing programs including CoC, VASH, housing counseling, Housing Choice Vouchers, CSBG, CDBG, ESG, and affordable housing development that resulted in a permanent supportive housing development called Espero Apartments.

**C****AROLINE LAPORTE** (Immediate Descendant Little River Band Of Ottawa Indians) is the Director of the STTARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center at the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center. She is an attorney and serves as the Associate Judge for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. She previously served as NIWRC's Senior Native Affairs Policy Advisor in D.C. and as the attorney/judicial advisor to the Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Court. Caroline's work focuses primarily on housing, human rights, children, firearms, and criminal justice focused within the gender-based violence framework within Indian country.

**S****HANNON LASTYONA**, AIC, AINS, is the Underwriting Manager at AMERIND. She manages all functions of the underwriting operation and has over 19 years of experience working with tribally designated housing entities, tribal governments, and businesses throughout the Indian Country. Shannon holds professional insurance designations with an Associate in Claims (AIC) and Associate's degree in General Insurance (AINS). Shannon attends New Mexico State University pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree and has an AAS degree in Computer Information Systems. She is a member of the Zuni Pueblo.

**W****ALANI LAYBON-MCBRAYER** resides with her family in Kapolei, Hawaii on the Federal Trust Lands of Kaupe'a Homestead Community. She is the current President of Kaupe'a Homestead Association consisting of 326 homes. Iwalani also oversees the (SCHHA) Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Association Residential Homestead Policy and is the Chair of the Homestead Community Development Corporation founded in 2009 to implement projects for success on trust land properties, whose mission is to develop affordable housing and economic opportunities on or near the trust lands of native Hawaiian people known as homesteads or Hawaiian Home Lands.

**ZOE LEBEAU** is the CEO of BeauxSimone Consulting, a small, women-owned business that specializes in assisting communities develop and manage high-quality supportive housing. Zoe brings over 27 years of hands-on and direct experience in all aspects of housing, service development and implementation. Zoe has been involved in the development of over 80 supportive housing communities nationally including 25 in American Indian communities. Zoe plays a national role in public policy work to secure funding for supportive housing and is a nationally recognized trainer and expert on supportive housing in tribal communities and regularly speaks at national conferences and events.

**RETHA LENO**, an enrolled tribal member, served as Executive Director for the Akwesasne Housing Authority for 16 years. Over the course of her housing career, Ms. Leno shifted the business model of the organization to include renewable energy and energy efficiency/sustainability with projects of the TDHE. Specialty work included the development of supportive housing for veterans and disabled seniors, mortgage financing through the USDA, HUD Section 184, and Veterans Affairs. Post-retirement (2020) Ladyhawk was formed with the mission to challenge barriers in Indian Country in housing, economic development, and project development.

**THOMAS LOZANO** is the Chair of the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) and has served on the Tribal Council for over 18-years for the Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe of Enterprise Rancheria. Thomas has been a Board member of the Enterprise Rancheria Indian Housing Authority for over 16 years. In that capacity he has developed policies and worked on funding and development for new housing units for their tribal citizens. Thomas also serves on several committees and boards such as being a Regent for the California Tribal College, Director of Tribal Programs, while sitting on the Tribe's Education Committee and Economic Development Authority. Thomas was also instrumental in creating housing programs and the tribal development program for their tribal citizens, which is a 24-month internship helping educate tribal members in leadership and on the job training. Thomas is also the Project Director for the kNOW Tobacco Now project which educates tribal members on the negative effects of commercial tobacco and vaping, and the difference between commercial tobacco and traditional tobacco.

**HARRY MAHER** As a Data Analyst who has worked with Big Water Consulting for more than four years, Harry helps collect, clean, and analyze relevant spatial and non-spatial data and supports data visualization and reporting. In addition to managing projects and overseeing data collection, he trains staff so that they can perform field data collection and essential housing-related GIS activities.

**ARTHUR MCCONNACHIE** is the IT Manager and former Systems Administrator of AMERIND. He has a B.S in Business Administration (Finance) from Arizona State University, 1987 and a B.S in Computer Information Systems from DeVry University, 1999. He has a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer, 2006 and a Associate in General Insurance, 2019.

**FELIX MCGOWAN**, MBA, is the Director of ACI for AMERIND where provides tribal governments with business knowledge and expertise to positively affect tribal resources and self-sustainability. In his early career, he fulfilled many environmental and business roles for the Nez Perce Tribe. This early exposure to the federal contracting arena led him to work with tribal businesses from across the country both as an employee and in support roles while running his own company for many years. He received his bachelor's degree and master's in Business Administration degree from Gonzaga University. He is an enrolled member of the Little Shell Band of Chippewa Tribe.

**MIKE MELCHIOR** is the Claims Manager for the AMERIND Tribal Workers' Compensation (TWC) program. Mike has been in workers' compensation claims since 1989 with the beginning of his career focusing on statutory workers' compensation. More recently, Mike spent eight years as a Workers' Compensation Claims Supervisor with Berkley – part of his unit was devoted to handling Tribal claims for AMERIND. Mike has enjoyed being part of the AMERIND team since February of 2017, with AMERIND completely taking over their workers' compensation claims in-house as of April of 2021.

**SANTIAGO MORALES** is a Safety Technician with AMERIND. He is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe from South Dakota. With his educational background in tribal management from Haskell Indian Nations University, Santiago is excited to apply his knowledge of safety trainings and gain experience helping tribes throughout Indian Country. He has valuable insight into the difficulties tribes endure regarding safety management and protecting tribal assets.

**ALEXANDRIA MURNAN** (Shawnee, Cherokee), director of affordable housing, joined Travois in 2015 and uses her strong background and professional experience in planning, economic development and community development to oversee the day-to-day operations of the Travois affordable housing team. Alexandria and her team help tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities to turn project concepts into competitive applications for Low Income Housing Tax Credits and other funding sources like Affordable Housing Program grants through the Federal Home Loan Bank system. Once awarded, Alexandria guides clients through carryover and closing with an equity investor, helping to gather due diligence items at each milestone.

**ALLIE MYGA** joined AMERIND as the Director of Finance in October 2019. She has over 20 years of experience in accounting, auditing, financial



reporting, internal controls, and budgeting. Allie received a Master's degree in International Business, and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. She also holds the Certified Governmental Financial Manager designation (CGFM) and an Associates in Insurance (AINS).

**BENJAMIN NAVARRO** leads Fannie Mae's Duty to Serve Plan for the rural housing market. In this role, Ben works to expand Fannie Mae's single-family and multifamily conventional lending products to Native Americans, among others rural communities. Prior to his current role, Ben led the manufactured housing Duty to Serve plan where he contributed to a number of innovations, including creating Fannie Mae's Manufactured Housing Advantage loan for high-quality MH and Fannie Mae's loan for single-wide MH. Ben studied at the University of Virginia and Georgetown University and is a native of the Washington, DC area.

**JAMIE B. NAVENMA** has worked with tribal communities throughout the United States. This includes the Yavapai-Apache Nation as the Economic & Energy Program Coordinator and the Hopi Tribe on their Hopi Sustainable Energy Program. Starting in 1993 as a Homeownership Counselor, he has held various leadership positions in tribal housing as the Executive Director for the Hopi Tribal Housing Authority, Hualapai Housing Department, and the Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority. He also served as a consultant with NAIHC, providing Training and Technical Assistance for tribes. He currently sits on the SWTHA board for New Mexico and on the NAIHC Board representing Region 8.

**MARY JANE OATMAN** is an enrolled member of the Nez Perce Tribe and descendant of the Delaware Tribe and proud mother of three beautiful people. She is the Executive Director of the Indigenous Cannabis Industry Association, founder of the Indigenous CANNabis Coalition (ICANNC) and publisher of THC Magazine. She enjoys being able to grow her passion both in her communities as well as across the nation as a traveling culture and events photographer. Mary Jane has found her true vibe capturing special moments with plants and people.

**LUIS OCHOA** has more than 25 years of legal experience in real estate, Indian law and policy, tribal housing, gaming, business entity formation, real estate development, leasing on non-tribal fee land, tribal trust and allotted land, the application of federal and state tax law to tribal activities, and economic development activities undertaken by tribes, tribal members and non-Indian business clients.

**GWEN PACKARD**, Ihanktonwan Dakota, worked for many years in Indian country, both at the national and tribal level. She served as editor for six national Indian publications and as Executive Director for Morning Star House, an advocacy program that works with off-reservation Indian women and children who are victims/survivors of domestic/sexual violence. She also served as Executive Director of the NM Suicide Prevention

Coalition and is the founder and Co-Chair of Rain Cloud, the off-reservation behavioral health collaborative in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is a survivor of domestic violence, a writer, a grassroots organizer, an advocate, and a community activist.

**MEAGHAN PASBRIG** is a Project Manager with Travois where works with tribes and tribal housing authorities to turn affordable housing projects into competitive applications for Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs) and other funding opportunities. Meaghan uses her experience in grant writing to help clients apply for and receive gap financing through opportunities like the Affordable Housing Program (AHP), administered by the Federal Home Loan Bank system. She also advocates for changes to Qualified Allocation Plans (QAPs) that help tribally sponsored projects to compete evenly with other proposed projects.

**JACQUELINE PATA** is the President/CEO of the Tlingit & Haida Regional Housing Authority and Haa Yaakaawu Financial Corporation in Juneau, AK. Prior to that Jackie served for 18 years as the Executive Director of National Congress of American Indians in Washington DC and as the Deputy Director of Office of Native American Programs in US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Jackie also currently serves as 1st Vice President for Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Tribes of Alaska and the President of Goldbelt Heritage Foundation. Kus.een is her Tlingit name and she is of the Lukaax.ádi (Raven/Sockeye) Clan.

**PATTIE PEREZ** is the Senior Workers' Compensation Claims Specialist for the AMERIND Tribal Workers' Compensation (TWC) program. She has a Bachelor's degree from the University of New Mexico Anderson School of Management and also holds professional designations in Associate in Claims and Associate in General Insurance. Pattie has been a Claims Specialist since 2009 and has been with AMERIND for nearly four years handling tribal claims.

**TONYA PLUMMER** is the Director of Native American Housing Programs at Enterprise Community Partners where we work with tribes across turtle island. She has an extensive career in mortgage banking, housing and tribal economic development, and most recently led a Native CDFI based on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation. She also carried a leadership role in the creation and establishment of a statewide coalition to foster Montana Native Homeownership opportunities and she continues her work here. Tony is an enrolled tribal member Assiniboine, Sioux and Cree heritage.

**JEREMIAH POWLESS** has worked in tribal business and operations at federal, state, tribal, and private sectors, bringing a depth of experience to this work. He has a bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of Utah, as well as an Executive Masters in Sustainability Leadership from Arizona State University. Jeremiah works remotely from New Mexico as part of

Enterprise Community Partners' Rocky Mountain, Tribal Nations, and Rural Team. Jeremiah is a member of the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin and Diné Nation.

**MARIAH RALSTON** is an enrolled member of the Quinault Indian Nation (QIN). She has 25 years of working with the QIN including 18 years in Supervisory and Management roles. Since December 2021, Ms. Ralston has been the Executive Director of the Quinault Housing Authority. She has also served as a member of the Board of Commissioners for over eight years. She has 4 children and 4 grandchildren and has lived on the QIN reservation her whole life where she has derived a deep passion and understanding of her QIN community.

**JENNIE RODGERS** is vice president, Mountain and Tribal Nations and Rural Communities markets leader for Enterprise Community Partners. Jennie leads Enterprise's work with partners in Denver, Indian Country, and rural America to increase resources for affordable housing, advocate for local and state policy, and provide technical assistance and training. Jennie has 30 years of experience in affordable housing policy, development finance, and in the nonprofit, private and government sectors on urban and rural housing initiatives. For over a decade, Jennie helped local agencies identify housing needs, create services and housing programs, develop real estate, and establish nonprofit agencies. Jennie has a bachelor's degree in Anthropology and Business from Vanderbilt University.

**TRENT ROGERS** is Senior Project Manager with Travois where he assists tribal clients with Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects from application to closing. Trent advocates for changes to Qualified Allocation Plans (QAPs) that help tribally sponsored projects to compete evenly. He also helps clients apply for and receive gap financing through the Affordable Housing Program (AHP) and other similar gap financing programs. He holds a bachelor's degree from Creighton University and a law degree with a tribal lawyer certificate from the University of Kansas School of Law.

**ALAN ROMERO** is the Director of the Claims Department for AMERIND Risk where he oversees the property, casualty, auto, and cyber work products. His professional designations include Associate's in Insurance, Associate in Claims, Associate in Claims-Management, Vale National Property, and Liability Certificates. Alan has enjoyed developing the Claims Department team and being the longest 25-year employee for the company. He attended New Mexico State University.

**DENISE SALMERON** As USDA, Rural Development's Business Programs Director for the State of Hawaii, Denise administers over 20 loan and grant programs for business and cooperative development. She received a bachelor's degree in science in Business Administration from the University of Hawaii at Hilo and an associate's

degree in applied science degree, Accounting from Hawaii Community College. Denise has over twenty years of service with USDA Rural Development ranging from Business Programs Technician, Business Programs Specialist, and Business Programs Director. Her tenure with USDA has developed a strong sense of devotion and commitment in carrying out USDA's mission to improve the quality of life in rural Hawaii.

**SAYRE SAVAGE** is a Programs Officer at Oweesta Corporation. She currently lives and grew up in Maine. Sayre graduated from the University of Maine in Orono and has worked in the nonprofit sector since 2011. Sayre began working in the CDFI industry in 2019 with a focus on Native American housing programs. She received her HUD Certified Housing Counselor certification in 2019 and is a certified Pathways Home Homebuyer Education provider. In 2021, she received her NMLS license #2127836. Sayre has supported many financial education programs including one-on-one housing and financial counseling, homebuyer education and financial workshops, and VITA programs.

**D.R. DAYNA SCHULTZ**, Psy. D., LSW, CSAC is a Kanaka 'Ōiwi (Native Hawaiian) founding member and the Executive Director of Pouhana O Nā Wāhine. Dayna believes that everyone has a story to tell and possess the ability to change their narrative as they grow. As a Native Hawaiian Survivor of various traumas, Dayna continues to be na'au (gut) driven, and is grateful for natural elements that continue to uplift and nourish her mind, body and soul. She relies on the messages and guidance of her ancestors daily in her kuleana (responsibility) toward ending violence from and within her people that will lead to peace, harmony, restoration and most importantly, Aloha all ways, always.

**JOSEPH SHIELDS** is the Executive Director at the Crow Creek Housing Authority on the Crow Creek Sioux Reservation in Fort Thompson, SD. Mr. Shields has over eight years of experience in working for the Housing Authority. Prior to joining the Housing Authority, Mr. Shields served in the U.S. Army for 3 years; attended Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD; and was the Dean of Students at Crow Creek High School on the Crow Creek Sioux Reservation.

**ANDREW SHIPMAN**, Underwriter I, AMERIND CPCU, AU-M, ARe, AINS is one of the Underwriters at Amerind and a citizen of the Cherokee Nation. During his formative experience with insurance, Andrew grew an affinity for workers' compensation and enterprise risk management while interning at Cherokee Nation Businesses in 2016 and 2017. Upon graduating from Dartmouth College in 2018, he joined AMERIND and built upon his knowledge of commercial insurance and its nuances in the tribal environment. He is a Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) and is designated with an Associate in Commercial Underwriting-Management (AU-M), an Associate in Reinsurance (ARe), and an Associate in Insurance (AINS). Andrew feels fortunate to work with and support the tribal communities

that made him. In his free time, he enjoys cooking and exploring the outdoors with his wife.

**L**ANALLE SMITH, Senior Programs Officer, Capacity Building for Oweesta Corporation, is an experienced technical assistance provider and facilitator. Lanalle is a member of the Navajo Tribe. Lanalle is highly skilled in facilitation and training, executive and life coaching, management, housing counseling, CDFIs, strategic planning, program development, and public housing. Lanalle was previously employed with the Navajo Partnership for Housing, Inc. (NPH), a non-profit native Community Development Financial Institution, for 14 years with seven years as Executive Director. Lanalle currently serves as a board of directors for the Next Step Network.

**R**UDY SOTO, born and raised in Nampa, Idaho, is a member of the Shoshone Bannock Tribes and a veteran of the Army National Guard. As USDA Rural Development State Director for Idaho, Rudy is dedicated to increasing access to healthcare, affordable housing, and broadband in Idaho's rural and reservation communities. In addition to administering his agency's operations in the state, his role also involves overseeing the distribution of loans and grants to support small businesses, nonprofits, and farmers as well as working with local leaders and stakeholders to identify community needs and prioritize projects that will have the greatest impact.

**M**ELISSA STURDIVANT, an enrolled citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, works as a Tribal Relations Specialist for USDA Rural Development. Melissa works to increase Tribal access to RD's programs that are focused on improving the quality of life and economic opportunities throughout Indian Country and Alaska. Melissa joined the national team in October 2021. Prior to joining RD, Melissa worked for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for 11 years where she assisted landowners and Tribes with their conservation stewardship and land management programs. She is a Veteran and served in the US Army.

**L**ISA SUNDBERG is the owner of Native Business Development Group, Founder of Indigenous Habitat Institute Co-Chair of the Tribal Advisory Committee to National Institute of Health Human Rights Commissioner Humboldt County

**K**ATIE SYMONS is a supportive housing consultant and CFO for BeauxSimone Consulting. Katie's work focuses on supporting urban, rural and tribal communities to develop safe and affordable housing with wrap-around supportive services for the residents living in these communities. Katie brings close to 20 years working in direct services, overseeing street outreach and emergency shelter efforts for people experiencing homelessness, to working towards policy changes to get more funding from states to go into supportive housing and services

**A**DAM TEEFEY is the director of design and leads Travois' architectural team. Adam has over a decade of experience in the fields of architecture and construction assisting clients through all phases of the design and construction process, ensuring collaboration with vendors while maintaining schedule and budget limitations. Adam's portfolio includes a wide range of project types, from single and multi-family residential housing to commercial and community facilities. His designs are both culturally appropriate and energy-efficient, as he brings knowledge of the principles of green design to new and rehabilitation projects. Adam has been with Travois since 2015 and is very familiar with the various funding requirements and commitments necessary for affordable housing design.

**S**USIE TESSARI helps clients who serve as property managers, leasing agents, and maintenance staff to manage and operate their property portfolios. She assists with tasks related to administration, finance and capital needs, including meeting investor and state reporting requirements. Susie helps clients to navigate the complex restrictions, legal and reporting requirements, and deadlines of the different funding programs, including LIHTC, NAHASDA, AHP and others. Susie is a Housing Credit Certified Professional (HCCP), Certified Apartment Manager (CAM) and a Certified Apartment Portfolio Specialist (CAPS). Susie has worked in the affordable housing industry since 2009.

**P**ILAR THOMAS is a partner in Quarles & Brady's Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Practice Group. She serves as general counsel for several tribes, Section 17 and tribal business entities, with an emphasis on energy and economic development. Pilar previously served as the Deputy Director for the Office of Indian Energy in the US Department of Energy, Deputy Solicitor of Indian Affairs for the US Department of the Interior, Interim Attorney General and Chief of Staff for Pascua Yaqui Tribe, and a trial attorney in the US Department of Justice, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Indian Resources Section. She received her J.D. from the University of New Mexico School of Law, magna cum laude, and her B.A. in Economics from Stanford University. She is Pascua Yaqui.

**R**OBIN THORNE, RTHawk, Training & Asset Management, has been working with tribal clients in developing and managing their affordable housing projects since 2003. Robin works directly with tribal housing authority staff to ensure compliance with LIHTC, NAHASDA, AHP, Tribal HUD VASH, and other affordable housing program requirements. She is a frequent speaker at industry trainings, and events, conducts seminars and makes regular on-site visits to clients and tribal partners. With NAIHC, Robin created the NAHASDA & Tax Credit Compliance Professional (NTCCP) curriculum and national certification program. She also works with tribal clients, tribal advocacy groups, state allocating agencies and elected officials to ensure that tax credit and grant programs policies reflect the concerns and needs of tribal organizations.



**FLOYD TORTALITA** is from the Pueblo of Acoma and is currently the Executive Director of the Pueblo of Acoma Housing Authority. Mr. Tortalita has 22 years of experience in planning, design, and development of housing projects for Acoma and Laguna Pueblos. He has been Executive Director of PAHA since January of 2009 and is responsible for the PAHA's overall operations, including administrative and operations budgets, and housing programs. As PAHA's Executive Director, Mr. Tortalita has successfully created and implemented a strategic business plan to improve PAHA's programs and staffing, while achieving compliant operations, including timely Indian Housing Plans and HUD reporting. Mr. Tortalita served as the Region 8 representative on the NAIHC Board of Directors for six years, and now currently is the Region 8 representative to the AMERIND Board of Directors elected in 2016.

**WILBUR RED TOMAHAWK** is President/CEO of his own consulting firm RTHawk Housing Alliance, LLC. where he uses his extensive background and experience in Affordable Tribal Housing Development, strategic Tribal Community Economic Development, NAHASDA, LIHTC, AHP/FHLB, Rural Development and Title VI to assist tribes and tribal housing programs. As the Executive Director for the Standing Rock Sioux Housing Authority (SRHA), he managed the SRHA Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) budget of \$4.6 million and discovered and resolved several outstanding HUD audit findings and several serious violations and issues including the collection of over \$2 million in developer delinquent fees owed to the tribe from the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC). Wilbur holds a Master's degree in Management and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Mary

**LYNNETTE TOYA** is the Senior Human Resources Generalist at AMERIND and leads the Human Resources team and HR efforts and functions including recruiting, onboarding, and implementing employment strategies and HR policies. Lynnette has worked with AMERIND for 14 years and serves as the primary staff liaison to the Administrative Committee of the AMERIND Board of Directors. She is currently the Vice President of the Treasurer for the local New Mexico Native American Human Resources Association. She holds the Society of Human Resources Management Certified Professional designation (SHRM-CP) and the Tribal Human Resources Professional (THRP) designation of the National Native American Human Resources Association. She is a member of the Pueblo of Jemez.

**TAMI TRUETT JERUE**, an Anvik tribal member, working in the field of domestic violence, sexual assault, and social work. Ms. Jerue's education includes a bachelor's degree in Social Work, Community Psychology, and Secondary Education. She has been involved with many non-profit boards over the years and worked most of her professional life in rural tribal Alaska, providing direct services for the state and tribes as a therapist, sexual assault counselor, teacher, tribal

administrator, ICWA social worker and trainer, and tribal director of social services.

**DEREK VALDO** is the CEO of AMERIND. His service includes 14 years as Councilman and 1 year as traditional Field Chief serving the Pueblo of Acoma and the most recent 12 years as a CEO working in government, public policy, insurance, emergency management, loss control, safety education, and risk management. Derek's 22 years as a certified risk manager working in all aspects of insurance and risk management combined with his training, education, and experience are used to develop creative, integrated solutions that are culturally sensitive, performance based, and aimed to improve, empower, and build capacity in Native American communities. Derek attended Stanford University and graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics with a minor in Management from the University of New Mexico. He is currently in his final semester earning a Master's of Business Administration from New Mexico Highlands University.

**SHARON VOGEL** is the Executive Director of the Cheyenne River Housing Authority in Eagle Butte, SD. She has 30 years of experience working in tribal governments on program development, federal contracts management, and grant writing. She oversees organizational and financial planning with her Board of Directors and staff and executes plans and policies authorized by the board. Sharon also serves on multiple regional and national boards, including serving as the chair for the South Dakota Native Homeownership Coalition and the United Native American Housing Association.

**KRISTEN WAMEGO** helps tribal nations manage and operate their property portfolios. She assists with tasks related to administration, finance and capital needs, including meeting investor and state reporting requirements and through the process of preparing and receiving approval for operating budgets. Prior to joining Travois, Kristen served as general manager of tribal operations at Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, working to bring 27 new homes to the community using the LIHTC program. Kristen holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Wichita State University and a master's degree in management and leadership from Baker University. She is from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

**KALI WATSON** was appointed Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission by Governor Josh Green and confirmed by the Senate on March 24, 2023. He previously served as Chairman from 1995 to 1998 under Gov. Cayetano where he was responsible for coordinating the development of over 3,100 residential lots on Hawaiian Home Lands, and implementation of the \$600 million State settlement, including the transfer of 16,518 acres of State lands to make the trust whole. He was also instrumental in the passage and transfer of over 900 acres of Federal lands into the trust under the Hawaiian Home Lands Recovery Act of 1995.

**DEBORAH WEBSTER** As Principal of Concept Consulting Group, LLC, Deborah provides assistance to TDHEs and Tribes on housing planning, financing, and project management. In this role, she collaborates with HUD ONAP and other federal, state agencies, GSEs, such as Fannie Mae and the FHLB, securing over 190 million dollars for tribal housing since 2007, and assisted TDHEs create their own mortgage programs. She has 35 years' experience in developing housing and training on how to blend LIHTC, HOME, NAHASDA, ICDBG and private sector financing. In 1995 she founded the Enterprise Community Partners Native American Program and served as its director until 2006.

**DAVID WESTFALL** is an Affordable Lending Initiatives Senior in Freddie Mac's Single-Family Mission and Community Engagement division. He supports the development of solutions that address some of the nation's most persistent housing challenges, with a focus on rural housing, manufactured housing, shared equity homeownership and home energy efficiency. Mr. Westfall joined Freddie Mac in 2002, holding positions in customer education, marketing and communications and loan servicing. Mr. Westfall holds a Bachelor of Science in business administration in marketing from West Virginia University.

**SYLVIA WIRBA** is a Partner in the Denver law firm of Wagenlander & Heisterkamp, LLC. Wagenlander & Heisterkamp LLC is general counsel to tribal housing programs throughout the country and public housing authorities in Colorado. The firm's practice involves Indian housing on reservations and national issues. Ms. Wirba earned her undergraduate degree from Fort Lewis College and her law degree from the University of Colorado. She is a member of the Navajo Nation. [sylvia.w@wagenlander.com](mailto:sylvia.w@wagenlander.com).

**LARRY WRIGHT, JR.** is the Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) where he is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the organization and creating a strategic pathway to long-term success for NCAI and the NCAI Fund. Before joining NCAI, Wright, a former tribal chairman of 11 years, represented the Great Plains Region as the Area Vice President for the NCAI Executive Committee. In addition, he served as a board member for the National Indian Health Board, chairman of the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs Board of Directors, and chairman of the Nebraska Inter-Tribal Coalition. Wright is a military veteran who has a diverse background in education, management, and entrepreneurship. Wright is a citizen of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska.

**MEL WILLIE** leads NeighborWorks America's Native work to expand its investment in tribal communities. He is a national leader in Indian Country with more than 23 years of experience in nonprofit management, government, political, public, and intergovernmental affairs and has represented tribal interests at the local, tribal, state and national level. He is

a member of the Navajo Nation, born and raised on the reservation in northeast Arizona.

**VICTORIA YBANEZ** is Diné, Apache, and Mexican. She has been working to end violence against Native victims and survivors for nearly 35 years. She developed Red Wind Consulting, Inc. coordinating and providing Tribal Technical Assistance for recipients of the tribal governments Program for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). She has a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS) and bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, Duluth with a Major in Economics and Minor in Political Science.

**DENISE ZUNI** owns Sh'eh Wheef Law Offices in Isleta Pueblo, New Mexico. Denise is from Isleta Pueblo with over 30 years' experience representing tribes, Tribally Designated Housing Entities, and Native CDFIs. Denise was instrumental in creating Tiwa Lending Services, Inc., a Native CDFI, and its mortgage program. Her work includes developing mortgage codes and home loan programs. Denise represented the New Mexico Pueblos in obtaining congressional sponsorship and passage of HEARTH and works with Tribes implementing HEARTH. She holds a BBA from the University of New Mexico Anderson School of Management and a JD from the UNM School of Law.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



**2023 Legal Symposium**  
**October 4-6 2023**  
Mirage Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada







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