

# QANEMCIT

May 2020

Nunaput umyuallgutkut pinirluteng-Ilu, Tegganerput qigcikluk pirpakluki-Ilu, ayagyuaput-Ilu, ayagyuaput-Ilu ciuliqagcimaut yuuyarakun.



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# CEO's Letter



#WFH (Working from Home)  
March 31, 2020

Our CEO, Vivian Korthuis, asked us to “lean into the crisis and come out the other end standing up.” She says: “I’m just as busy working from home as I was working from the Joe Lomack Building – maybe more. I just have to remember not to let the batteries die.”

Follow us on Facebook @AVCPAlaska

Waqaa.

It has been a trying quarter, for many reasons.

In one weekend we lost our Traditional Chief, Peter Moore, and Tribal Operations Specialist, Theresa Chiklak. Our losses are still very recent. Normally we have well established ways to mourn with the families, but we are doing the best we can from a distance. We all share in the loss of all of our loved ones in the AVCP family.

I have said that we should lean into the COVID-19 crisis. We are doing that. We are still standing – we might even be standing stronger now. I am so happy in what we have been able to accomplish under these uncertain times. To be there for our region, we have stepped up operations to send more support to our families, and we have been there to support our tribal councils in accessing federal relief funding. Everything is moving very, very quickly and we have to be flexible at the same time we need to act with conviction to help our region.

Again, despite the recent challenges and loss, overall I am very proud of our ability to successfully adapt to these unprecedented circumstances. The Quality Improvement Process (QIP) has given us practice in significantly shifting the course of a large ship, while still continuing to provide services. In the case of the Coronavirus, in very short order we were able to shift operations to allow for remote work. Not only did we experience minimal interruptions in our service delivery, but in some cases we increased the availability of our services. Qu yana to the Benefits Division team for putting in extra hours during this time.

Thanks in part to our QIP and our practice in shifting the course of our very large ship, I do not want to move to quickly to return to our regular operations. At the outset of this crisis, I reminded the Governor that we are already in an acknowledged public safety crisis, and now we have a potential public health crisis on our hands. This is a double crisis. Now we are preparing for a potential third layer, another crisis: flooding. Our VPSO Department is keeping in close contact with the regional Search and Rescue teams, the National Guard, YKHC, and other organizations. As a group, they are closely monitoring breakup on both the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers and prepared to assist in the response.

Although the State of Alaska is gradually loosening the COVID-19 mandates, we are taking our time to fully evaluate options and recommendations. In this kind of situation,



we do not want to move too fast. Our priority is to protect our staff, our clients, and our communities. This includes preparation and planning for our 2020 Annual Convention. We will announce any decisions we make along these lines, as soon as possible.

I wish I could thank everyone individually, for their flexibility, patience, and strength during such uncertain times. So many of us are learning to rebalance our work-home life while we also learn to be in-home teachers for our children and keep up with the 24-hour news cycle.

Lately, I have been trying to keep my letter short, but there is so much going on! I will just mention one last thing. I want to thank our Tribal Service and Realty Departments for offering their assistance in helping our tribes register through the U.S. Department of Treasury portal for CARES Act funding. 55 of 56 tribes submitted their information before the deadline. The CARES Act funding can be thought of in three categories: expenses in preparation, expenses during the crisis, and expenses after the crisis. I have also ask that the fiscal process is not unnecessarily cumbersome. We will continue to be an active participant in the CARES Act consultation and assist our tribes in receiving this federal relief funding.

Quyana,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Vivian Korthuis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Vivian Korthuis  
Chief Executive Officer

# Employee Spotlight

## Anna Hunt

has been the **Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Community Family Service Specialist in Kotlik, Alaska, since December 2017**. She is married to Kenneth Hunt and together they have six children ages one to 13 year old.

Her parents David Mike and Agatha Hopstad are both from Kotlik, and she is the only daughter of five children. She spent most of your life in Kotlik, aside from one year at Bethel Regional High School (BRHS) when she was a teen.

In 2017 before working for AVCP, Anna worked as a HIP Data Collector for AVCP RHA under the supervision of the AVCP TWD Specialist in Kotlik. Elaine, her supervisor at the time showed Anna the job opening for the ICWA CFSS and showed her the job description. After reading it, she applied. Her experience as a Health Aide and Teacher Aide in the past gave her some experience and she knew she wanted to help her community and work with

children. Anna applied and was offered the position and took it.

It didn't take Anna long adjusting and getting familiar and comfortable in her new role. She enjoys working with children and their families to help them achieve sober and successful lifestyles. Anna goes out of her way to make sure her clients get the help and resources they need, and she maintains steady contact with each of the families she works with. During COVID-19, she has worked tirelessly, mostly from home with her own children, making sure her clients are still getting the services they need and remaining in steady contact with case workers and ICWA

Anna takes pride in all her work, doing prevention exercises and working with OCS and Behavioral Health reunifying families and doing her best to help them stay on the right path. She is thankful for the opportunities ICWA has to offer, and loves attending the



Annual ICWA Conference every year with her coworkers from around the region and State

Aside from her busy life as a mother and full-time employee, Anna always makes time for her family. They all do subsistence together in every season, fishing, picking berries, getting herring eggs, hunting for moose, seal, birds and more. She can stretch seal skins, sew booties, malagai's, crocheting and knitting, Anna hopes to one day learn to make a parka from start to finish.

*"Anna Hunt is one of the best ICWA workers. She works hard at prevention and on CINA cases and I am very proud of her."*

Charlene Striling, ICWA CFSS III

*"Anna is a dedicated ICWA worker. She works diligently with her tribal families and her tribal council. She maintains regular contact with AVCP, ALSC and OCS and always willing to go above and beyond."*

Cynthia Ontiveros, Anchorage ICWA Advocate

*"Anna is a great representative of AVCP. She strives to do her best, daily. She comes into work on time with a positive go-getter attitude. Even when she's not at work she's constantly thinking about ways to improve the lives of children on the Lower Yukon River. Anna Hunt is a phenomenal employee and Kotlik is very lucky to have her."*

Dalarie Peters, ICWA CFSS Subregional Manager



# Growing Our Own

I'm really excited to share that we have one employee receiving her BSW Degree from UAF this year – **Leanna Isaac**, Healthy Families Activity Coordinator. **Serena Solesbee**, our Healthy Families Extern/ Practicum Student will also be receiving her BSW Degree from UAF. Both students have earned their degrees by way of the Rural Human Services Certificate and Human Services Associates degree program through KuC. Healthy Families currently has one more student enrolled in BSW courses and another that will be receiving their RHS Certificate this fall.

There will be a virtual celebration for our BSW graduates, hosted by the UAF Social Work Department on Saturday, May 5th at 1:00 p.m. via facebook Live. The facebook page is called “UAF Social Work Department”. You are all invited to attend.

Encouraging and supporting educational opportunities within our Workforce is so important and gives back to families, the organization and our region in many ways. Thank you for making sure that AVCP is a place that can provide and create such opportunities for their employees along with those we serve!

Melanie Fredericks  
Director, Healthy Families



## Department of Social Work



*You are invited!*

*2020 UAF Social Work  
Virtual End of Year  
Celebration!*

*Saturday, May 2nd  
1:00 PM*

Watch LIVE on our UAF Social Work Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/UAFSWK/>



## Growing Our Own

# 2020 Graduates

**Joseph “DeeDee”  
Benedict Hunter, Jr.**

Senior Workforce & Benefits  
Specialist  
Cert. Rural Human Services  
Bethel, Alaska

**Julia Cakiculi Street**

Healthy Families Support  
Facilitator  
Cert. Rural Human Services  
Bethel, Alaska

**Esther Geneva Been**

Healthy Families Elder  
A.A. General Program  
Bethel, Alaska

**Clarence Lewis Dawniel**

Director of Community  
Development Diwwwvision  
A.A. General Program  
Bethel, Alaskaw

**Anna Mae Mosesw**

Head Start Lead Teacher  
A.A.S. Early Childhood  
Education  
Akiakchak, Alaska

**Minnie Simon**

Workforce & Benefits  
Navigator  
A.A.S. Human Services  
Hooper Bay, Alaska

**Leanna “Bubbles”  
Kaligtok Issac**

Healthy Families Activities  
Coordinator  
B.A. Social Work  
Bethel, Alaska

**Serena Rose Solesbee**

Healthy Families Extern  
B.A. Social Work  
Bethel, Alaska





# Benefits

- If you are struggling to pay your bills and feed your family as a result of the Ravn Airlines closure, please contact our Benefits Division. We are processing applications over the phone. 1-800-478-3521 We are here to help. We will identify the support funding that you qualify for.
- Benefits staff have been putting in long hours to process 1,580 (as of 4/6/2020) energy assistance applications. This year, we started offering end of the year supplemental energy assistance awards in April (about four months early) due to COVID-related layoffs and the extra expenses households have incurred.
- Current TANF beneficiaries are getting cleaning supplies and funds to purchase cleaning supplies locally, in addition to extra necessary items such as diapers and wipes.
- In 2 weeks, bulk COVID-related supplies (cleaning supplies, materials for masks) are being sent to all remotely based Workforce & Benefits Navigators, to be distributed to TANF clients within their communities.
- Before the COVID crisis, our Benefits Division was very excited about establishing a contract with Myer's Farm. This contract would have provided the freshest possible produce to our Elder Meal programs throughout the region, while investing in our regional economy. If Grant Air is unable to fulfill the food delivery services, formally fulfilled by Ravn Airlines, we will not be able to pursue this option. Our Benefits Division will be required to establish multiple food contracts (12), and will not be able to provide or support Alaska grown foods.



If you are struggling to make ends meet as a result of the  
Ravn Airlines closure,

**please contact our Benefits Division.**

We are processing applications over the phone,  
and will to figure out out which benefits you qualify for.

**1-800-478-3521**

Our Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) team is further increasing collaboration with the State of Alaska Office of Children's Services (OCS) out of necessity. Most OCS reports originate from schools and medical providers, so during this time, our ICWA prevention staff are on the frontlines, within the communities. AVCP ICWA workers are going into the homes to Facetime with OCS workers.

Under COVID-19 mandates, although children are coming in contact with far less mandated reporters. Kim Swisher, Western Regional Director of the State of Alaska Office of Children's Services (OCS), says the number of calls have decreased, "but calls haven't stopped."

OCS is working even more closely with our ICWA team for advice on how OCS can still work with tribes to establish the safety of our children within the required timeframes, while COVID-19 travel restrictions are in place. Kim Swisher, Western Regional Director of OCS, says they are working on their end to keep children safe while honoring and respecting community travel restrictions. However, she notes that, "There are going to be times when we have emergencies." OCS staff have received training on how to properly use personal protective equipment (PPE) to ensure that they are not bringing any unnecessary risk of infection into a community.

Kim and her staff are working closely with AVCP ICWA to keep communications open with the tribal councils, in the event that there are "true, urgent, child safety needs." She hopes that "with the support of ICWA workers and the tribal councils, we will be able to work collaboratively to make sure children are protected."

*"We need our communities to be the eyes and the ears."*

Dalarie Peters, ICWA CFSS Subregional Manager

## Tribal Justice

### 2020 Tribal Court Master Series Training

We are hosting our **2020 Tribal Court Master Series Training** in a four-part series of trainings.

Part One, is scheduled for **May 18 - 20, 2020** from 1:00 p.m. to (no later than) 3:00 p.m.

Part One will encompass topics from all four parts of the AVCP Tribal Justice 2019 Training Schedule, and will be held and recorded telephonically.

This is a "virtual" training. All of the training reference materials will be sent to each participant to review before the date of training.

A registration form can be found on page 14.

Once you're registered, the Tribal Justice Department will send you a call-in phone number and participant code, to the email address you provided when you registered. Please use your personal or individual work email address.

All previous training materials can be found on [avcp.org](http://avcp.org) under the 'Tribal Resources' tab.

*Going Virtual* #TCMST2020



# Transportation

Through the federal Tribal Transportation Program (formerly known as the Indian Reservation Roads Program), AVCP builds infrastructure, provides regular maintenance, and promotes economic development through regional transportation projects.

By pooling tribal resources, we are able to leverage our buying power and complete larger projects, more affordable projects, that have a greater impact on our communities.

Projects are continuing as planned, however we are anticipating the need to build contingency scenarios into our COVID Management Plan for Transportation Department projects.

We are currently in the process of getting MOUs from the tribes and determining which factors will trigger the transition from Strategy A to Strategy B, as so on. An example of a trigger to suspend a project would be a resolution from the tribe.

## **Currently preparing to complete the following projects this summer:**

**Oscarville: Boardroad**

**Napakiak: Extension of roads to assist in the erosion relocation effort**

**Pitka's Point: Road upgrade**

**Kipnuk: Boardroad**

"We don't want to be a risk to villages. If we have to, we move to Strategy B or even Strategy C, which is suspending the project. At least we'll have all the materials ready to go for the next summer."

Clarence Daniel, Director of the AVCP Community Development Division



# Natural Resources

Our Natural Resources team works to protect and maintain the integrity of our region's natural resources and the unique subsistence way of life. It is essential that our vision and focus includes the protection of these resources and our way of life for both present and future generations. The climate is changing, technology is expanding, and we need to ensure we are informed and prepared. We also strive to provide beneficial services and rights protection to our region's members and landowners.

Currently, the department has two full-time staff that focus on staying current with the various regulatory processes and the general state of the resources we all depend on, issues highlighted in the Bering Sea (fisheries, response, traffic, etc.), and assessing and identifying potential forestry projects in the region (hazardous fuels reduction projects, etc.).

To provide the department and staff with more focus and direction, we've developed this survey (see orange box in upper right).. The primary goal is to increase the communication between the Tribes and people of the region and the department, and to help us identify the top areas of concern and what the department should be focusing on.

If you have any questions feel free to call the NR staff: Jennifer Hooper at 907-543-7471 or [jhooper@avcp.org](mailto:jhooper@avcp.org) and Paige Jones at 907-543-7472 or [pjones@avcp.org](mailto:pjones@avcp.org).

To guide the focus of the Natural Resources Department in the upcoming years, please complete our survey found at:

**[tinyurl.com/ydfjvya4](https://tinyurl.com/ydfjvya4)**

## EMPEROR GOOSE

*Alaska Native elders said, "Hunt for the Future"*

Nacaullek ■ Leghileq ■ Ligliqpak ■ Mitilgruaq

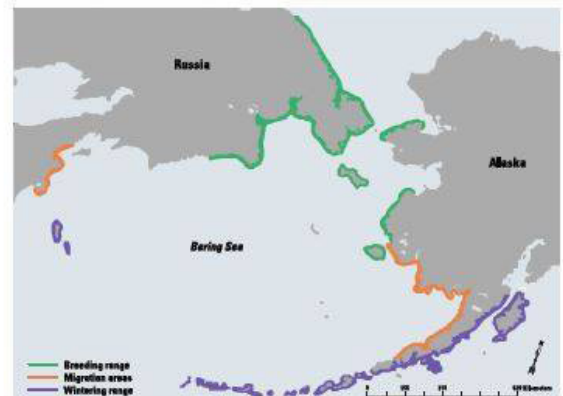
Emperor Geese numbers have been declining in Alaska.

### Ways you can help:

- Choose to hunt other types of geese.
- Take only what you need.
- Take juvenile birds instead of adults. When adult geese are harvested the birds can't lay eggs or raise young.
- Consider taking other animals when you can.

### Responsible Hunting Helps Keep the Birds Coming Back

The Emperor Goose is truly "Alaska's Goose" spending its entire life cycle in Alaska. Emperor Geese are vulnerable to overharvest because they are slow to reproduce and have limited food resources during the harsh Alaska winters. Emperor Geese don't re-nest or replace eggs within a season. Only take an egg or two and leave the rest. You can help - please harvest responsibly to keep the birds coming back.



### Emperor Goose Range Map

Emperor Geese remain vulnerable to overharvest. Population and harvest data will be reviewed annually to ensure the conservation of this important bird.

For more information, please contact  
**Tamara Zeller** at [fws.gov](mailto:fws.gov) or call (907) 786-3517.

**Patricia K. Schwalenberg**, Executive Director  
Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council  
[patty@crcaalaska.org](mailto:patty@crcaalaska.org)  
[www.alaskamigratorybirds.com](http://www.alaskamigratorybirds.com)





# Tribal Services

## CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funding

55 out of the 56 AVCP member tribes successfully submitted information before the deadline. One tribe is inactive at this time.

The Tribal Services and Realty team contacted AVCP member tribes to offer technical assistance in facilitating the submission process. To date, 53 of 55 tribes submitted their information through the U.S. Department of the Treasury portal; the first step in the process to apply for funding made available through the **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Coronavirus Relief Fund**.

The CARES Act was signed into law on March 27, 2020. \$8 billion of these funds were dedicated to tribal governments with eligible expenses through the U.S. Department of the Treasury, in consultation with the Department of the Interior. Alaska Native corporations and nonprofits (like AVCP) are not eligible to receive these funds.

## COVID AVCP Survey

Using the responses gathered from the public survey of needs (see following page) Our Tribal Services Team honed in on the specific needs of tribes, working one-on-one contact with each Tribal Administrator.

Unlike the previous social media survey, this list also outlined the current level of internet connectivity within each community, and any recent changes to access. This information was collected at the request of the Alaska National Guard, on a March 25th.

### REAL ID Deadline Extended to October 1, 2021

- Deadline extended one year due to Covid-19 pandemic
- Federally accepted Tribal IDs can always be used for travel
- Contact State of Alaska Dept of Motor Vehicles with questions



# COVID-19 Advocacy

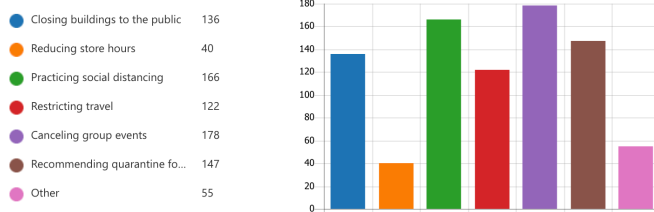
On Friday, March 20, we sent out a survey to gauge the nature of mitigatory actions taken by communities as well as the current and expected supply shortages, per community. This survey was distributed via Facebook and included multiple choice and open-ended questions. A total of 239 responses were received. The highest number of responses (44) came from Hooper Bay. We received responses from 41 communities with an average of 6 responses per community. This initial COVID survey was used to hone in on specific details, though on-on-one communications with tribal administrators, by our Tribal Services team (see page 11).

The results of this survey have been shared with our state and federal partners to communicate the needs of the region. Below you will find *some* response examples of multiple choice questions.

Results have informed the efforts of our Benefits Division team, especially questions #4 (What kinds of shortages are you experiencing now). Our Benefits team are providing cleaning supplies directly to TANF clients, and sending bulk supplies to our remote Workforce & Benefits Navigators, for distribution within the communities.

## 1. What is being done in your tribe/village to prevent the spread of coronavirus?

[More Details](#)



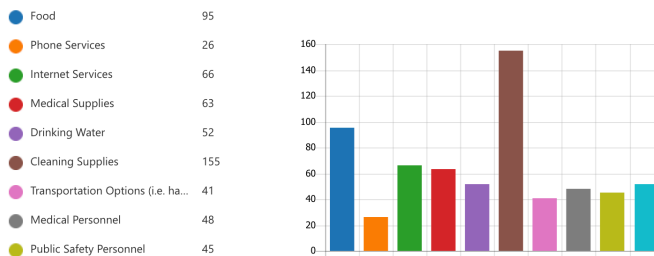
## 3. Has your community prepared a FEMA Pre-Disaster Emergency Declaration?

[More Details](#)



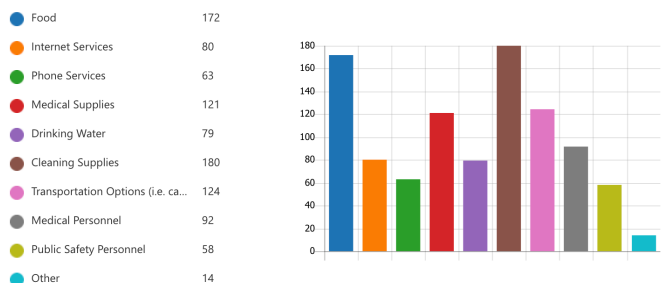
## 4. What kinds of shortages are you experiencing NOW? (Please select all that apply.)

[More Details](#)



## 6. What kinds of shortages are you expecting to experience in the future? (Please select all that apply.)

[More Details](#)



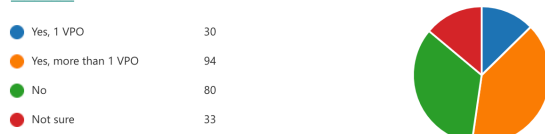
## 8. Do you have a health aide in your community?

[More Details](#)



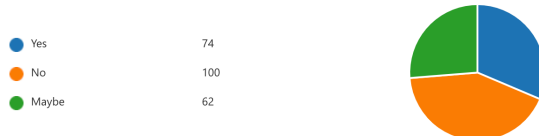
## 9. Do you have a Village Police Officer (VPO) in your community?

[More Details](#)



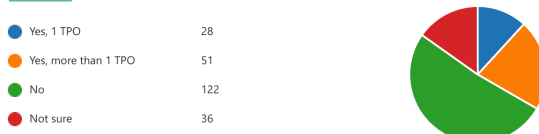
## 11. Do you have a National Guard army in your community?

[More Details](#)



## 10. Do you have a Tribal Police Officer (TPO) in your community?

[More Details](#)





# Events

## Calendar

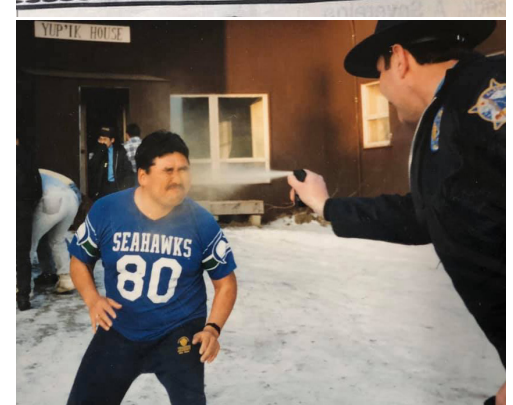
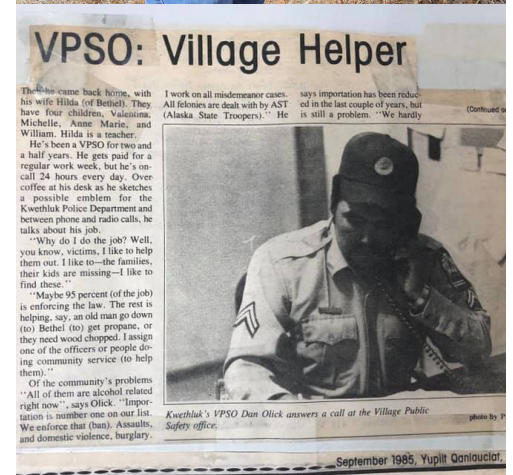
### May

- 05 National Day of Awareness for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- 15 Clean Up Green Up
- 15 Registration Deadline: Tribal Courts Master Series Training
- 18 - 20 2020 Tribal Court Master Series Training Part One: Tribal Court Boot Camp

## Clean Up Green Up

Friday, May 15, 2020

Last year Edna found \$100!



## #MMIWGAlaska



Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Join us in wearing red on May 5th and post a photo to social media with the hastags:

#MMIWGAlaska  
#MMIWG

## Retirement of Sgt. Daniel Max Olick Sr. of Kwethluk

Friday, May 15, 2020

Sgt. Daniel Max Olick Sr. of Kwethluk is retiring on May 15. He has had the longest running career as a Village Public Safety Officer, not just in our region, but in the entire history of the VPSO Program across the State of Alaska.

Please help us celebrate his retirement by sharing memories or impressions that you've gained while working with or knowing Max. Contribute memories at [tinyurl.com/yabgg2we](https://tinyurl.com/yabgg2we).



## AVCP Tribal Justice Department's

### 2020 TRIBAL COURT MASTER SERIES TRAINING

#### *Part One: Tribal Court Boot Camp*

#### REGISTRATION FORM

AVCP's Tribal Justice Department will be hosting our 2020 TRIBAL COURT MASTER SERIES TRAINING in a four-part series of trainings. Part One, scheduled for May 18 - 20, 2020 starting at 1pm on those dates, will encompass topics from all four parts of the AVCP Tribal Justice 2019 Training Schedule, and will be held and recorded telephonically via Skype.

During this four-part series training, we hope that all participants will develop a clear understanding of everything pertinent and relating to Tribal Courts in Alaska. The training is open for AVCP Member Tribal Court Judges, Clerks, Court Administrators and Tribal Council Members that act as Tribal Courts. This specific training will provide an overview of all 2019 training material and guide participants into the 2020 AVCP Tribal Court Training series. Participants who register will be sent materials, a call-in number and participant code via email prior to the training date to be able access the training.

This training is going to be recorded and will be available for future use and accessibility through the AVCP website.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Village/Tribe: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION IS DUE BY May 15, 2020 AT 3:00 PM.** If this form is submitted after that date, participant call information may not be provided in time for the training. Please return this from to [tribal-justice@avcp.org](mailto:tribal-justice@avcp.org).

For further information or for any questions or concerns please email us or call 907-543-8550.



# Census 2020 and Children in Care (*Foster Children*) Frequently Asked Questions

A publication of the National Indian Child Welfare Association

*The Census Bureau has asked the National Indian Child Welfare Association to assist them in ensuring all children are counted in the 2020 Census, understanding that people belong to diverse families and unique living situations. With a focus on ensuring children 0-5 years old and American Indian and Alaska Native children in out-of-home care are counted in 2020, the following information will improve the 2020 Census by helping to count everyone once, only once and in the right place.*

## Which Children in your home do you list on your Census Form?

- Your biological and adopted children: age 0+ as of April 1, 2020; and
- Children placed or residing in your home on April 1, 2020. This includes emergency temporary placement, relative placement, foster care, and guardianship as well as youth experiencing homelessness.

Children that are in your home for respite care (temporary foster parent support for no longer than two weeks) or staying for a few days (such as a sleepover or short visit as a normal life experience) should be counted in the home they reside most of the time.

## What is a Group Quarter?

A Group Quarter is a place where people who are not related, live or stay in a group living arrangement, that is owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents. Children in care in a Group Quarter could be in a group home, correctional or detention facility, residential treatment center, shelter care, homeless shelter, etc. For a more detailed list please refer to <https://2020census.gov/en/conducting-the-count/gq.html>.

## What does Census mean by Principal Tribe?

Question #9 on the 2020 Census asks a person's race. This is determined by the individual, and no proof will be required. If a child is determined to be protected under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) in state court or is in the jurisdiction of tribal court, the caregiver should list the child's tribe(s). Typically, a Principal Tribe is the one in which they are enrolled, or eligible for enrollment, or a descendant. The child's enrollment or eligibility for enrollment in a tribe denotes their political relationship with the tribe as a citizen and not just their identified race.

The National Congress of American Indians issued a Census Toolkit; they begin by stating:

*"In the 2020 Census, individuals and households will have the opportunity to self-identify as American Indian or Alaska Native. They also will be able to now write in up to six tribal affiliations on the form. Filling out these questions on the census form will help ensure that the 2020 Census is accurate and reflects the true diversity in Indian Country."*

If you do not know the Principal Tribe and/or tribal affiliation of a child placed in your home, the child's caseworker will be able to provide that tribal information. We depend on caseworkers and caregivers to ensure each tribal child in care is counted in 2020.

For more information on the 2020 Census and counting children visit [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov).



**NICWA**

National Indian Child Welfare Association  
Protecting Our Children • Preserving Our Culture



# 2020 Census Question on Race

## Information for American Indians and Alaska Natives

### How should I respond to the race question if I am American Indian or Alaska Native?

An individual's response to the 2020 Census race question is based upon self-identification. The Census Bureau does not tell individuals which boxes to mark or what heritage to write in.

People who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native may mark the American Indian or Alaska Native checkbox and enter the name of their enrolled or principal tribe(s) in the write-in area.

People may report multiple races and/or report multiple detailed groups. Each specific write-in area will record up to 200 characters and up to 6 detailed groups, allowing for long names and multiple groups to be reported.

### Improvements for 2020 Census Race Question

Several question design improvements were made to help improve respondent's reporting of detailed American Indian and Alaska Native identities.

- Examples included for the "American Indian or Alaska Native" checkbox category
- Detailed American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and indigenous Central and South American responses collected via a dedicated write-in area

### Identifying as American Indian or Alaska Native on the census is a matter of self-identification


The U.S. Census Bureau collects race data in accordance with the 1997 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards on race and ethnicity. The 1997 OMB standards define "American Indian or Alaska Native" as "A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment."


### Why does the census ask a question about race?


The question on race is asked of all people in the United States. These data are required for federal, state, and tribal programs and are critical factors in the basic research behind numerous policies, particularly for civil rights. Race data are used in planning and funding government programs that provide funds or services for specific groups.



These data are also used to evaluate government programs and policies to ensure they fairly and equitably serve the needs of all racial groups and to monitor compliance with antidiscrimination laws, regulations, and policies. States also use these data to meet legislative redistricting requirements.


**7. What is this person's race?**  
Mark ☒ one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

☐ White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. 

☐ Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. 

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. 

☐ Chinese ☐ Vietnamese ☐ Native Hawaiian  
☐ Filipino ☐ Korean ☐ Samoan  
☐ Asian Indian ☐ Japanese ☐ Chamorro  
☐ Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.  ☐ Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. 

☐ Some other race – Print race or origin. 

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