



# Advancing Opportunities with Native Communities: A Federal Interagency Convening

August 14, 2024

**LEADCenter**  
WIOA POLICY DEVELOPMENT

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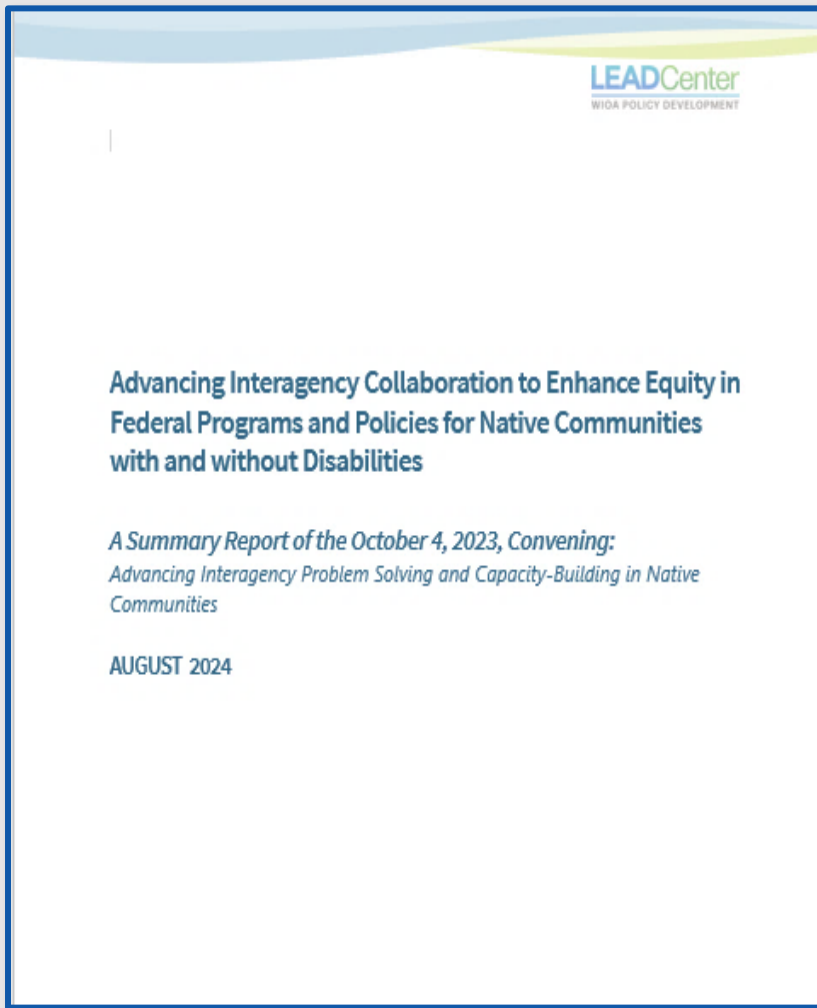
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# Federal Interagency Convening October 4, 2023



# Summary Report of the Convening: *Advancing Interagency Problem Solving and Capacity Building in Native Communities*

# Co-Convener

**Julian Guerrero Jr.**

*Director, Office of Indian Education  
U.S. Department of Education*



# Looking Back at our “Why”: October 2023 Convening Purpose

Identify gaps,  
strategies, and  
opportunities to  
enhance equitable  
access in programs  
and policies



To improve the  
coordination of  
federal investments in  
Native American  
communities

# Opening Remarks

**Taryn Williams**

*Assistant Secretary, Office of Disability  
Employment Policy, Department of Labor*





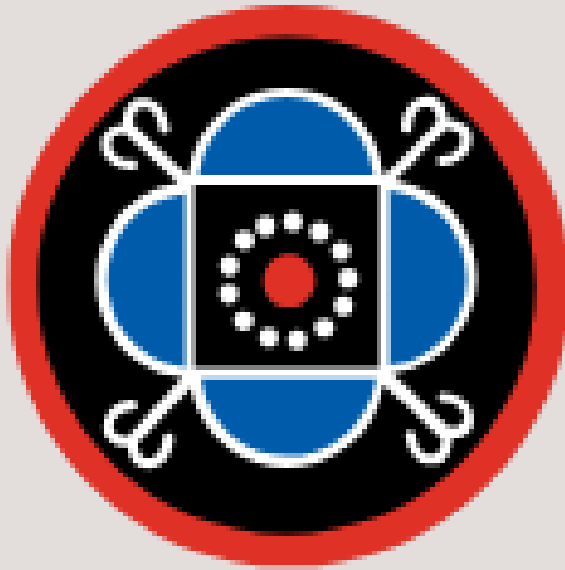
# Today's Webinar: Purpose and Goals

- Learn the outcomes from the October 2023 Inter-agency Convening review the LEAD Center's Summary Report.
- Give feedback on where to focus cross-agency collaboration going forward.





Tlingit and Haida



Mohegan



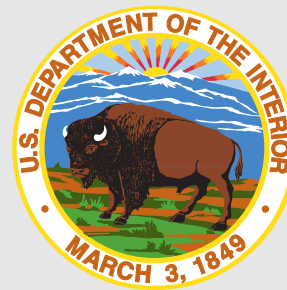
Kanaka Maoli

# The Interagency Convening

# Convening Attendees

## 80 Representatives:

- White House
- 11 Federal departments
- 30 Federal agencies
- Technical Assistance and Policy Development Centers



# Presenters



**Jim E. Warne**

*Convening Moderator*



**Dr. Amy Loyd**

*Assistant Secretary, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education*



**Alejandra Castillo**

*Assistant Secretary, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce*



**Taryn Williams**

*Assistant Secretary, Office of Disability Employment Policy, Department of Labor*



**Julian Guerrero Jr.**

*Director, Office of Indian Education, Department of Education*

# Presenters (2)



**Chief Lynn Malerba**

*US Treasurer, Department of Treasury*



**Robin A. Utz**

*Deputy Director, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education*



**Anthony Morgan Rodman**

*Assistant Secretary, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce*



**Naomi Miguel**

*Executive Director, White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Native Americans and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities*



**August W. Martin**

*Vocal Rehabilitation Program Specialist, Rehabilitation Service Administration, Department of Education*



Comanche



Osage



Cherokee

# Issue Area Findings

# Transitions from Secondary to Postsecondary Education and Work

## **Involve Tribal colleges and universities in federal programs' conception and design**

- Invest in Tribal colleges, universities, primary and secondary education systems
- Mitigate barriers to accessing Federal Government programs, including funding for education.

## **Increase the Perkins V rate of flow-through to Tribes**

- Support Tribes to work at state level to leverage more Perkins funds from the current 1.4 percent to two or three percent with legislative change.

# Transitions from Secondary to Postsecondary Education and Work (2)

## Address gaps in the transition from secondary to postsecondary education

- For Native youth

## Make available joint grants

- Between ED and DOL.

## Ensure education and training are portable

- To and from Tribal colleges and universities.



# Economic Development Partnerships

## Recognize

The lack of infrastructure support to Tribal governments, presently and historically.

## Broaden

Labor markets on reservations while protecting Tribal sovereignty.

## Allow

Use of federal grant funding for building maintenance costs on reservations.

# Economic Development Partnerships (2)

## Increase

Investments in Native American-owned small businesses.

## Understand

That a singular approach to economic development is not possible given that Tribal governments and local contexts are relatively distinct.

# Inclusive Workforce Development Policies and Practices

## Utilize

American Job Centers (AJCs), Registered Apprenticeships, and AmeriCorps service models to develop work skills, facilitate real-world work experiences, improve employment outcomes for Native communities.

## Tap

Into growing economic sectors to fill labor market gaps.

## Ensure

Federal programs and staff liaisons are known/accessible to Native communities.



Tohono O'odham



Zuni

## Overarching Themes

# Summary of Themes

## Improve federal funding processes

- Design programs *with* Native communities rather than *for* them.
- Simplify application processes and data collection.
- Address capacity limitations such as lack of connectivity and smaller-scale operations.

## Summary of Themes (2)

Build cultural competency on the history of Tribal Nations for stronger relationships and trust.

Expand engagement with Native American people with disabilities.

Strengthen collaboration among and within federal agencies to increase efficiencies and sustainability.



**Navajo/Diné**



**Oglala Lakota**

**Exploring Next Steps**

# Co-Convener

## **Julian Guerrero Jr.**

*Director, Office of Indian Education  
U.S. Department of Education*





# What do we prioritize for Federal collaboration?

## We seek:

- Streamlined federal investments and enhanced communication across federal agencies to boost collaboration and long-term success.
- Simplified funding processes to increase accessibility and outreach to more Native American communities.

# Alignment with Executive Orders

- [EO 14112 \(2023\)](#) – Reforming Federal Funding and Support for Tribal Nations to Better Embrace Our Trust Responsibilities and Promote the Next Era of Tribal Self-Determination
- [EO 14091 \(2023\)](#) – Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government.
- [EO 14049 \(2021\)](#) – White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Native Americans and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities
- [EO 13175 \(2000\)](#) – Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes
  - [Presidential Memorandum \(2022\)](#) - Uniform Consultation Standards
  - [Presidential Memorandum \(2021\)](#) – Tribal Consultation Plans

## *We Want to Hear from You*

- What aligns well with your agencies' priorities?
- What will greatly impact for Native American communities?
- What has the most potential for coordinated action in the short term?

## Poll 1: Education and Training

Given the following options, *which one is the most promising for federal collaboration* going forward?

- Invest in Tribal education systems, mitigate barriers to accessing Federal Government programs. including funding for education.
- Support Tribes to work at state level to leverage more Perkins funds
- To benefit Native youth, address transitions gaps from K12 to college
- Give more joint ED/DOL grants to Native communities

## Poll 2: Economic Development Partnerships

Given the following options, *which one is the most promising for federal collaboration* going forward?

- Increase investments in Native American-owned small businesses.
- Broaden the labor market to give people more options for earning a living on reservations while protecting Tribal sovereignty.
- Change regulations to allow federal grant funding for building/facility costs on reservations.
- Make available joint grants between ED and DOL.

## Poll 3: Inclusive Workforce Development

Given the following options, *which one is the most promising for federal collaboration* going forward?

- Utilize fed workforce programs to support job seekers' skills, work experiences, and employment opportunities for Native communities.
- Tap into growing economic sectors to fill labor market gaps
- Ensure that education and workforce-related programs and their staff liaisons are known and accessible to Native people

## Poll 4: Overarching Themes

What *is most promising for federal collaboration* going forward?

- Conceptualize and design federal investments and corresponding measures of success *with* Native communities rather than *for* Native communities.
- Build federal cultural competency on the history of Tribal Nations
- Expand engagement with Native American people with disabilities
- Align investments, strengthen communications among and within federal agencies

# Reflection

## Naomi Miguel

*Executive Director, White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Native Americans and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities*





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