



SOCIAL SECURITY

Office of the Commissioner

October 26, 2022

The Honorable Susan Rice
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Eisenhower Executive Office Building, Room 469
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20503

The Honorable Shalanda Young
Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget
Eisenhower Executive Office Building, Room 252
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ambassador Rice and Ms. Young:

The January 26, 2021, Presidential Memorandum requests a detailed plan of action agencies will take to implement policies and directives under Executive Order 13175 of November 6, 2000, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Government*.

The *2022 Tribal Consultation and Coordination Plan Progress Report* (enclosed) summarizes our multiple-prong approach consisting of consultation, outreach, service delivery, recruitment, and development of an office focused on Tribal Affairs. I am pleased to announce that we have created an Office of Native American Partnerships within the Office of the Commissioner. This new office elevates and centralizes the administration of programs to improve our relationship with Tribes and coordinates our outreach and support efforts. We are sharing the results based on our commitments in the *2022 Tribal Consultation and Call to Action Plan* provided in April of this year, which described our plans for consultation and outreach activities in the American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (303) 844-4012.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Berryhill
Tribal Consultation Official

Enclosure

2022 Tribal Consultation and Coordination Plan Progress Report

The January 26, 2021, Presidential Memorandum requests a detailed plan of actions each executive department and agency will take to implement policies and directives of E.O.13175 of November 6, 2000, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Government*.

In response to the Presidential Memorandum, Social Security Administration (SSA) is pleased to share the *2022 Tribal Consultation and Coordination Plan Progress Report*, which describes our efforts for consultation and outreach activities in the American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities.

Our progress report provides a summary of actions supporting the following initiatives:

- ✓ Strengthen Tribal Consultation
- ✓ Increase Outreach and Education Efforts to Tribal Communities
- ✓ Improve Service Delivery
- ✓ Promote Hiring and Support for Local Assistance Efforts
- ✓ Explore Developing an Office for Tribal Affairs (renamed as Office of Native American Partnerships)

Strengthen Tribal Consultation

We recognize the unique government-to-government relationship that exists between Tribal Nations and the Federal government, grounded in the U.S. Constitution, treaties, Federal case law, statutes, and executive orders. Strategic discussions at the national level involved Executive Directors of the Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA), National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA), Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE), in addition to discussions with leadership in the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Throughout the fiscal year, we conducted local listening sessions to bring awareness to changes in customer service channels throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and reentry efforts for our field offices, and sessions regarding emergency disaster payments and other types of Tribal payments provided to Tribal members. Details of those engagements are provided in the addendum.

To ensure that Tribes have full access to our programs and services, we engaged with Tribes through timely and meaningful consultations on policies that directly affect Tribes.

- On June 29, 2022, we participated in the White House Tribal Consultation with Secretary Haaland, Secretary Miguel Cardona and Secretary Xavier Becerra. The consultation focused on garnering Federal and Tribal commitment to join the Administration’s Native Languages Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Due to this Consultation, we signed the MOA.
- On September 14, 2022, we hosted a National Tribal Consultation. The Acting Commissioner of Social Security, Kilolo Kijakazi, provided opening remarks and shared the intention of creating an Office of Native American Partnerships. We sought consultation on design and implementation of the new office. For this consultation, we held a round table discussion with the Treasury Tribal Advisory Council (TTAC), who held many prior discussions with Tribes to gather their concerns.

The topics of consultations and roundtable discussions included the effect of COVID-19 pandemic relief on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits and the prior amendment to the

Internal Revenue Service code titled the *Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014*. We took the following actions after the engagements:

- Shared feedback with our local public affairs offices.
- Researched the *Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014* with policy experts. Based on verbal and written comments from Tribal experts, policy experts streamlined Agency business processes and eliminated duplicative actions.
- Held internal policy discussions with policy experts and the Office of General Counsel to determine strategies to retroactively provide SSI exclusions due to COVID-19 relief funds.
- Marketed and referenced the published SSI Policy Spotlight titled, “Tribal Payment Exclusions under COVID-19 Presidential Disaster Relief Funds,” in which we share the conclusions of policy changes due to the COVID-19 Disaster Payments.
<https://www.ssa.gov/people/aian/materials/pdfs/EN-05-10609.pdf>
- Released “SSI mailer letters” in November and December 2021, and August and September 2022 to announce the policy change and automated solution we implemented to correct benefits identified as reduced or suspended because of Disaster Payments.

Increase Outreach and Education Efforts

We conducted seminars to improve access to and understanding of our programs. In the seminars, Tribal community members received assistance in creating their own *my Social Security* account for access to services online. Tribal members received information on our retirement and disability programs, including our Wounded Warrior provisions, SSI, Medicare “Extra Help”, Medicare State Buy-in provisions, online services, and service delivery updates.

In addition, we completed the following actions:

- Provided guidance to further understanding of benefits eligibility under our Social Security and SSI programs. Guidance included extending education efforts to assist people experiencing homelessness and other Tribal members facing barriers to accessing our programs.
- Marketed the detailed Tribal Benefit Coordinators Guide on Social Security services to inform Tribal members about benefits, our appeals process, and post-entitlement actions. The guide offered policy guidance specific to changes that occurred during the pandemic.
- Encouraged the creation of regional partnerships to ensure every region preserves the essential knowledge and resources vital for establishing and retaining relationships with Tribal communities. Utilized various methods of communication, such as, blogs, social media, radio, newspapers, and *Dear Colleague Letters* that shared information with Tribal communities.
- Discussed the recently implemented Agency protocols and policies for those beneficiaries and recipients in receipt of disaster payments provided by the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act*. We shared information about Economic Impact Payments.

Understanding the Appeals Process

Individuals who apply for Social Security disability benefits receive notification in writing of any decisions. When our decisions are not favorable, there are four levels of appeal.

Understanding the appeals process and the timelines associated with appealing to the next stage

is a critical aspect of our outreach program. We sought opportunities to cover the appeals process at seminars and national events, including.

- Promoting awareness of the entire disability process, including an appeal of a non-medical decision by completing and submitting the online request for reconsideration or hearing, and
- Offering detailed informative sessions on how and individual or representative can file an appeal of a disability decision online at www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability/appeal.html.

Engaging in National Opportunities

As members of the White House Council on Native American Affairs, we gained insight from the Office of Management and Budget inter-agency activities. These activities enhanced our knowledge of Tribal sovereignty and self-determination, which are central in working with Tribal governments. Engagements included Directors and national members of Tribal Organizations to share knowledge of programs and procedures through national Tribal meetings. We presented on national platforms to educate on Tribal policy matters regarding Disaster Payments, *Tribal Social Security Fairness Act*, and the *Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014*, including:

- Encouraged local management and Public Affairs Specialists to participate in listening sessions in localities near Tribal communities within the Social Security field office service area. (See a full list in the addendum.)
- Participated in the 2021 National Native American Housing Symposiums -- December 2021.
- Participated in the National Training Program for the SAIGE; “Celebrating 20 Years of Respect, Culture and Education”- June 21-23, 2022.
- Engaged in regional policy discussions with local Indian Health Services (IHS) Benefit Coordinators and Tribal communities including an emphasis on the Assistance Based on Need program with explanations of the *Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014*.
- Participated in panel discussions at the NAFOA 2022 40th Annual Conference April 2022.
- Participated in panel discussions at the NCAI 2022 Mid-Year Conference June 2022.
- Collaborated with Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Train the Trainer Conference for Native American Benefit Counselors.
- Presented in the IHS Virtual Partnership Conference August-September 2022.

Improve Service Delivery

Under the guidance of the Agency Tribal Consultation Official (TCO), we sought to expand service delivery models during the pandemic to reach Tribal members. The TCO informed members how to access our services while the COVID-19 pandemic limited our in-person services.

We improved service delivery by the following actions:

- Published the agency’s Tribal Consultation Plan of Action on the SSA website (<https://www.ssa.gov/people/aian/index.html>).
- Provided virtual joint presentations on benefits, access to services, and training for beneficiary coordinators with agencies such as CMS Services and IHS. Sought feedback

for alternative service channels to enhance service to members of the public who experience barriers to accessing our services and were affected by the pandemic.

Access to Video Service Options

We tested appointments through a pilot using Microsoft Teams to services to Indian Country with numerous Tribes in the Dallas Region. Several regions provided excess laptops throughout the nation for that Tribal Outreach. We continue to seek this type of relationship in Tribal communities with barriers to broadband internet.

- Under our national Video Service Delivery (VSD) Memorandum of Understanding agreement with IHS, we provide a platform for continued service improvement in remote areas, for example, Nome AK. In FY 2022, we explored options for expanding video service delivery in our field operations to conduct business with the public.
- Considered options to enhance service delivery methods through Microsoft Teams video options to conduct online disability hearings and connect our technicians with Tribal community third-party sites.

Access to Tribal Council Member Coverage Agreement

The Tribal Social Security Fairness Act of 2018 allows Federally recognized Indian Tribes to extend Social Security coverage to Tribal council positions voluntarily through an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security under Section 218A of the Social Security Act. At conferences, we explained the content of the voluntary Tribal Council Member Coverage Agreement available to consider retroactive coverage for periods for which they have already paid Federal Insurance Contributions Act taxes and have not received a refund. We addressed business processes allowing Tribes to elect Social Security coverage for the Tribal Council members.

Access to Military Service Members

Benefits available to military service members through Social Security are different from those from the Department of Veterans Affairs and require a separate application. We sought opportunities to clarify and improve access to military service members to our Veterans Wounded Warriors Program. We provided detailed information regarding how we evaluate work activity to determine eligibility for benefits. We promoted awareness of the expedited claims process for military service members (see www.ssa.gov/people/veterans) who become disabled while on active military duty on or after October 1, 2001, regardless of where the disability occurs.

Promote Hiring and Support for Local Assistance Efforts

We remain committed to recruiting a diverse, qualified pool of applicants at all levels of the agency in accordance with the fiscal year 2020-2022 Human Capital Operating Plan (HCOP). The HCOP aligns with the Government-wide priorities presented in the President's Management Agenda, Federal Workforce Priorities Report, and the Office of Personnel Management's Human Capital Framework. To further these efforts, we rely on distinct connections with the Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Council, and our Agency Advisory Council Chairs, including the American Indian Alaska Native Advisory Council.

In support of recruitment activities, we engaged in the following actions:

- The D&I Council collected additional community contacts to provide SSA offices for outreach and hiring.
- Marketed SSA job vacancy announcements on social media to enhance our recruitment initiatives
- Educated Tribe members on creating USAJOBS accounts and locating vacancies on the site through job fairs and Tribal community conferences.
- Explored ways our programs and services can benefit Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) by communicating and collaborating with our network of non-competitive eligibility contacts, which included: SSA’s National Veterans Outreach and Selective Placement Coordinators; Career One Stop Centers; Vocational Rehabilitation Offices; Ticket to Work Job Service Providers; and University Disability and Career Services.
- Promoted local assistance efforts through our Regional Advisory Council Activities designed to enhance diverse recruitment. We are exploring ways to enhance participation at job fairs hosted by TCUs in the future.

Accessing the Ticket to Work (TTW) program

Additionally, opportunities for engaging in work activity are available to people who also receive benefits. The Ticket to Work (TTW) program is for persons with disabilities who want to work and participate in planning their employment. We sought opportunities to provide information on employment support, to assist our disabled beneficiaries with returning to work, including:

- Informed Tribal Coordinators of the availability of the TTW and ways to establish Tribal Employment Networks in their community.
- Provided education on Unsuccessful Work Attempts and Impairment-Related Work Expenses, and Special Conditions, through a detailed Tribal benefits guide.

Explore Developing an Office of Native American Partnerships

On September 27, 2022, we announced an Office of Native American Partnerships within the Office of the Commissioner. This office will elevate and centralize efforts to administer comprehensive programs and policies related to American Indians and Alaska Natives. It will enhance the agency’s relationship with Tribes and serve as the primary point of contact on Tribal affairs for all stakeholders.

The Office of Native American Partnerships will be responsible for many functions to assist Tribal communities throughout the country. We will coordinate internal agency Native American efforts, increase external program awareness to the Tribal community, help to recruit a diverse candidate pool for hiring across the agency, and serve as the primary point of contact for Tribal Government Offices to foster transparency and collaboration.

Establishing the Office of Native American Partnerships supports President Biden’s 2021 [Executive Order \(EO\) 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities](#), as well as other Federal guidance on coordination and collaboration with Tribal Governments.

Managing the Plan

To monitor compliance with EO 13175 and President Biden’s Memorandum dated January 26, 2021, the Commissioner established two executive leads:

- Nancy Berryhill – Tribal Consultation Official and Interim Director for the Office of Native American Partnerships
- Renee Ferguson – American Indian Alaska Native Executive Lead

Both executives effectively managed the plan through coordinated discussions on policy compliance, served as the initial contact for Tribes to request or inquire about Tribal consultations, improved access to benefits, and actively worked to enhance ongoing relationships with Tribes.

**Social Security Administration
Tribal Consultation Plan – 2022 Progress Report
Addendum**

Per the Agency Tribal Consultation and Coordination Action plan, we conducted numerous workshops and other interactive events. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted our ability to conduct most face-to-face meetings. However, we continued to share Access to Service information and instructions for in-person services. We held Outreach and Education events to bring awareness to our programs in the following locations:

Alabama:

- Provided overview of Social Security's Access to Services and instructions for in-person services without an appointment to the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Family Services Director.
- Met with Executive Director of the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission to provide "How to Get Help from Social Security" and "Frequently Accessed Online Services" flyers for distribution to the tribal (AIAN) community.

Alaska:

- Collaborated with Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. (December 2021)
- Provided background on our SSI Kids campaign -- Native Village of Kiana.
- Shared information on SSI for children -- Chickahominy Tribe.
- 70 participants -- Retirement presentation for Ahtna, Incorporated. (November 2021)
- 1000 participants -- National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Mid-Year Conference/Marketplace 2022. Provided AIAN materials and staff information booth at Marketplace portion of mid-year NCAI conference. (June 2022)
- Visited Ketchikan Job Center, replenished publications and added online services marketing materials.

Arizona:

- 20 participants - Gila River Indian Community Healthcare Staff – provided benefit overview, covered potential SSI application training and news and updates for healthcare staff.
- 20 participants - Conducted workshop and provided updates on general programs to the Arizona Intertribal Council on Aging.
- 50 participants - Gila County Social Service Partner Meeting - workshop for tribal communities covering programs and updates.
- 50 participants - Tohono O'dham Nation Quarterly Service Delivery Collaborative Virtual Meeting – update on People Facing Barriers message for tribal community services.

California:

- Met with United American Indian Involvement Los Angeles –discussed People Facing Barriers initiative and possibility of taking applications to SSA.

Colorado

- Provided Access to Service information to Tribal Benefit Coordinators for multiple Colorado AIAN communities.
- Shared Access to Service information with CMS Division of Tribal Affairs, who further disseminated information throughout Colorado.

Hawaii:

- Provided training to outreach committee staff. -- Ke Ola Mamo Medical Center Honolulu Iwi lei
- Provided Dear Colleague Letter and People Facing Barriers training to various third-party organizations --Kaua'i County Housing Agency.

Idaho:

- Provided SSI claims training to Shoshone Bannock Tribes.
- 35 participants -- Shoshone Bannock Tribe-- Retirement training to tribal employees.
- 25 participants --Montana - Idaho CMS Tribal Outreach - Provided training on SSA Benefits.
- Collaborated with Advocates against Family Violence- to promote access to SSA services in Canyon County, Ada County, and surrounding areas in Idaho
- 18 Participants-Shoshone Bannock Tribe-Disability training to tribal caseworkers
- Shared Access to Service information with 5 tribal communities in ID

Indiana:

- Miami Nation of Indians – collaborated to share information about access to services.
- Miami Nation of Indians of the State of Indiana -- shared Dear Colleague Letter and resumption of in-person services with tribal leaders.

Iowa:

- Emailed American Indian Council (Employment & Support Services) to promote virtual recruitment event being held for entry level jobs at the Mid-America Program Service Center.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letters to Iowa tribal contacts.

Kansas:

- Collaborated with Haskell Indian Nations University to promote virtual career events.

- Contacted Chairman Rhodd of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska to share that Social Security programs support tribal communities through retirement, disability, and survivors' benefits.
- Contacted Chairman Randall of the Kickapoo tribe of Kansas and Nebraska to share that Social Security programs support tribal communities through retirement, disability, and survivors' benefits.
- Emailed American Indian Council (Employment & Support Services) to promote virtual recruitment event being held for entry level jobs at the Mid-America Program Service Center.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letters to Kansas tribal contacts.

Maine:

- Collaborated with Narragansett Indian Health Center.

Michigan:

- Emailed Social Security Services Update to 80 leaders in the AIAN Community throughout Michigan.
- Discussed partnership for the People Facing Barriers campaign --Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.
- Win Awenen Nisitotung, a monthly newspaper published by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, has agreed to publish Social Security columns and Q&As. The newspaper is mailed directly to the elders and each tribal household.
- Emailed Social Security Press Release "Social Security Administration Establishing National Native American Office" to 80 leaders in the AIAN Community throughout Michigan.
- Emailed invitation to the Agency Tribal Consultation to 80 leaders in the AIAN Community throughout Michigan.

Minnesota:

- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to Great Lakes Tribal Council -- shared SSA re-entry plans and dates.
- 150 participants – Red Cliff Native Reservation – AIAN Red Cliff WI Health and Benefits Fair 2022. Provided SSA benefit updates and training.
- Collaborated with Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

Mississippi:

- Met with Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. Provided information on Access to Service and "How to Get Help" from Social Security.

Montana:

- Collaborated with CMS Division of Tribal Affairs to share access to services information with customers and clients. (75 contacts)
- 200 participants -- Montana - Idaho CMS Tribal Outreach Training. (June 2022)
- 30 participants – Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation and Crow Indian Reservation – discussed current access to services and VSD usage.
- Shared Access to Service information with 12 tribal communities in MT

Nebraska:

- Contacted Chairwoman Kitcheyan of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska to share that Social Security programs support tribal communities through retirement, disability, and survivors' benefits.
- Contacted Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska to promote access to SSA services.
- Emailed American Indian Council (Employment & Support Services) to promote virtual recruitment event being held for entry level jobs at the Mid-America Program Service Center.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letters to Nebraska tribal contacts.

New Mexico:

- 200 participants – Collaborated with CMS for virtual training for tribal benefit coordinators and social workers in New Mexico
- 175 participants – Collaborated with CMS for Train the Trainer Conference for Native American Benefit Counselors in AZ, CO, NM, OK, and UT.
- 50 participants –Annual CMS Tribal Benefit Coordinator training.
- 80 Participants – Collaborated with New Mexico Workforce Connection to recruit Customer Service Representative as the 7th Annual Hiring Heroes Event, Veterans Job Fair.
- 40 Participants – Collaborated with Kirkland Air Force Base to recruit Customer Service Representative as the Capstone Employment Event.
- Assisted Tribal Benefits Coordinator with claimants at First Nations Health Clinic, Gallup Indian Medical Center, Laguna Pueblo, San Felipe Pueblo, Santa Fe Indian Hospital, Isleta Elder Center, and Zuni Pueblo Indian Health Services.
- Shared Access to Service and SSA third party SSI claims-taking training information with over 100 tribal contacts in New Mexico.

New York:

- 195 participants-- Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, Shinnecock, St. Regis Mohawk, Tonawanda, and Tuscarora Nations, Native American Community Services, American Indian Community House.
- 51 participants – Cayuga Nation, Oneida Nation, Onondaga Nation, Seneca Nation, Shinnecock Nation, St. Regis Mohawk Nation, Tonawanda Band of Seneca Nation, Tuscarora Nation, Native American Community Services (Buffalo and Rochester) – provided Access to Service poster.
- Collaborated with Olean Seneca Nation Allegany Territory to promote third-party SSI claims.
- Collaborated with Seneca Nation of Indians Cattaraugus Territory.

North Dakota

- 50 Participants -- Spirit Lake Elders. Provided Medicare presentation.
- Shared Access to Service information with five tribal communities in North Dakota.

Oklahoma:

- 100 participants – Collaborated with CMS for in-person and virtual AIAN Tribal Summit for several Oklahoma Tribes and Indian Health Services (September 2022)
- 100 participants – CMS 2022 Oklahoma Area Virtual Training (May 2022)
- Promoted SSA third party SSI claims-taking training -- N.E. Tribal Health Center-Miami & Cherokee Nation Wilma Mankiller Health Center.
- Promoted SSA third party SSI claims-taking training -- Muskogee Creek Nation IHS in Coweta, Okmulgee & in Okemah.
- Promoted SSA third party SSI claims-taking training -- Urban Oklahoma City (OKC) Indian Clinic & Iowa Family Health Clinic in Perkins.
- Promoted SSA third party SSI claims-taking training-- Kaw Nation Kamza Health Clinic in Newkirk & United Keetoowah Treatment Center.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to Oklahoma tribal contacts.

Oregon:

- Shared Access to Service information with 29 tribal contacts in Oregon.
- 800 participants – Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs Business Fair.

South Dakota:

- Collaborated with several community leaders and organizations on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to promote access to services and provide pamphlets.
- Participated in a talk radio show on KILI radio “Voice of the Lakota Nation” on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Promoted access to services, ISSNRC and my Social Security. They have over 10,000 listeners.
- Collaborated with several community leaders and organizations on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation to promote access to services and provide pamphlets.

Texas:

- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to 1,630 home health and assisted living organizations in Texas.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to 338 Texas border town organizations.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to 4,139 Texas nursing homes and community support partners.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to 363 Texas HUD Indigent Health partners.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to 32 SOAR Partners in the Houston area.

Utah:

- Sent Access to Service Email to the Northwest Band of the Shoshone, tribe agreed to share information.
- Sent 7 Press Releases, 10 Dear Colleague Letters, and 8 Custom Content Emails to the Northwest Band of the Shoshone.
- Sent Access to Service Email to the Confederate Tribe of the Goshutes.
- Sent 11 Press Releases, 14 Dear Colleague Letters, and 13 Custom Content Emails to the Confederated Tribe of the Goshutes.
- Sent Access to Service Email to the Skull Valley Band of Goshute.
- Sent 11 Press Releases, 14 Dear Colleague Letters, and 13 Custom Content Emails to the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes.

Virginia:

- Collaborated with Nansemond Indian Tribal leaders to discuss current COVID-19 Disaster Relief income and exclusions.
- Collaborated with Cheroenhaka Nottoway Indian Tribal leaders to discuss SSA policy issues.
- Collaborated with Virginia Career Works.

Washington:

- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to 65 tribal members representing Washington State’s 29 tribes.
- Collaborated with Seattle Indian Health Board to provide SSA Access to Services information to staff and public.
- Collaborated with Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe to promote SSA Access to Services information.
- Contacted VA Tribal Government Relations Representative NW Region to promote SSA Access to Services information.
- Provided People Facing Barriers program update training --Muckleshoot Health and Wellness Staff.
- Worked with Muckleshoot Tribe of Indians Medical Social Work Team to promote SSA Access to Services information.
- 22 Participants - Conducted SSA benefits overview training for members and administrative staff with the Suquamish Tribe.
- 19 Participants - Provided Disability and Benefits training for case workers with Washington State Tribal Veterans Program.
- Contacted the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe Health Services to promote SSA Access to Services.
- 60 Participants - Provided training for healthcare workers at the Portland/Seattle CMS Tribal Outreach event for members of Washington, Idaho, and Oregon tribes.
- Met with Seattle Indian Health Board Urban Indian Elders Case Managers to provide SSA program information.
- Collaborated with Spokane Tribe of Indians to discuss Access to SSA Services.
- Held a listening session for Spokane Tribe of Indians, including Seattle Regional Executives and the Acting Commissioner.
- Contacted Puyallup Tribal Clinic to promote SSA Access to Services.
- Provided disability training to Puyallup Tribal Health Authority and Elders program caseworkers.

Wisconsin:

- 150 participants – Red Cliff Native Reservation – AIAN Red Cliff, Wisconsin Health and Benefits Fair 2022. Provided SSA benefit updates and training.
- Sent Dear Colleague Letter to Great Lakes Tribal Council regarding SSA’s new Tribal Council office under office of the Commissioner. GLITC distributed this information to 11-member native reservations throughout Wisconsin.

- The LCO Ojibwe nation includes communities that are homeless, children with disabilities and veterans. The target was outreach for the VP initiative. This in person session promoted VP updates and training and covered OSSNAP, iDib, iRib, online Medicare apps and Extra Help. The St. Croix Tribal Health & Human Services is in Northern (Rural) Wisconsin.
- Dear Colleague Letter - Best Way to Contact promotional material distributed to AIAN Great Lakes Interagency Tribal Council. GLITC distributed this information to 11-member native reservations throughout Wisconsin.
- Dear Colleague Letter - Scams Fraud promotional material distributed to AIAN Great Lakes Interagency Tribal Council. GLITC distributed this information to 11-member native reservations throughout Wisconsin.
- Dear Colleague Letter to Great Lakes Tribal Council shared SSA re-entry plans and dates. GLITC distributed this information to 11-member native reservations throughout Wisconsin.
- Collaborated with Menominee Nation Tribe of Wisconsin to approve their tribal identification card to be recognized in SSNAP for enumeration purposes.
- Coordinated the precedent for changes to the Oneida Nation Tribe's Per Capita payment to be full covered under the ABON provisions.
- February 2022 Indian Health Services - CMS and SSA Webinar for National audience. Regional Medicare and Social Security training. Included tribes from all Area 1 including WI and MN.
- April 2022 Indian Health Services - CMS and SSA Webinar for National audience. Regional Medicare and Social Security training. Included tribes from all Area 1 including WI and MN.
- Collaborated with Oneida Nation Tribe of Wisconsin to approve their tribal identification card to be recognized in SSNAP for enumeration purposes.

Wyoming:

- Met with Indian Health Services on the Wind River Reservation to discuss Video Service Delivery usage and Access to Service.