



American Indian Children's Council Workplan Fiscal Year 2006-07

Introduction

American Indians have a unique legal relationship with the federal government created through nation-to-nation treaties that exchanged the protection of the general welfare of the tribe for peaceful cessation of tribally held lands. Through the inherent right to self-govern, which was recognized through these agreements, American Indians are members of sovereign nations, and are not simply members of an ethnic group. Since the treaty period, the federal government has interpreted their treaty obligations to enact federal policies that have been a paternalistic detriment to American Indian nations, and families. Policies have included forced attendance of American Indian children in assimilative boarding schools; disproportionate removal of children from their families and placement in non-Native homes; termination of the recognition of hundreds of tribes, forcing them to give up lands, identity, and legal sovereignty; and relocation.

The federal relocation policy was administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in 1957 during a time when reservations experienced severe economic destitute. Hundreds of thousands of American Indian people moved out of reservations into cities in search of a better life, encouraged by propaganda that sold the American Indian family the "American dream". Once in the city, satellite BIA offices scattered Indian families throughout large metropolitan areas to assuage the creation of American Indian ghettos. Federal assistance was discontinued after the first pay check was received by the relocated tribal member.

Fifty years and several generations later, these policies continue to reverberate within American Indian families and communities. Nationally, more American Indians now live in cities than on reservations. This is especially relevant to Los Angeles, since the county is home to the largest urban American Indian population in the nation. Typical of other urban American Indian populations, community characteristics include a population that is less than 1% of the general population, is widely dispersed, lacks a geographic center, remains invisible to popular consciousness, and breeds a community environment of disconnection between its scattered residents.

The American Indian Children's Council (AICC) was established in 1997 by the Children's Planning Council (CPC) to strengthen the infrastructure within the Los Angeles urban American Indian community and thereby improve conditions for American Indian children and families. Last year, the Council hosted a forum where more than 120 American Indian community members identified the lack of communication and connection within the American Indian community as one of the two foremost issues affecting the health of its children and families in Los Angeles County. This same challenge to community building has been expressed by other American Indian communities during gatherings of the National Urban Indian Family Coalition (NUIFC), whose member cities include Seattle, Portland, Chicago, New York, Phoenix, Denver, San Antonio, and San Francisco among others. The AICC is committed to addressing these concerns through a focused effort around community building that will create sustainable change in the Los Angeles County American Indian community.

There are three steps that the American Indian Children's Council feels are essential to community building in the Los Angeles American Indian community. The first step is building a connected and organized base of residents who are able to mobilize around any concern or issue it identifies. The second step is to leverage the resources of institutions – such as local government, community based organizations, service providers, educational systems, and businesses – for sustained community change. The third step is to connect community and institutions in shared decision-making that results in a change in policies that have a positive impact on American Indian children, youth, and families.

The American Indian Children's Council's long-term goal is to impact the Council's work through the three strategic areas described above, contained within the Children's Planning Council's 2007-2009 strategic plan:

1. Mobilize Empowered Communities for Kids (Mobilize Communities)
2. Promote Responsive Family Strengthening Institutions (Responsive Institutions)
3. Promote Bold Policies to Improve Child Outcomes (Bold Policies)

Over the past two years, the AICC has successfully built an active youth coalition called United Native Youth LA (UNYLA). It has also instituted a unique community council comprised of parents, youth, and general community members that take leadership in Council efforts. In 2006-07, the Council looks to build upon previous successes and lessons learned to continue to grow its community building work in the areas of youth organizing, Council development, Indian child welfare, family economic success, community forum identified issues, and data and evaluation. These areas have been identified by the Council, residents, and institutional partners as having the power to create sustained change in the Los Angeles American Indian community.

United Native Youth LA (UNYLA)

The AICC's youth coalition, UNYLA, has served as a flagship for the Council, and has built its reputation and trust in the American Indian community. Conceived and birthed during the 2004-05 fiscal year, the concept remains the same: organize a broad-based coalition of American Indian youth. UNYLA is comprised of representatives from each of the major American Indian community-based youth councils, along with churches, sports leagues, and tribal associations, who gather to provide a collective youth voice within the county. In addition, youth not affiliated with an American Indian organization have joined and affiliated with UNYLA's mission and vision.

UNYLA's work concentrates on youth leadership development, peer outreach campaigns, political and cultural education, youth engagement, and community building. To date, UNYLA's membership numbers more than 100, with a core group of 25 active members, and a leadership group of ten. UNYLA meets twice per month, and also hosts a number of social-educational activities. In the coalition's own words, UNYLA is, "a coalition of Native youth coming together to make a difference as young Native people living in L.A. Our common vision is to have a good time, while creating change in our community".

The AICC's short term goal for UNYLA during 2006-2007 is to: Maintain support for the UNYLA coalition.

The AICC's long term goal for UNYLA during 2006-2007 is to: Sustain an empowered and connected Native youth community with access to resources that support the retention of tribal culture, tradition, leadership, and collaboration.

In alignment with the all of the AICC work areas, United Native Youth LA will enact its plans for the coming fiscal year through the three strategic areas contained within the Children's Planning Council's strategic plan.

Mobilize Communities

- Identify, nurture, recruit, and connect individual youth abilities with the Council's community vision. This will include an investment in youth empowerment and leadership through sports, the arts, education, and social engagement opportunities and trainings. When working with youth, it is critical to connect their gifts and passions to their larger community vision. This serves to leverage youth social capital within the community. Through this strategy, the youth stay connected to one another regardless of barriers, such as geographic distance.
- UNYLA, in partnership with the CPC's Community Building Institute (CBI) and American Indian community-based partners, will create a Native youth-specific leadership camp. The leadership camp will teach youth about leadership rooted in cultural and spiritual traditions, through a recognition of the unique need of urban Indian youth. Youth will also receive training on Asset Based Community Development (ABCD), sovereignty, and national and international human rights.
- UNYLA meetings and activities will serve as a training ground for future leaders of the American Indian community. Group and one-on-one trainings will include meeting facilitation, peer outreach, event planning, public speaking, and political, historical, cultural, and contemporary social issues education.

Responsive Institutions

- Leverage community resources from institutional partners, which includes access to space, transportation, trainings, and social capital.

- Foster collaboration by bringing together the youth councils of American Indian community-based organizations, and refine partnerships in memorandums of understanding (MOU). This will serve to institutionalize the coalition amongst American Indian community-based organizations, and can also serve as a model for coalition building around other issues identified by community members. It also sets the context for the relationship, and clearly defines expectations, roles, and responsibilities.
- Spearhead community engagement and organizing events in collaboration with American Indian community-based partners, and include partnership agreements for events. This will leverage additional resources and garner American Indian community based organizations understanding and support for community building. Events may include a second annual youth conference, back-to-school night, or second annual youth basketball tournament. The primary goal of such events is to build a larger base of American Indian residents.
- Convene, facilitate, and support meetings amongst American Indian youth service professionals to foster partnerships amongst community-based organizations. These meetings are critical to sustaining American Indian community based organization support of the youth coalition. It also serves as a conduit in which to share values and strategies of the AICC. The goal of the group is to support youth in a non-competitive and complementary environment, assist one another in achieving each organization's youth objectives, and coordinate calendars, events, and trainings.

Bold Policies

- In concert with the American Indian Children's Council's community forum process, the youth held a youth forum to identify issues most important to them. UNYLA identified the lack of culturally relevant education and stress as the salient issues concerning them and their peers. As a possible policy effort, UNYLA may address the lack of culturally relevant education through the establishment of the Native youth-specific leadership camp. Curriculum used for the camp will be shared with educational partners, including the Los Angeles County Office of Education, the Los Angeles Unified School District's Title VII Indian Education Parent Council, the Southern California Indian Center Education Component's Parent Advisory Council and Inter-tribal Student Council, and United American Indian Involvement's Central High School to assist in the creation an American Indian history and social issues credited course available to all Los Angeles County American Indian high school students. In addition, as part of the CBI, the AICC will provide policy trainings to provide youth with the capacity to work on policy issues they continue to identify.
- UNYLA will address policy issues impacting the Native population at a national level through participation in United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. UNYLA will use this venue to promote the values of urban American Indian youth organizing from an asset based approach.

UNYLA Quarterly Benchmarks

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Individual Gifts Art Media Music Sports	Host workshop series emphasizing one area of youth gifts connected to UNYLA mission. Series is 3-6 workshops. (Art)	Host workshop series emphasizing one area of youth gifts connected to UNYLA mission. Series is 3-6 workshops. (Media)	Host workshop series emphasizing one area of youth gifts connected to UNYLA mission. Series is 3-6 workshops. (Music)	Host workshop series emphasizing one area of youth gifts connected to UNYLA mission. Series is 3-6 workshops. (Sports)
Leadership Camp	Convene youth professionals once per month to set purpose and goals.	Create youth, community, and partner participation process to guide planning.	Establish budget and identify funding. Decide dates, location, content.	Create and sign MOUs. Confirm logistics, including speakers. Select participants.
UNYLA Meetings	Meet six times per quarter.	Meet six times per quarter.	Meet six times per quarter.	Meet six times per quarter.
Engagement Events	Plan for parent-youth back-to-school night through UNYLA meetings, interagency youth professional meetings, and AIC Council meetings.	Host parent-youth back-to-school night.	Connect participants with the work of the Council through follow-up phone calls, and one-on-ones, when appropriate.	Connect motivated parents to CBI parent training. Connect motivated youth to camp.
MOUs	Meet with three partners, and sign MOUs detailing relationship between their agency and UNYLA.	Meet with two partners, and sign MOUs detailing relationship between their agency and UNYLA.	Meet with two partners, and sign MOUs detailing relationship between their agency and UNYLA.	Meet with two partners, and sign MOUs detailing relationship between their agency and UNYLA.
Interagency Youth Professionals	Meet three times per quarter to support each other's work, and connect all to coordinated community youth vision.	Meet three times per quarter to support each other's work, and connect all to coordinated community youth vision.	Meet three times per quarter to support each other's work, and connect all to coordinated community youth vision.	Meet three times per quarter to support each other's work, and connect all to coordinated community youth vision.

AIC Council Development

During the previous fiscal year, the AICC engaged a set of community partners in recreating the Council's infrastructure through the development of guiding bylaws that align with the values of ABCD. The outcome of this effort was the creation of a new Council infrastructure comprised of youth, parents, and community members. The new structure also established a protocol for a more inclusive community elections process and leadership structure. The AICC's new community-based model shifted the direction of the Council and earned the Council a reputation as a valuable resource in the Native community. The creation of a stronger infrastructure now poises the AICC to deepen and diversify its community building work aimed to mobilize a base of community residents engaged in working collaboratively to improve social conditions for the Los Angeles American Indian community. In 2006-07, the Council will expand its community building efforts to influence Indian child welfare, family economic success, Community Forum initiatives, and the collection of community-based data.

Within each of these work areas, the AICC will exercise its values to enact social change, including being strategic about the opportunities to mobilize community members, demonstrating results, promoting responsive institutions, and affecting policy that will have a positive impact on children and families. It is through these efforts that the AICC seeks to find ways to affirm the positive and transformative assets of the community.

AICC's short-term goal for Council development for 2006-07: Maintain an active Council with 80% active participation from Council members, and 100% active participation from conveners.

AICC's long-term goal for Council development for 2006-07: Sustain a solid community based Council infrastructure and leadership to be able to address any issues impacting the health and welfare of the Los Angeles American Indian community.

Mobilize Communities

- Maintain an active community based Council made up of youth, parents, and general community members by continuing to nurture relationships with and amongst Council members, and demonstrating action and results in AICC's community building work.
- Host monthly community evening meetings, and share its work with the general American Indian/Alaska Native community.
- Host community engagement events such as a back-to-school night, community resource celebration, and opportunities for community participation in the strategic direction of the Council.
- Build the capacity of Council leadership, through the CBI, to apply and promote the values of ABCD to key partners, institutions, and American Indian residents.

Responsive Institutions

- Foster collaborations through meeting coordination, facilitation, and recording and reporting for the following community work groups:
 - Monthly public-private partnership meetings between Department of Children and Family Services Indian Unit, American Indian community based organizations, and general American Indian/Alaska Native community members.
- Present AICC's vision and workplan to three American Indian community based organization boards and/or executive directors. This will serve to promote the community building framework and gain their institution's support.

- Participate in a working relationship with Los Angeles County Indian-specific work and/or departments, and serve as liaison to community as required.
- Engage national partners and institutions on the work of the Council, and seek support when possible.

Bold Policies

- Provide legislative trainings in collaboration with the CBI, UCLA's Tribal Learning Exchange Project, and the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission.
- Serve as a central community hub for policy affecting American Indian families in Los Angeles County. The Council will utilize its base to affect policies in favor of children and families, at the discretion of the Council and its base.

United Native Youth LA	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Maintain and nurture relationships and communication with AIC Council members	<p>Call Council members once per month for a personal update.</p> <p>Host one elected AIC Council leadership meeting to discuss internal business.</p> <p>Hold one-on-one with four Council members.</p>	<p>Call Council members once per month for a personal update.</p> <p>Host one elected AIC Council leadership meeting to discuss internal business.</p> <p>Hold one-on-one with four Council members.</p>	<p>Call Council members once per month for a personal update.</p> <p>Host one elected AIC Council leadership meeting to discuss internal business.</p> <p>Hold one-on-one with four Council members.</p>	<p>Call Council members once per month for a personal update.</p> <p>Host one elected AIC Council leadership meeting to discuss internal business.</p> <p>Hold one-on-one with four Council members.</p>
American Indian Children's Council Community Meetings	<p>Host three community meetings each quarter.</p> <p>Include social, update, call to action, and legislative component to each meeting.</p>	<p>Host three community meetings each quarter.</p> <p>Include social, update, call to action, and legislative component to each meeting.</p>	<p>Host three community meetings each quarter.</p> <p>Include social, update, call to action, and legislative component to each meeting.</p>	<p>Host three community meetings each quarter.</p> <p>Include social, update, call to action, and legislative component to each meeting.</p>
Legislative Training		<p>Host one legislative training, or training series, in collaboration with partner organization.</p>		
AICC Presentation to Partner Boards	<p>Present AICC mission to one partner agency board.</p>		<p>Present AICC mission to one partner agency board.</p>	<p>Present AICC mission to one partner agency board.</p>

Indian Child Welfare Act

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was signed by Congress in 1978 to protect Indian children from being disproportionately removed from their families and placed in the child welfare system. At the time of its passage, some reservation communities saw upwards of 60% of its children being taken, many due to cultural and economic scrutiny of Indian child rearing practices from non-Native social workers. ICWA was created to provide a safety net for Indian children to remain with their families, tribes, or Native home before being placed in non-Native care. ICWA also respects a tribe's right to exercise its sovereignty, and assume jurisdiction over a child welfare case that affects one of its members. Almost thirty years after its passage, a disproportionate number of American Indian children are still taken out of their homes – at a rate in California that is 3.6 times higher than that of the general population. In urban areas, misidentification of Indian children and lack of awareness of the act contributes to non-compliance. Currently, there are 180 children in the County child welfare system, and no American Indian foster homes. There is also difficulty in finding American Indian social workers to work with ICWA-impacted families.

In order to have a positive impact on these issues, American Indian communities throughout the nation are challenged to build partnerships with either state or county administered child welfare systems. At the onset of this year, the California Indian Child Welfare Association convened and facilitated a Los Angeles County taskforce to bring community stakeholders and Los Angeles County Department of Indian Children and Family Service's Indian Unit together. This taskforce was well attended initially, but waned in its participation throughout a six-month period. This was in part due to lack of established relationships and common purpose and objectives. The AICC has agreed to assume the role of convener and organizer within this collaborative in the coming fiscal year.

In addition, there are four parents on the AIC Council whom are particularly passionate about Indian Child Welfare. As such, the Council will support its leadership in this area of work and encourage strategies of ABCD, including leveraging social capital to meet the cultural and community needs of American Indian children and youth in the foster care system.

Short term goal: Build relationships with all American Indian child welfare stakeholders, including the Department of Children and Family Services, American Indian community-based organizations, Edelman Children's Court judges and staff attorneys, Casey Family Programs Los Angeles office, and community members.

Long term goal: Sustain collaboration and positive relationships amongst all American Indian child welfare stakeholders, including the Department of Children and Family Services, American Indian community-based organizations, Edelman Children's Court judges and staff attorneys, Casey Family Programs Los Angeles office, and community members.

Mobilize Communities

- Provide advocacy trainings through the CBI for AIC Council members and residents, with the possible outcome of engaging a community based organization partner to undertake a social education campaign to explain the requirements and family rights ensured under the Indian Child Welfare Act. The AICC will support this group in creating and enacting a community-focused action plan around ICWA. Initial thoughts on what this group would like to work on include connecting foster youth to United Native Youth LA activities, and utilizing the AICC infrastructure and base to initiate a volunteer-driven cultural mentorship program.

Responsive Institutions

- The AICC will facilitate collaboration between public and private entities working on Indian child welfare issues. As the convener, the AICC will seek to find mutually beneficial connections between partners, and establish a sustained and positive collaboration. The collaborative will include the Department of Children and Family Services, American Indian community-based organizations, Edelman Children’s Court judges and staff attorneys, Casey Family Programs Los Angeles office, and community members.
- AICC will seek institutional support from community based organizations and other institutions for the possible social capital leveraging project.

Bold Policies

- Through the public-private ICWA partnership, the AICC will promote policy changes recommended by the community to be enacted at the County level, including methods of foster recruitment, and other local policy decisions.
- The AICC will remain connected to ICWA-related policy matters at the state and federal level, and connect those policies to education and trainings coordinated through the Council, when appropriate.

Indian Child Welfare Act	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Advocacy Training		Provide advocacy training to one parent group, through the CBI. Meet once per month.	Continue advocacy training to one parent group, through the CBI, with result of a community action plan. Meet once per month.	Connect parent group action plan to AIC Council and/or leadership, as appropriate.
Social Capital Leveraging			Pending outcome of community action plan, create cultural mentorship program leveraging community's social capital.	
Public-private collaborative	Convene and facilitate meetings once per month.	Convene and facilitate meetings once per month.	Convene and facilitate meetings once per month.	Convene and facilitate meetings once per month.
Relationships	Administer brief survey of key stakeholders to establish the objectives, roles, and responsibilities of the collaborative.	Hold one-on-ones with three key partners to seek external resources, including technical assistance, trainings, funding, etc.	Create and establish MOUs between 50% of partners involved in collaborative.	Continue to establish MOUs between second 50% of partners involved in collaborative.

Community Forum Priorities

In 2005, the AICC hosted two Community Forums to address issues facing the health and welfare of American Indian children and families in Los Angeles. More than 250 community members participated. The most important issues that arose were: 1) The establishment of an American Indian cultural center in Los Angeles, 2) The development of an improved communication infrastructure for the American Indian community, 3) culturally relevant education for Native students, 4) resolution of housing concerns, including a housing shelter and recovery home for Native women with children, and 5) establishment of culturally relevant mental health services. As a first step to addressing all of the priorities identified above, the AICC, through the CBI, will host three community asset mapping workshops which will capture information on American Indian resources that support families. These workshops will inform the AICC's creation of a community poster resource map, designed to outreach to members of the community not currently connected to its assets. The AICC will also partner with Healthy City to administer asset surveys to American Indian community based organizations that will inform GIS mapping of American Indian-specific services.

Short term goal: Provide a tangible outcome of the Community Forum to contribute to the development of an improved communication infrastructure for the American Indian community.

Long term goal: Create a power and leadership base within the Los Angeles American Indian community that is able to mobilize around any issue identified as important to the overall health and welfare of its children, youth, and families.

Mobilize Communities

- The AICC will create a community resource poster and directory that will be disseminated widely throughout the community to demonstrate a tangible positive outcome of the forum. The poster will also serve as a creative outreach strategy to reach a dispersed population where more traditional organizing methods, such as door-knocking or other canvassing, are not feasible. Specifically, it will connect more people to the AICC, its mission, and meetings, and thereby contribute to formation of a larger base.
- The AICC will continue to identify and support community leaders in carrying forward the work identified at the forum. This will include the American Indian cultural center action group provision of CBI training, and ensuing support of their action plan.

Responsive Institutions

- Coordinate a community participation processes with residents and community-based organizations to map the assets of the American Indian/Alaska Native community.
- Facilitate American Indian community resource inclusion in the healthycity.org web-site as the ninth SPA overlay on the Web site.
- Host a meeting between the three major American Indian organizations to determine how partners can support and impact change in the community identified priorities.

Bold Policies

- Connect constituents to policy trainings through the CBI.
- Connect community members to CPC's policy effort, when appropriate.

Community Forum Priorities	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Communication – Design	Interview three design firms. Identify illustrator and designer. Receive drafts, and approve final version through AIC Council.	Manage production, including mailing lists, printing, and distribution strategy.		
Communication – Training	Receive technical assistance from various sources on asset mapping. Host 2 asset mapping workshops with 30 community members.			
Communication – GIS	Meet with Healthy City. Provide American Indian resource providers with asset survey.	Coordinate AICC overlay with other SPAs on Healthy City.	Promote Healthy City usage by community members, community-based partners through youth and Council development relationship building strategies.	Promote Healthy City usage by community members, community-based partners through youth and Council development relationship building strategies.
Communication – Other		Launch poster during Native American Heritage month as community celebration of assets and resources. Connected to youth and Council development.		
Cultural Center	Hold three one-on-ones with key original community forum participants to identify whether there is leadership point for workgroup. Connect leadership to Southwest Museum renovation, and change in management as a potential opportunity to impact policy related to a pre-existing center.	Support one meeting per month for the workgroup.	Support one meeting per month for the workgroup.	Support one meeting per month for the workgroup.

Family Economic Success

The American Indian Children's Council recognizes that a family's economic health greatly affects a family's ability to remain stable, nurturing, and cohesive. In coinciding ways, poverty adversely affects the health of American Indian children and families in Los Angeles. A number of socioeconomic statistics help to frame understanding of the community's reality, including an unemployment rate nearly twice as high as Caucasians, a poverty rate more than two and a half times the rate of Caucasians, 45 percent less earnings than Caucasians, and low vehicle and home ownership rates. As part of its work to promote financially stable families, in 2006-07, the AICC will create a Native volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) center, provide financial education to 125 community members, and provide the community with greater access to asset-building resources.

Short term goal: Increase the number of American Indian community members engaged in Family Economic Success initiatives by 100 people.

Long term goal: Reduce the number of American Indian children and families connected to the AICC living in poverty by 2 percent.

Mobilize Communities

- Engage residents in general education around family economic success.
 - The AICC will successfully administer financial education trainings to 150 community members.
 - The AICC will train five community members to administer the Citibank curriculum.
 - The AICC will conduct a social marketing campaign to explain the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and its benefit to families.
 - The AICC will connect community members with asset building opportunities, most notably, the Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program, established by Congress to offer homeownership and housing rehabilitation opportunities for eligible Native American individuals or families.
- Identify Los Angeles Native American community views on family economic success.
 - Conduct action-based research with 50 community members about their beliefs on family economic success, utilizing a combination of surveys, interviews, and focus groups.
- Collaborate in development of County-wide policies relative to FES, including contributing to the creation of a CPC report to be disseminated through local community-based and national networks on Los Angeles Native community views on family economic success.
- All participants engaged in educational family economic success efforts will be connected to the Council through invitations to community meetings, and invited to mobilize around the countywide policies as they emerge, or to impact specific departments.

Bold Policies

- The AICC will advocate for the establishment of a securely funded Native EITC VITA site, and/or Individual Development Account (IDA).
- The AICC will participate in national training opportunities sponsored by the National Urban Indian Family Coalition, Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, First Nations Development Institute, and First Nations Oweesta Corporation.

Responsive Institutions

- The AICC will engage American Indian community-based organizations to house an American Indian VITA site for the 2007 tax year.
- The AICC will engage American Indian/Alaska Native community-based organizations on its social marketing of EITC, and how it can impact a family's economic health.

Family Economic Success	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Education	Graduate 25 community members from financial education training.	Graduate 50 community members from financial education training.	Graduate 25 community members from financial education training.	Graduate 50 community members from financial education training.
Training	Identify five people within the first class who can be trained to teach the ensuing courses.	Train five people to teach the ensuing courses.	Five trained people will provide training to third quarter class (es).	Five trained people will provide training to fourth quarter class (es).
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Site	Identify partner, location, purpose, and objectives of the VITA site.	Establish MOU with partner organization. In collaboration with partner organization, train 30 American Indian volunteer tax preparers.	Maintain VITA site.	Maintain VITA site. Research establishment of American Indian Individual Development Account (IDA).
Earned Income Tax Credit Campaign	Participate in monthly meetings with CPC's EITC Coalition.	Develop AICC outreach strategy around EITC for American Indian community.	Launch AICC outreach strategy around EITC for American Indian community. Prepare 75 tax forms for members of the American Indian community.	Continue AICC outreach strategy around EITC for American Indian community. Prepare 75 tax forms for members of the American Indian community.
Survey	Participate in family economic success survey development in collaboration with system of SPAs.	Administer 100 surveys to community members, including youth.	Invite all survey participants to participate in CPC FES policy body.	Distribute findings of survey to National Indian Tax Coalition, National Urban Indian Family Coalition, and other relevant networks.

Data and Evaluation

Since its inception, the American Indian Children's Council has advocated for accurate and consistent data collection of urban American Indians in Los Angeles by departments and community-based organizations for inclusion in demographic reporting. In 2002, the AICC was instrumental in ensuring accurate data collection of American Indians in the County's health and human service administration through adoption of a County Board of Supervisor's motion to mandate accurate collection and reporting by departments. The Council also sponsored a series of policy briefs published by UCLA's Lewis Policy Institute, and hosted a community-based research symposium highlighting published work on the local urban American Indian community. As the AICC carries forward the importance of data collection utilizing a community building approach, in 2006-07, the AICC will seek to collect data through the CBI based on an action-based research model that is connected to the AICC work areas of family economic success and Indian child welfare. Moreover, the AICC will develop a comprehensive Results Based Accountability evaluation approach that will capture the accomplishments made throughout all of the Council's work areas by paying particular attention to measuring results based on 1) impact, 2) influence, and 3) leverage. Finally, the Council will track a select group of indicators developed through the CBI and will develop a data collection infrastructure to support this work.

Short term goal: Create a system of data collection and evaluation for the American Indian Children's Council that is in alignment with ABCD, the Council and community objectives, and the CPC Data Partnership.

Long term goal: Ensure accurate collection and reporting of statistical data by Los Angeles County departments, and create a culture that understands, accepts, and utilizes qualitative action-based research within the American Indian community.

Mobilize Communities

- Identify Los Angeles Native American community views on family economic success.
 - Conduct action-based research with 50 community members about their beliefs on family economic success, utilizing a combination of surveys, interviews, and focus groups.
 - Contribute to the creation of a CPC report to be disseminated through local community-based and national networks on Los Angeles Native community views on family economic success. Collect data on select CBI-related indicators.

Responsive Institutions

- Engage institutional partners in conducting a community-wide assessment of the current state of Indian child welfare in Los Angeles County, and create an ensuing community action plan. Develop the Council data collection and evaluation infrastructure in alignment with the Children's Planning Council.
- Advocate for one of the local Native policy centers to develop a Los Angeles community Indian child welfare plan using an asset-based approach.

Bold Policies

Collaborate with the CPC Data Partnership Committee to revisit County department compliance with the Board of Supervisors motion as a first step in convening a group of American Indian County representatives to collaborate in specific work with the Council.

Data and Evaluation	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Indian Child Welfare Act	Administer brief survey of key stakeholders to establish the objectives, roles, and responsibilities of the collaborative.	Identify a partner to capture the story of the ICWA public-private collaborative.	Support partners in the process to capture the story.	Support partners in the process to capture the story.
Family Economic Success	Participate in family economic success survey development in collaboration with system of SPAs.	Administer 100 surveys to community members, including youth.	Invite all survey participants to participate in CPC FES policy body.	Distribute findings of survey to AIC Council, National Indian Tax Coalition, National Urban Indian Family Coalition, and other relevant networks.
Chief Administrative Office Service Integration Branch (CAO SIB)	Perform one-on-one with key CPC data partnership member. Identify a community champion to revisit Burke and related follow up.	Support data partnership and champion in their strategy to revisit County departments Burke compliance.		
Joint Learning Project	Coordinate surveys, focus groups, and interviews between Semics and AIC Council and community members.	Coordinate surveys, focus groups, and interviews between Semics and AIC Council and community members.		Share findings of project with AIC Council.