

# Yurok Child and Family Services Plan FY 2020- Title IV-B



Yurok Health and Human Services  
PO Box 1027  
Klamath, CA 95548

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Yurok Tribe Five-Year Child and Family Services Plan  
Federal Fiscal Years  
2020-2024  
Title IV-B Subpart I and II

Yurok Tribe  
190 Klamath Boulevard  
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Klamath, CA 95548

**Tribal agency administering the programs (45 CFR 1357.15(f)(1) and (2))**

The Yurok Tribe is a federally recognized Indian tribe that is located in Del Norte and Humboldt Counties in California. The Yurok Tribe is the largest Native American Tribe in California with 6,234 members. The federally recognized service area includes both Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. The Yurok Tribal Council has recently passed an ordinance to include Trinity County as a part of the service area. The Yurok Tribes serves all Tribal families involved with child welfare and at risk of involvement throughout regardless of location.

The Yurok Tribe is governed by a nine-member Tribal Council elected by the general membership. In addition to the Chair and Vice-Chair, there is a member from each of the seven districts located throughout Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. Tribal Council has delegated day-to-day tribal operations to Tribal Administration. Departments within the Tribal administration include Social Services, Fisheries, Self-Governance Enrollment/Election, Education, Forestry, Environmental, Economic Development, Planning, Culture, Finance, Human Resources, TERO, Office of Tribal Attorney, Public Safety, Tribal Court, Watershed, Maintenance, and Information Services. Please see Yurok Tribe Organization Chart attached in appendix for the internal structure of the Yurok Tribe.

Yurok Health and Human Services (YHHS) ICW program provides advocacy, prevention, and intervention supportive services for Yurok children and families at risk of child abuse and neglect. YHHS ICW formally intervenes in state court proceedings for Yurok Children that fall under ICWA. YHHS ICW partners and supports families early in the child welfare process in state public child welfare beginning at the child welfare hotline through permanency. Priority is given to serve any Yurok child that is enrolled or is eligible for enrollment that are at risk is eligible to receive advocacy and supportive services. Services include advocacy through court intervention, Child Welfare Services where the child is located, and advocacy with other community partners and tribal services. Supportive services include assisting with services to either prevent further involvement with CWS, mitigate safety and risk, support stabilize family, referrals, case management, hasten reunification support to reunification, assistance with permanency planning, or referral and follow up. YHHS also serves Yurok households with children that are involved in Tribal court jurisdiction.

The YHHS ICW Program serves :

- 1) Families that are at risk of involvement
- 2) Families that have been brought to the attention of state child welfare agencies
- 3) Families that are involved with state child welfare agencies
- 4) Children that are in permanent substitute care
- 5) ensure compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act by state agencies
- 6) Yurok Families involved in Tribal court family probate guardianships
- 7) Yurok TANF families

There are approximately 180 open cases of Yurok children involved in state/county public child welfare systems. These open cases are in various case component in non court and court such as VFM, court FM, FR, or permanency. The number of Yurok children in the California county systems is disproportionate and our children and families have poor outcomes in these systems. Often these families are not provided the prevention and intervention services that are needed both culturally and timely. Yurok social workers often have to provide the active efforts and reasonable efforts to prevent and reunify families. Many Yurok children are not in ICWA complainant placements. Children are often left in homes with high risk and safety situations cause more harm and trauma. Not enough preventative services and culturally appropriate services are accessible or provided to Yurok families. To many Yurok children are in on ICWA compliant homes and are not in Kinship care. YHHS, Yurok Chief Judge, are working with both Del Norte and Humboldt counties administrations to advocate and strengthen collaboration and service delivery to improve outcomes for Yurok families. Yurok Health and Human Services currently employs four Social Workers and is currently recruiting for 2-4 new positions as provided by Tribal Court Opioid Program Grants and OVC funded positions. The program also has hired one ICW manager that supervises the social workers, program development and implementation, and implements and monitors goals and practice of the program. The YHHS Director oversees the ICW Manager and is responsible for directing the overall department and the continuum of care for well being of all the Yurok community. The ICW Social Workers provide offer a variety of services for any Yurok Tribal member including those in State or Tribal dependency cases. Social workers provide

Yurok families and community have been impacted by the opioid epidemic.

YHHS ICWA Under this Children's Family Services Plan (CFSP) the child welfare team strives to offer the best family preservation and the timeliest support services possible that is based on Yurok values. The Yurok Tribal Council designated Yurok Health and Human Services is the department/agency responsible for the implementation and oversight of this plan. The Office of the Tribal Attorney and Tribal Court Wellness program will play a large part in implementing the goals set forth in this plan. See the attached Health and Human Services Organizational Chart in appendix for structure of the Department.

**Vision Statement** (45 CFR 1357.15(g)): The Yurok Tribe believes the safety and healthy development of all Yurok children is critical to the continuing strength of the Tribe and the preservation of the culture and life-ways of our ancestors. We believe that strong, stable Yurok families are the best role model for development of our children. The Yurok Tribe is committed to providing programs and services, based in traditional cultural family values, which fosters positive growth of our children and families.

**Goals** (45 CFR 1357.15(h)): The goals of this plan as follows:

**Goal 1:** Implement Tribe/ state Title IV-E Child Welfare agreement and program. The outcome of this goal is to exercise the Tribe's sovereignty through serving Tribal children and families under Tribal jurisdiction which will- increase safety, permanency, and well being of Yurok children. As a result more Tribal children and families will be connected to the Tribe and culture, in Tribal placements, and increased reunification and permanency.

The Tribe has identified and committed to implementation of the Tribe/State Title IV-E agreement. YHHS will build capacity and readiness by strengthening Tribal infrastructure to implement the Tribe state agreement. YHHS will collaboratively work with California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to strengthen the Yurok infrastructure and capacity to meet agreement requirements. The Yurok Health and Human Services Department, IT Department, Fiscal, Office of Tribal Attorney and Tribal Court are the lead departments that are working collaboratively to build the Tribe's readiness to implement. The Tribe and CDSS negotiated funding for start up/planning. CDSS committed three years

of start up of general funds to support Yurok in readiness/planning development. FY 2019-FY 2020 will be utilized for planning. The anticipated start date for implementing and bringing children under Tribal jurisdiction is July 1, 2020. Recruitment and Retention of qualified applicant for Title IV-E Manager is currently underway. A joint pre-implementation plan has been developed with Yurok and CDSS and the following objectives: .

Objective 1.1 -Improve and strengthen infrastructure

- A. Strengthen IT capacity
  - 1. Meet with CDSS IS & to outline operating requirements
  - 2. Purchase equipment
  - 3. purchase software
  - 4. identify staff and positions
- B. Increase Court readiness
  - 1. Review/Amend findings and orders
  - 2. supplies
  - 3. Court report templates
  - 4. court procedures
  - 5. plan for legal representation
  - 6. review staffing and training needs- minutes/reporter
  - 7. develop administrative hearing process
  - 8. review and revise Yurok Children's code
- C. Strengthen Fiscal capacity and process
  - 1. review and update fiscal claiming and budget
  - 2. review of processing and software
  - 3. hire/assign staff
  - 4. develop reports
- D. Strengthen and improve YHHS capacity and infrastructure
  - 1. review and revise policies and procedures
  - 2. develop and negotiate agreements with counties and community partners
  - 3. assess caseload
  - 4. eligibility criteria
  - 5. obtain CA DOJ access, CLETS, CACI, and finger print machine

Objective 1. 2: Develop and Implement Community Outreach plan- (outcome to increase community input and buy in)

- a. outreach to culture committee
- b. meet with SSAC and YJAB committees
- c. draft plan and review with key stakeholder
- d. community listening and outreach sessions
- e. key informant interviews
- f. media campaign
- g. education

Objective 1.3: Training and recruitment of Staff

- A. Identify staff needs and positions
- B. Work with HR to recruit
- C. Train staff
  - 1. Eligibility training
  - 2. Yurok P&P
  - 3. Social worker training (overall training plan)

**Goal 2: Increase foster care recruitment and retention . Outcome increased Kinship care.**

YHHS will actively and diligently seek to recruit new foster care homes and retain the homes already approved to provide the highest quality foster B to the Yurok children and families

Objective 2.1- Annually recruit and maintain 10 new county licensed, culturally appropriate and Tribally specified homes in the Tribe's service area.

Caregivers will be certified by the county RFA program and the Tribe will work to identify and refer appropriate caregivers. YHHS will work with county CWS to ensure that certified home participate in Yurok cultural caregiver training. Outcome- increased number of tribally specified and ICWA compliant homes that are culturally connected and appropriate substitute caregivers .

- A. Complete two collaborative outreach events a year with county partners
- B. Develop Tribal outreach/recruitment campaign
- C. Honor and recognize Tribal care providers
- D. Develop Tribal training component
- E. Provide caregiver support and assistance- staff case management and crisis/placement financial support
- F. Refer caregivers with complaints to CDSS ombuds

The success of this objective will be measured, in part, by the number of newly recruited, licensed, culturally appropriate, Tribally specified homes in the Tribe's service area. Success will also be measured by the number of caregivers that participate in Tribal cultural caregiving training as well as the number of caregivers that are retained. The Tribe maintains a database of Yurok foster homes which will be reviewed annually to measure the yearly increase in homes and the maintenance of the already licensed homes. Baseline data will be established at the start of fiscal year 2020 in collaboration with the Del Norte and Humboldt Counties Child Welfare Services.

Objective 2.2- Recruit and maintain 25 new tribally approved homes annually.

Tribal Approved Homes (TAH) are certified to the Tribal standards and must pass the stat/county background/criminal history. These tribally certified families will be tribal social and cultural standards and will be provided training. They are expect from the state/county RFA requirements and training.

The success of this objective will be measured by the number of newly recruited tribally approved homes and the number of homes that are maintained throughout the year. The Tribe maintains a database of Yurok foster homes which will be reviewed annually to measure the yearly increase in homes and continued maintenance of tribally approved homes. Baseline data will be established at the start of fiscal year 2020 in collaboration with the Del Norte and Humboldt Counties Child Welfare Services.

Tasks benchmarks for the objectives (2.1 & 2.2) listed above include:

1. Conduct annual Foster care recruitment luncheons at which prospective foster care families can meet YHHS and County staff, learn about becoming a foster/substitute care family, and receive information about and guidance in engaging the process. Success will be measured, in part, by the Tribe successfully conducting the recruitment luncheon

where attendance is recorded and these records will be compared annually to measure the increase in participation. At each luncheon, feedback will be sought in regards to barriers and needed areas of support through a facilitated focus group at the end of the event. The findings from these focus groups will be incorporated into the yearly revisions of the goals in this plan.

2. Create and maintain a foster parent support group in the service area that will meet at least quarterly. The Support Group will be a resource for foster parents to network with others doing the same work and to find support for the unique struggles faced by foster families. The success of this effort will be measured, in part, by successfully creating the foster parent support group, at the meetings attendance will be recorded and records compared annually to determine if an annual increase in participation is occurring. At one meeting per year, the Tribe will facilitate a focus group to identify barriers and needed areas of support. The findings from this group will be incorporated into the yearly revisions of the goals in this plan.

**Goal 3:** Provide support and assistance to 20 families (annually) who are at risk from having their children involuntarily removed. Outcome- decrease the number of children in out of home care and decrease the number of children that experience abuse and neglect. Families referred and served will be tracked in a database that receive preventive services. Assistance includes referral, case management, joint responses, development of family empowerment/wellness plans, financial support, and stabilization support. The success of these objectives will be measured and monitored bimonthly through review data collected and maintained in the Tribe's Database by YHHS staff to determine the number of families that have been assisted. The specific objectives contained in this goal are as follows:

Objective 3.1- Identify families

- A. work with county CWS to identify families in need- policy, procedure, or MOU
- B. self referral process
- C. Tribal court and other department referrals/identification of families
- D. Provide education at Tribal community events/activities educating on risk and child maltreatment

Objective 3.2- To implement intake

- A. Utilize intake and screening for all families referred and served
- B. Track # of intakes

Objective 3.3 -provide assistance to families

- A. Participate in Differential response
- B. Review county child welfare hotline reports
- C. Participate in county investigations
- D. Participate in child and family team meetings
- E. Provide cultural intervention wellness activities

Objective 3.4- Strengthen and increase community partnerships to serve Yurok families

**Goal 4:** To provide assistance and support to 40 Yurok families (170 cases) involved in child welfare. Outcomes- to increase reunification rates. Increase permanency including guardianship or Tribal Customary Adoption for Yurok children in foster care in state court jurisdiction in Humboldt and Del Norte counties. Measurement/ Data - The YHHS team, will utilize a data base. This system has been custom designed to track the information necessary for the team to monitor the individual outcomes, as

well as to aggregate data about overall performance of the program. The specific objectives contained in this goal are as follows:

Objective 4.1- Refer court involved families (Humboldt & DN) to joint jurisdictional courts

Objective 4.2- collaborate with county child welfare to case manage, develop case plans, and provide intervention and reunification services

Objective 4.3- participate in the state court process and make recommendations to the court in the Tribe's interest in the children.

Objective 4.4- Participate in county child welfare system wide reform and accountability.

- A. Develop government to government agreements with counties on collaboration of serving families, data sharing, and service array
- B. YHHS will Participate in Humboldt county CA Attorney General judgement feedback, policy implementation, and Tribal monitoring
- C. YHHS Director and manager will meet with county admin staff to build relationships and provide feedback regarding collaboration, services to Yurok families, and ICWA compliance
- D. Tribal Court and OTA will meet with county child welfare administration, courts, and county counsels to foster communication, relationships, and improved coordination and service delivery.

Objective 4.5- Strengthen Tribal customary adoption process and awareness.

GOAL 5- Strengthen Yurok service array. Outcomes- increase protective factors and wellness. Increase reunification. Increase children placed with Kin. Decrease the number of children involved with child welfare. Decrease the number of children experiencing abuse and neglect.

Objective 5.1- Amend Tribal TANF plan to serve at risk families

Objective 5.2- apply for funding to develop family resource centers

Objective 5.3- apply for funding to provide for mental health and substance use disorder treatment

Objective- increase youth prevention and intervention focused services

Objective 5.4- implement Suicide prevention and intervention plan

Objective 5.5- participate in Tribal opioid action plan

Objective 5.6-increase cultural engagement activities and opportunities.

Objective 5.7- develop agreements with community based organizations and county MH providers to provide services to Yurok families

. Measurement/data- The number of meetings, agreements, plans, and sign in sheet will be utilized to track achievement of objectives. Data will be reviewed quarterly by the YHHS Director and ICW Manager. Data and findings will be shared and discussed quarterly at the Yurok Health and Human Services Advisory Committee meetings and the Yurok Justice Advisory Board. YHHS Director will provide data and updates to the Tribal council leadership and Executive office monthly in monthly reports. YHHS will meet with Tribal council at least annually to review the data and findings for a planning session.

### **Consultation and Service Coordination** (45 CFR 1357.15(l) and (m)):

In order to implement the various goals and objectives of the Child and Family Services plan, the Yurok Tribe has engaged in constructive dialogue and interaction with the State at various levels. One of the primary areas of consultation/collaboration has been concerning the Indian Child Welfare Act.

YHHS is participating in regular (monthly) calls with CDSS to develop the Yurok child welfare program and implementation of the Title IV-E agreement. YHHS will check in quarterly with CDSS during these regular calls. Additionally, Yurok participates in the newly formed state Office of Tribal Affairs (OTA) quarterly meetings and meets with the OTA Director Heather Hostler. The OTA Director is a liaison and works collaboratively with Tribes to foster communication and consultation with California. Plan goals and objectives will be discussed with the OTA Director and various bureau's within CDSS.

The Tribe works directly with and meets regularly with, the Humboldt and Del Norte County Health and Human Services on issues related to the ICWA. In Humboldt County, the YHHS participates in the Humboldt County child welfare Task force that was sanctioned by the AG judgement. YHHS also meets as needed with Humboldt County DHHS Director and CWS Director to address system and case specific issues. Yurok has provided input into Humboldt policies and procedures. YHHS meets monthly with Humboldt CWS staff for monthly case staffings. YHHS also meets at least quarterly with the Humboldt DHHS contracted Tribal Consultant (Olin Jones) and the contracted monitor to give feedback regarding the AG judgement implementation, Tribal collaboration, and ICWA.

In Del Norte County the Tribe meets weekly as a part of a multi-disciplinary team to discuss specific cases as well as general overall policy and collaboration issues. The Tribe's success rate in preventing child removal, reunifying or finding a culturally appropriate permanent placement for children when removed is due in large part to collaborative efforts allowing for coinvestigation and case management of all Yurok children that have been reported to the County's child welfare services. This continued collaboration will be critical to the achievement of the goals as outlined in this plan. Further collaboration is occurring with the Joint Jurisdiction Family Wellness Courts as established for Yurok families navigating through state dependency proceedings. The Yurok Tribe Health and Human services is committed to ensuring that Yurok families are participating in this court and that the resources allocated for this project are directly correlating behavior changes through access to intense case management and Mental Health services.

Service Description (45 CFR 1357.15(n)) – complete for each program for which funding is being requested (title IV-B subpart 1 and/or subpart 2)

### **Child and Family Services Continuum**

The Yurok Tribe currently utilizes a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) approach to ensure the most comprehensive staffing and services for cases. This team approach allows for the Tribe to offer services and approaches available to address the various need(s) of the children and families served.

Services directed toward the accomplishment of the goals and objectives of this plan include the following:

- i. protecting and promoting the welfare of all children, including handicapped, homeless, dependent, or neglected children;
- ii. preventing, remedying, or assisting in the solution of problems which may result in the neglect, abuse, exploitation, or delinquency of children;
- iii. preventing the unnecessary separation of children from their families by identifying family problems, assisting families in resolving their problems, and preventing breakup of the family where possible;
- iv. restoring to their families, children who have been removed, by the provision of services to the child and the families;
- v. placing children in suitable homes, in cases where restoration to their family of origin is not possible or appropriate; and
- vi. ensuring adequate care of children away from their homes, in cases where the child cannot be returned home or cannot be placed for adoption.



In recent years, the need for additional social service staff . The Tribe has members involved in the Child Welfare system all throughout Humboldt and Del Norte Counties as well as in many California counties and other states. The Court system requires constant advocacy and there are many times where staff must choose among priorities because there are not enough staff to cover all the needs.

The Tribal Council is working with us to find permanent staffing solutions to adequately address the needs of our Social Services Program. We began using Title IV-B, Part II funding for a part-time Social Service worker in Humboldt County (Humboldt County has the largest caseload of the two counties) in 2013. This additional staff has proven both helpful and successful. YHHS will NOT continue to use Title IV-B part II funding to maintain this part time Social Worker/advocate position, assigned to ICWA cases in that County. YHHS is utilizing other obtained tribal funding. The IV-B funds will be utilized for direct services to families.

Foster home maintenance and recruitment is another large necessity for our Program. The additional funding that has been provided via our Promoting Safe and Stable Families grant helps by providing funding for a position within YSS to work directly on foster parent recruitment.

### **Service Programs**

Services currently offered through the Yurok Tribe include but are not limited to:

- Family Preservation Services including reunification, services to maintain the safety of children in their homes, follow-up care, respite care, and parenting skills instruction.
- Family Support Services which include transportation, parenting skills instruction, respite care, parent-child relationship building, and information and referral services to access other community services.
- Time-Limited Family Reunification Services which include transportation to and from the following services: counseling, substance abuse treatment, DV counseling, and respite child care.
- Pre-placement preventive services programs designed to help children at risk of placement to remain with their families.
- Foster care maintenance.
- Permanency Planning.
- In-home visits.
- Information and referral services.
- The Yurok Tribal Court's Wellness Court Program which provides AOD Treatment referrals and support services.
- Tribal Foster Parent Recruitment and home approval.
- Tribal Foster Parent Support.

The target population to be served includes all children and families of the Yurok Tribe focusing on families at risk or in crisis. Additional programs within the Yurok Tribe that provide services to members include General Assistance, Vocational Education, Higher Education, Head Start, Housing, Environmental Education, Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP), Johnson O'Malley (JOM), Tribal TANF, DV/SA Program and the Tribal Youth Prevention Program.

### **Program Support**

The Yurok Health and Human Services Advisory Committee (YHHAC) and the Justice Advisory Board contribute to the CFSP. This input is vital to the planning necessary to meet the needs of the community. The members of the Committee represent various Native American agencies and each member represents one of our seven districts. The purpose of the committee is to advise on the Health and Human Services programs and justice needs. This committee meets one time monthly and by special meeting when necessary. The committee members assimilate information discussed at these meetings and then distribute the information at their own monthly district meeting held with the Tribal members of that district. They

also bring to the monthly meetings with Yurok Social Services input from the Tribal membership. This is how we address many needs of our Tribal community.

The Yurok Justice Advisory Board (YJAB) membership includes Department Directors or their representative(s) from Planning, Education, Social Services, Office of Tribal Attorney, Public Safety, Court, Executive, Council, and Self Governance. The purpose of YJAB is to plan and collaborate on community social justice/program development.

Through district meetings and numerous other community events, Health and Human Services sought to determine the most prominent needs directly from the Tribal community. Those assessments included the need to building a sense of community through community events, lack of employment and job training for adults and youth, substance abuse treatment, housing, transportation, child care for the more remote areas of the reservation, and more cultural activities for youth were among the needs brought forth and discussed at these meetings and events.

Further information for completing the CFSP was also collected from management staff within the Health and Human Services Department.

The plan has been reviewed by the Yurok Health and Human Services Advisory Committee, YJAB, and Yurok Tribal Council and reflects the input of staff and community members.

#### **Consultation Between States and Tribes:**

The Tribe continually engages the State in discussions concerning the ICWA. As the largest tribe in California, Yurok has cases in several counties in the State. Some of those counties closer to home have worked closely with the Tribe to develop tribal specific protocol regarding these cases, there is ongoing dialogue concerning notice to the Tribe as well as issues of active efforts, placement and transfer of jurisdiction to the Tribal Court. The Tribe intervenes at the State Court level in all Tribal ICWA cases and proceeds with the transfer of those cases as appropriate under the ICWA and Yurok Tribal Law. One barrier blocking complete jurisdiction and transfer of cases is the implementation of State/Tribal Title IV-E agreement or Federal/Tribal Title IV-E agreement. With recent staff turnover the implementation of both of these projects has been delayed.

The issue of proper placement, in compliance with the ICWA, has led to ongoing negotiations with the State over the development of a Tribal/State Title IV-E Agreement. The reasoning for this was to enable the Tribe to transfer cases into the Tribal Court and be able to fund those placements. Through our consultations/negotiations with the State the Tribe has learned that the State is reluctant to fund placements ordered by the Tribal Court. Negotiations began in August of 2007. The Agreement was signed in 2009, but at this time the agreement although in effect has not been effectively implemented. Additionally, the Tribe continues to work on recruitment and organizational structure internally and with the federal government to maintain policies and procedures for a direct Title IV-E funding agreement. It is expected that tasks will result in the implementation of the approved Title IV-E plan by the end of July 2019. As mentioned above the delay in the completion of both of these agreements is largely due to continuous previous staff turnover.

In addition to the IV-E negotiations mentioned above, the Tribe has also entered into negotiations with Humboldt and Del Norte counties on the sharing of jurisdiction over child welfare cases, prevention, and diversified response. These agreements will enhance both the Tribe's and the State's ability to respond to Tribal Children in need of aid. The agreements clearly define jurisdiction and appropriate response by each entity as well as specified County/State and Tribal contact information. Additionally, the Tribe is working with the counties and appropriate agencies in finding placements for children in need of aid.

The Tribe has continued to work with both Humboldt and Del Norte Counties to develop concurrent jurisdiction in child welfare cases. Because these children are indeed citizens of two sovereigns it is in the

best interests of the children to benefit from both and to have true collaboration between the States and Tribe to ensure a better future.

The Tribe also participates in quarterly, and sometimes more often, conference calls coordinated by the State of California's Department of Health and Human Services to collaborate between the State and the tribes within California for the drafting and implementation of the State's and the tribes' Title IV-B plans.

## **Targeted Plans**

### **Foster and Adoptive Parent Diligent Recruitment Plan**

Additionally, specific to foster home recruitment and retention, the Tribe currently collaborates in both Counties with:

1. the identification of appropriate relative or other tribal placements when Yurok children are removed,
2. the home assessment process for home approval, and
3. foster/relative care provider orientation and preparation.

Recently, the Tribe and Humboldt County Child Welfare Services began holding meetings to discuss collaborative recruitment activities which include developing recruitment materials and events such as fliers, websites, tabling, and community engagement events. During the course of the past year, the Tribe held one collaborative community event in which a number of families were provided information on becoming foster parents. At least 10 of these families were referred to the Resource Family process. Additionally, a draft version of a collaborative flier has been created and is under review by the County legal department. It is the hope of the Tribe that Title IV-B funds will support the staff time to continue this joint planning endeavor as well as financial resources to support further recruitment materials and activities. Other collaboration for maintaining and increasing Yurok Foster Homes includes partnering with free legal advice clinics to provide access to simple and regular exemptions for Yurok foster parent recruits.

### **Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan**

Establish a continuum of care that provides healing opportunities for Yurok families through increased awareness of this public health concern, early identification of Yurok infants prenatally exposed to substances, early engagement of community services for the infants and families, and decreased exposure to trauma for the impacted family.

The Yurok Tribe works closely with United Indian Health Services and other native specific service providers for substance abuse, health or mental health services but these services are limited. Most of these services are provided by the state and/or county where the client family resides. The Social Workers are responsible for coordinating and interacting with these services including the agency responsible for child protection. The Yurok Tribe has a team of Social Workers located in both Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. They assist one another with cases when needed. YHHS Tribal Social Workers will require and uphold that all parents in reunification or Voluntary Family Maintenance (VFM) share in the responsibility of keeping the children's immunizations up to date and provide regular health and dental check-ups and follow all medical treatment recommendations as part of their case plan. The staff will participate in interagency Case Management Team Meetings made up of social workers, health care providers, mental health counselors, juvenile probation, etc. to monitor and make collaborative decisions

in regards to client health care services plans in addition, any start up or modifications of regular medications must be court ordered and approved.

Health care oversight and coordination for youth in foster care is covered under the State of California's plan as the Yurok Tribe does not yet operate a foster care program.

The Tribe will be working diligently over the term of this plan to develop and execute updated and formalized agreements with the above agencies to effectively implement the Tribe's Title IV-E agreements with the State of California and the Federal Government.

Current development of Yurok Tribal Safe Care protocol to be administrated with multiple county, state, and tribal partners is focusing on the coordination of care for perinatal substance use and abuse. Through the onset of early detection through assessments such as the TANF family empowerment plan as well as a region wide awareness campaign the coordination for safe care will impact numerous Yurok families in the home of providing early treatment.

### **Disaster Plan**

The Tribe has a reservation that extends 44 miles from the mouth of the Klamath River at the Pacific Ocean to Weitchpec located at the confluence of the Klamath and Trinity Rivers. Some parts of the Reservation can only be accessed by boat. The reservation topography includes ocean shoreline to picturesque steep sided canyons. Disasters that have occurred are flooding, tsunamis and forest fires. The Tribe also has a tri-county service area that includes large towns such as Eureka, McKinleyville, Trinidad, Crescent City, Smith River and Arcata. The Tribes enrollment surpasses 6,000 members. The reservation and service area are too large and the tribal population too dispersed to develop an effective door to door Emergency Action Plan.

In the event of a disaster the Social Services Department staff will follow the Tribes' FEMA Emergency Management Protocols. Social Services staff will be deployed as directed in the plan. The Klamath office will coordinate efforts with the Del Norte Red Cross to establish a 24/7 Shelter Care facility for individuals and families. Humboldt County will do the same.

90% of the current Social Services staff have received training from the Red Cross in the operation of a facility and have had actual experience.

Social Services will coordinate efforts in the Klamath Area to deploy buses to transport clients to the local Red Cross Emergency 24/7 facility.

Specific:

1. Tribal Social workers will regularly distribute to each of their clients households a fact sheet that identifies local emergency phone numbers, contact persons, specific action plan for their area and shelter and other resources.
2. The Social workers will also regularly provide tribal members with the telephone numbers of their Tribal Designated Information Officer who will maintain an updated Tribal Specific Web Site and current information about resources.
3. Social Workers and Advocates will maintain lists of addresses and phone numbers of their clients so they can be contacted during an emergency as a means of conducting welfare checks on clients.
4. Social Services will work with Tribal Transportation, Yurok Tribal and County Law Enforcement and the Hoopa Tribal Police Department, in the event of forest fires or other disasters, in the eastern section of the reservation (coastal area is generally too wet for forest fires) short term (a few days) evacuation for those elders and person without transportation. Social Services will work with Tribal Transportation, Yurok Tribal and County Law Enforcement and the Hoopa Tribal Police Department.

5. The Tribe has purchased HEPA Filters for the elderly, families with small children, and TANF Clients. Yurok Social workers will coordinate with UIHS and county agencies to assist members in disaster zones.

We have credit cards and emergency cards as well as an emergency checkbook on hand to buy necessities for children under our care or who may come under our care during an emergency situation. Communication will be conducted mainly through cell phones already in our possession.

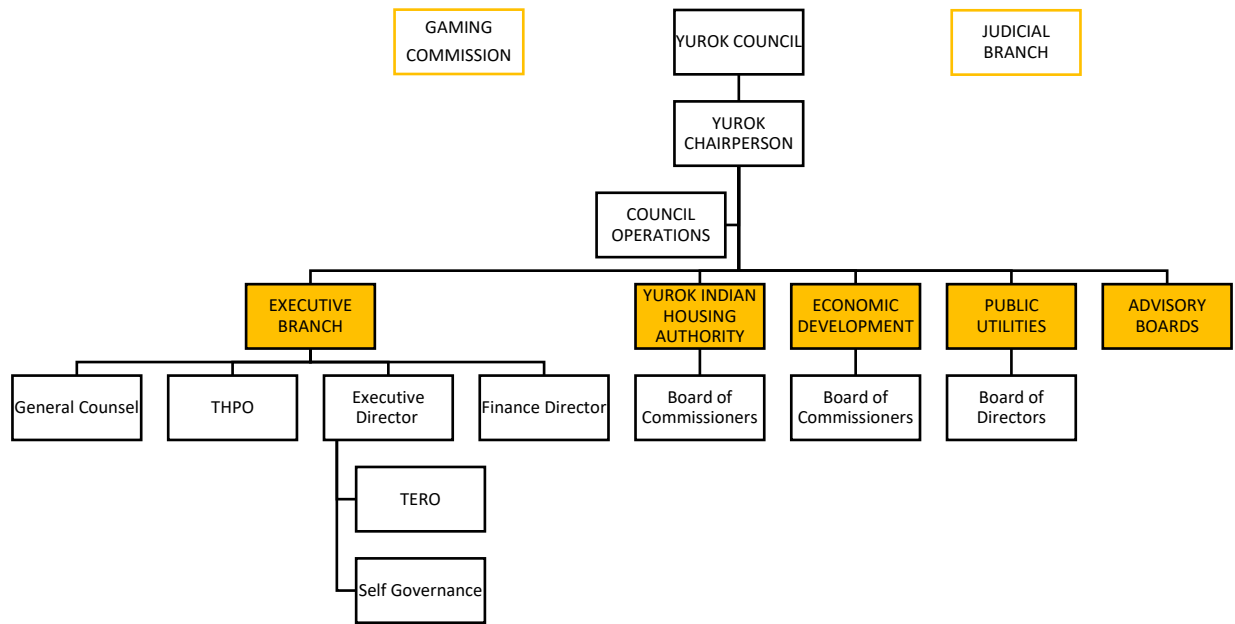
**Plan Availability:**

The CFSP will be made available to all interested parties via our Tribal Website for the Yurok Tribe's Health and Human Services Department. The CFSP will also be shared directly with the State of California's Department of Health and Human Services by email of the above mentioned link.

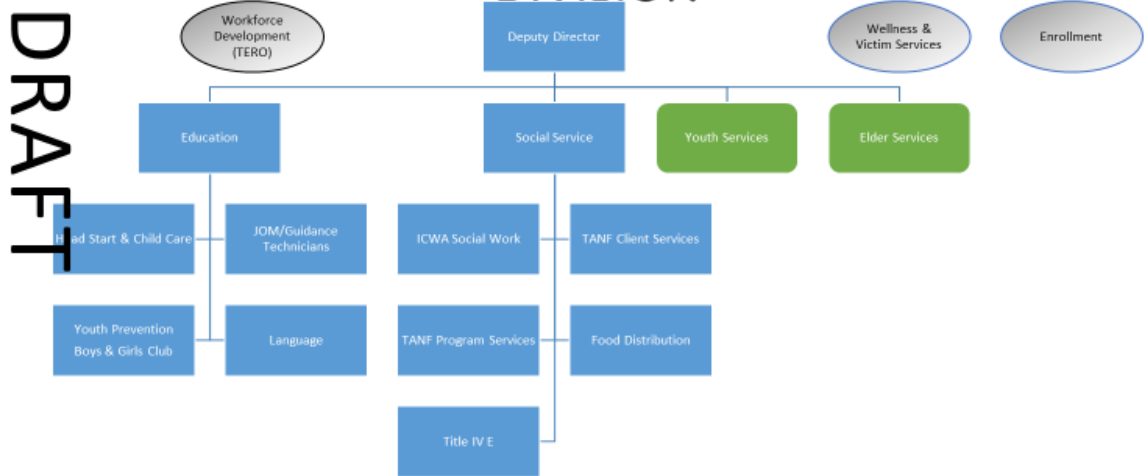
**Conclusion**

Yurok Health and Human Services child welfare funds provide the means to meet the needs of children and families that are not available to the Tribe from other sources. These funds complement funding from the BIA which provides Advocates and Social Workers. The Yurok Health and Human Services Title IV-B funding is an integral part of the Yurok Tribe's Social Service delivery system.

Appendix  
Organizational Chart



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION



## Yurok Health and Human Services Department

