

# THE ALASKA TRIBAL CHILD WELFARE COMPACT

**Alaska House of Representatives  
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## WHY DID THE WORK BEGIN?

- **Significant *General* Disparities by Race**
  - 3,000 children are in State custody
  - 1,900 of the children in State custody are Alaska Native/American Indian
  - Disproportionality rate of 64%
- **Significant *Specific* Disparity by Race (Repeat Maltreatment)**
  - 17% of Alaska Native/American Indian children experienced repeated maltreatment in 2018
  - 9% for non-Native children.

## HOW DID THE WORK BEGIN?

- **Tribal State Collaboration Group** (Almost 25-Year Partnership)
  - Composed of state and tribal representatives, as well as invited private stakeholders.
  - Goals are to: (1) strengthen Indian Child Welfare Act compliance; (2) reduce Alaska Native/American Indian disproportionality; and (3) build and strengthen working relationships.
  
- **Tribal Title IV-E Agreements**
  - Provides federal funds for states and tribes to provide foster care, transitional independent living programs, guardianship assistance, and adoption assistance.
  - Tribes can access the funds through (1) state-tribal 'pass through' agreements or (2) direct federal agreements.
    - 11 Tribes/Tribal Organizations currently have Administrative and Short-Term Training Agreements with the State.
    - Two of the 11 also have Maintenance Agreements with the State.
  - Tribes receive a *higher* reimbursement rate than the State for covered services, resulting in General Fund savings.

# ALASKA TRIBAL CHILD WELFARE COMPACT

- **What is the Compact?**

- A intergovernmental agreement between the State of Alaska and certain Alaska tribes and tribal organizations to improve the well-being of Alaskan children and families.
  - Recognizes the inherent authority of Alaska tribes to serve their members and/or individuals eligible for membership.

- **How does the Compact Accomplish its Purpose?**

- ‘... by encouraging and providing for collaboration and cooperation in the administration of child welfare and the protection of Alaska’s children.’
  - Specifically, by defining the services and supports to be carried out by the tribal cosigners in their respective service delivery areas for their respective populations through ‘Scopes of Work.’

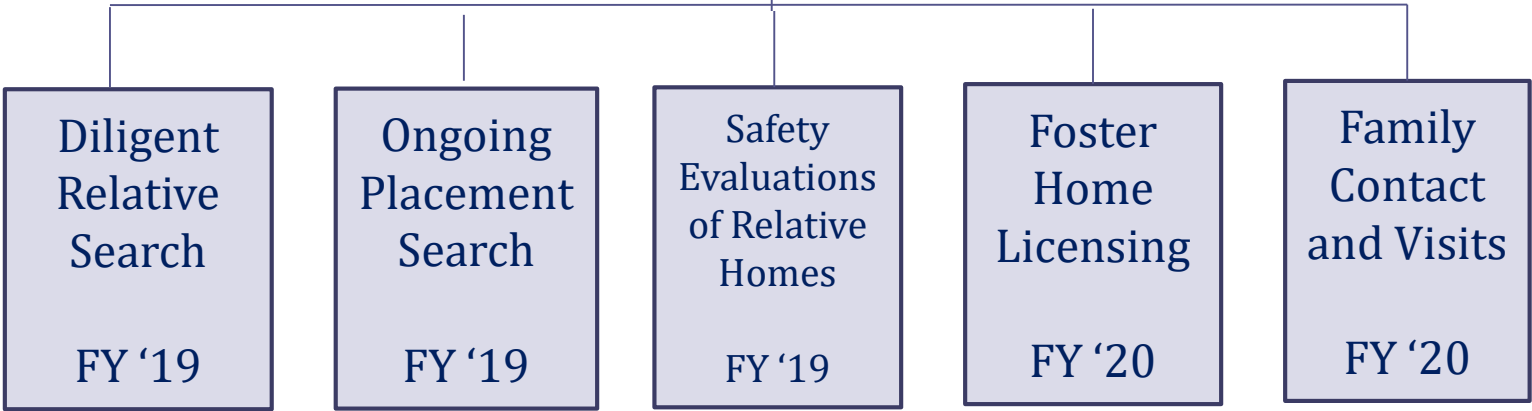
## 18 TRIBAL COSIGNERS, REPRESENTING 161 INDIVIDUAL TRIBES

- Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association
- Arctic Slope Native Association\*
- Association of Village Council Presidents
- Bristol Bay Native Association
- Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Cheesh'na Tribal Council\*
- Chugachmiut
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- Copper River Native Association
- Native Village of Eyak
- Kawerak, Inc.
- Kenaitze Indian Tribe
- Maniilaq Association
- Mentasta Traditional Council\*
- Nome Eskimo Community
- Aleut Community of St. Paul Island
- Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
- Tanana Chiefs Conference

## TIMELINE OF IMPLEMENTATION

- Fiscal Year (FY) 2018
  - Program development or restructuring; capacity and infrastructure building; training and technical support.
  
- FY 2019
  - Sharing Protective Services Reports (screen in/screen out); performing Initial Diligent Relative Searches Scope of Work; and negotiating new scopes of work.
  
- FY 2020
  - Implement new scopes of work for: (1) initial diligent relatives searches; (2) ongoing relatives searches; (3) family contact; (4) licensing assist; and (5) safety evaluations; and performing those scopes, as well as preventatives services.

**ALASKA TRIBAL CHILD  
WELFARE COMPACT**  
(Effective Date December 15, 2017)



# PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

- **Casey Family Programs**
  - National organization focused on child welfare and foster care.
  - Provide financial and technical assistance to state and tribal child welfare programs to incorporate national best practices related to addressing: (1) disparate outcomes; (2) well-being of children in foster care; (3) decreasing length of time for children in foster care; and (4) Assisting older youth transition from foster care.
  - Consistent state presence since 2000.



# LONG TERM VISION

- Alaska children and families will be served locally, as close to 'home' as possible.
- Services provided will be more cost effective and efficient.
- Children and families will be more receptive to changing abusive or neglectful behavior(s), which will mean the number of children in state custody will decrease—as will the rate of maltreatment.
- Outcomes for Alaska children and families will be improved, particularly Alaska Native children and families.

**QUYANA**  
**(THANK YOU)**