



Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, MI 49740

TRIBAL COUNCIL TRAVEL NARRATIVE  
Submitted by: Julie Shananaquet, Tribal Council Member

Training/Event: 2016 Great Lakes Native American Conference  
Location: Mt. Pleasant, MI  
Date of Event: August 10 – 12, 2016

I respectfully submit this travel narrative to my fellow Council members and the Citizens of LTBB and extend my gratitude for allowing me to represent our Tribe at the 2016 Great Lakes Native American Conference "*Circle of Hope, Circle of Healing*".

Tuesday– August 9, 2016

Travel commenced after the AFC meeting concluded. In keeping with cost saving measures, Treasurer Reyes, Councilor Naganashe and I carpoled.

This report is a summary of the sessions I attended:

Wednesday – August 10, 2016

Conference began with a very early Registration and opening ceremony. Welcome remarks made by Frank Cloutier, SCIT Tribal Chief and Barbara McQuade, US Attorney/Eastern District of Michigan

Morning session:

**Tribal Language, Justice and Healing: Finding our Voice** presented by Prof. Sarah Deer  
Prof. Deer began her presentation speaking of her accreditations in the field of tribal law and victim's rights and her work as a rape crisis advocate and author, "The Beginning and End of rape". It was not until later in her presentation that she disclosed that she herself had been a victim of sexual abuse. This presentation was done in a manner to show that you can heal if you reach out and don't hold this trauma within. She stated how difficult it is to work in the field of rape crisis yet continues her work in teaching and written articles addressing issues pertaining to violence against women.

**SCIT Sexual Assault Response Team Panel** – Mandy Wigren, Victim/Witness Coordinator, Brook Huber, Sexual assault Response Team Lead, Shelby McCliggott, Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Therapist and Jason VanConant, Criminal Investigator

Ms Wigren addressed the need for any sexual assault to utilize a multi-agency approach in order to provide justice for victims. She introduced the establishment of the tribal Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) who's purpose is to reduce trauma and the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) improved processess for victims

Ms. Huber gave generalizations on building a sexual assault reponse team (SART) and projects that team has implemented to assist victims of sexual assault (Bags). The Team's protocol can be found on the blue flash drive submitted with this report.

Ms. McCliggott described how SART's will aid in prosecution by being evidence based and victim centered. Prior to 2013 only two categories of crime, Rape and Indecent Liberties with Children. The list has now expanded to 8 crimes addressing sexual assault. Discussed need to extend Statute of Limitations.

A current case was presented involving sexual assault of child.

Afternoon sessions:

**The Roots of the Cycle of Victimization** – Jacob Flores

Mr. Flores began his session with stories of early colonial observation that described that native men did not beat their wives and the overall general respectful behavior within the tribal communities. He gave a brief history of slavery, rapes and death. It wasn't until it was determined that it cost the U.S. too much to kill an Indian, that the process of removal of native children began along with the practice

to "pit them one against the other...our deed is done". After centuries of unlimited abuse, Natives developed unhealthy behaviors: 1. escape vs freedom, 2. relief vs answers, 3. becoming invisible again, 4. Are you my Daddy (gangs). Without safety and trust new generations feel autonomous--- need to explore---and create identity. The encapsulated Pain causes us to look for a safe place. In order for nations to recover, we need to return to old ways and that begins with dissolving the line of judgemental/suspicious behavior and helping our citizen by listening, understanding and caring.

**Safe Trails Task Forces and Their Role in Helping Victims of Violent Crime by Reducing Drug Trafficking and the Resulting Violence in Indian Country** – FBI Special Agent Jay Johnston, and BIA Special Agent Sara Hill

Special Agent Johnston investigates violent crimes and drug investigations in Hannahville, Keweenaw Bay and Lac Vieux Desert, upper peninsula Safe Trails Task Force (UPSTTF) and the Straits Area Safe Trails Task Force (SASTTF) which covers Sault Ste. Marie and Bay Mills Tribes. Reservations were initially used as "safe havens", but federal laws trump Sovereignty and jurisdictional laws when investigating violent crimes. Tribes are contacted and given a heads up when FBI is entering tribal laws, they usually request assistance of tribal law enforcement. Typically investigations are time consuming to research the scope of criminal activity and organization and try to handle arrests as a "mass take down". US Attorney Jeff Davis questioned SA Johnston extensively to get clarity of jurisdiction on Indian land.

BIA Special Agent Hill – Drug Enforcement Division works with UPSTTF with focus on illegal drug activity and gang activity. (Title 21) SA Hill assists in controlled drug purchases on Indian land. Number 1 drug problem still remains to be Meth. Although Meth labs are not as extravagant as in the past, they are still as dangerous utilizing the new shake and bake production. Heroin and Heroin mixed with Fentanyl is second and third and prescription drugs in fourth. Synthetic drugs is on the rise, but more states are cracking down on the internet prescription scams. SA Hill referenced the Lansing State Journal of 3/7/15 for drug statistics, but reminded session attendees that this changes constantly.

\*Jeff Davis recommended that Tribes have a clear, concise plan of action for housing used as Meth labs. Contamination of a housing unit typically cannot be cleaned and repainted, but in most cases require dismantling and necessary disposal requirements met when toxic materials are present.

Thursday – August 11, 2016

Morning Session:

**When The Unthinkable Happens In Your Community: Crisis Response** – Gayle Thom

Ms. Thom presented several types of crisis that she was involved in: New Orleans Flooding, Twin Towers, Minnesota Tribal High School Shooting. Her goal was to note how important it is to have emergency plans in place. This includes total community assists, trauma units, housing placements, including tracking and placement of CSC offenders. Be prepared to deal with mass media and unethical things they will do to get an inside scoop. She provided an address that will provide types of major crisis and a tool kit to assist in developing a thorough response plan.

<http://training.fema.gov/is/nims.asp> and <http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/mvt-toolkit/> Ms. Thom strongly advised tribes to make contact with the state to access funds designated for use during crisis and suggested tribes present cultural activities that will require funding assistance.

**Our Journey To This place** – Jacob Flores

Mr. Flores began his presentation by acknowledging and thanking all the attendees for their "unrecognized" work. He stressed that PTSD is not just applicable to veterans but to all victims of trauma, and wants people to question, is it a disorder or a means of survival, because it is an overlay of all Indian communities. If we do not give our citizen/victims a feeling of safety and trust, our numbers of incarcerations and suicides will only increase. "Footprints from our past to the present...is a victim's vision to their future". PTSD Law of Scarcity – My eyes see it, my ears hear it, my mind has no place to put it.

Mr. Flores work with youth and gangs is marvelous!

Afternoon Sessions:

**Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse** – Leslie Hagen, National Indian Country Training Coordinator  
References used Title 25 PL 101-630, Title 18 - 1169 , Title 25 – 3206

Mandatory reporters include: Medical professionals, School personnel, other school officials, Daycare, Mental Health profession, Marriage Counselors, Law Enforcement. Question was raised Courts and Probationary facilities are not listed or are they inclusive in LE.

Scenerio's presented to Ms Hagen included:

- reservation boundry vs. territorial jurisdiction.
- The term abuse – federal describes physical abuse and refers to imminent harm
- I raised questions regarding child abuse and neglect – Ms. Hagen stated there is no clear definition of the differences.
- Representative from a utilities corp was questioned utility shut off during winter month's when children are present in home, especially when exceptions are made for elderly household. Good point.
- Liability of tribe if a child is placed back into home with documented history of DV and whether or not this is placing child in an abusive situation.

A lengthy discussion occurred regarding importance of defining establishing clear policies and procedures regarding confidentiality. Suits have been filed when procedure is unclear when a chain of command is involved. Human Resources needs to insure that all direct services have regular training sessions and review of current policies and possible need for simultaneous reporting.

**Responding to Victims of Active Shooter Incidents** – Detroit Sgt Richard McLatcher

Contact information for presenter: [Mcclatcherr041@detroitmi.gov](mailto:Mcclatcherr041@detroitmi.gov)

The basic essentials necessary in shooting incidents:

- Reporting suspicious behavior immediately
- Law Enforcement needs to neutralize shooter(s)
- Assisting victims
- Media Center for families of victims
- Follow-up assistance for victims and families of victims

Sgt. McLatcher stressed the importance having a plan if this traumatic event should occur. If caught at scene, assessing situation, determine what needs to be done/or how to react. He also gave simple fixes for door locking systems and window escapes. Standard reaction to incidents which lead to undesirable results: Denial, Deliberation, Decisive Moment. With training – Avoid negative impact by being smart, quick and quiet, Know your surroundings for escape or barricade and lastly DEFEND – Do or die. Example: if jumping from a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window means breaking a bone vs. losing life. Example is tape of Columbine Shooting. Also recommended watching 2010 Panama City, FL School Board Meeting.

Friday – August 12, 2016

Morning session:

**Returning To The Heartbeat That Heals** – Tony Redhouse, Dine' Sound Healer and Spiritual Teacher

Mr. Redhouse is a talented musician, who gave a different performance and did a lot of name dropping. I didn't hear it, but he referred to an audience participation dance as a "squaw" dance. Interesting but a performer non-the-less who happened to be native who used his culture as a profession. Just my own opinion. Maybe it was a good thing I missed him using the term "squaw"!

**Healing With The Help Of Gathering of Native Americans (GONA)** – Don Lyons, Betty Davis, Hunter Genia

This was a condensed version of what is typically a 2 - 4 day work session done with various tribes. In all fairness to the intent of GONA, I am unable to support or recommend that Tribal Council or Executive pursue this concept. I am not a fan of game playing so I was not entirely impressed with this session. Many appeared to be having fun. Thank you Counselor Naganashe for excellent song.

Closing

US Attorney thanked me for attending and stressed the importance of TC attending sessions and developing recommended Policies

**Remark/Recommendation:**

- Revisit Emergency Plan including networking procedures with other agencies, website and 800 number for information. Tribe utilization of State Emergency Funds?
- Meth house clean up and/or destruction.
- Follow up on all victims including emergency disasters, see (CSC).
- Training on procedures for shooting incidences
- Training and review of all Mandatory Reporting requirements.

**Attachments:**

The following attachments are available with hard copy report and are of various work sessions that were running concurrent with my sessions:

- Sexual Assault in Indian Country – Confronting Sexual Violence
- Investigations and Report Writing
- Investigating and Prosecuting the Non-Fatal Strangulation Case
- Common Signs and Signals of a Stress Reaction
- How Crime Victims React to Trauma
- Suggestions for Completing Your Victim Impact Statement
- Tribal Access to Justice Innovation
- Sexual Assault Across the Lifespan
- Office for Victims of Crime
- Local Resources/OVW/Department of Justice
- Federal Criminal Justice Process
- CD - Faces of Human Trafficking
- sexual Assault Response Team

Julie Shanahan