

Summer 2002

From the Executive Director's Desk...

Commission Feels Pinch in Budget Crisis

The state budget crisis has presented numerous difficulties for all state agencies, and the commission has not been immune. The commission had to forego its June meeting, restrict travel and the purchase of office supplies, and, in general, cut overall expenses. Additionally, the commission is slated to lose one full-time position. Nevertheless, the commission continues its work to provide services.

The next meeting of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs is scheduled for Sept. 6, 2002. This is the annual meeting of the commission, and the agenda will include the appointment of individuals to the N.C. Indian Cultural Center, Advisory Council on Indian Education, and the commission will make recommendations to fill vacancies on the N.C. Indian Housing Authority. In addition, action will be taken to swear in several new members of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, who are elected or appointed to the commission through tribal or community consent.

The N.C. General Assembly is in session and must adopt a budget for state fiscal year 2002-2003. The General Assembly is expected to take action to expand the commission by one. This is the result of the court-ordered state recognition of the Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation.

Due to budget constraints, the commission is not able to print the Indian Time newsletter each quarter. An electronic version of the newsletter is posted on the Web at: <http://www.doa.state.nc.us/doa/cia/indian.htm>

November 2002 Indian Heritage Month

For information about the activities planned across the state, check out the Web site at www.doa.state.nc.us/doa/cia/handout2.htm or call the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs at (919) 733-5998.

Highlights & Announcements

N.C. American Indian Foundation Initiative

The commission employed Ms. Donna Chavis, consultant and executive director of Native Americans in Philanthropy, to facilitate the development of the American Indian Foundation. This project is an outgrowth of the commission's strategic planning process and was funded by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation. The purpose of this initiative is to establish a statewide philanthropic organization through which to solicit donations for projects such as, but not limited to, American Indian scholarships and other educational opportunities for Indian students in North Carolina.

The foundation is being established as a donor-advised fund under the Triangle Community Foundation. This allows the group to move forward with educational and promotional materials used in fund-raising campaigns. In addition, Triangle Community Foundation will supply all administrative oversight for the fund, including staffing. Donations are being made, and the commission will receive a report at its September meeting.

American Indian Leadership Initiative

A statewide Indian Leadership Institute is being created to serve North Carolina's American Indian population and increase the internal effectiveness and external presence through leadership development. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill worked with the commission to develop this project, an outgrowth of the commission's strategic planning. A \$10,000 grant from Progress Energy Inc. will be used to fund the initial work.

New Public Awareness Health Committee Formed

The American Indian Public Awareness Health Committee, representing Indian tribes and tribal organizations, is an outgrowth of the N.C. HealthChoice Initiative. The focus of the committee is to develop American Indian public relations materials relating to infant mortality and other health issues. Critical to spearheading and partnering with the commission are the N.C. Healthy Start Foundation, the N.C. Infant Mortality Reduction Program, and the Office of Minority Health. The committee has developed a brochure on infant mortality that targets Indian families in North Carolina.

--- Commission Program News ---

Community Services

Committed Staff Recognized

The Community Services Program provides one or more of the following services in Cumberland, Halifax, Warren, Sampson, Columbus and Bladen counties:

- Volunteer transportation
- Preparation and delivery of meals
- In-home aide services for eligible disabled, handicapped and elderly clients

To accomplish our goals and objectives, we must have a committed, hard-working and dedication staff, and we wish to recognize them at this time. They are: Denise M. Cox (Cumberland County), Daris Hunt (Sampson County), Ruth Lynch (Halifax County), Willie Mae Maynor (Harnett County), Pandora Silver (Warren County), and Barbara Young (Columbus County). Carol Brewington and Brenda Moore serve as community developers for the program.

Economic Development

NCIEDI Progress Continues

The N.C. Indian Economic Development Initiative (NCIEDI) is fully up and running. The board of directors has been elected, and the board member orientation and training are complete.

NCIEDI was incorporated in 2001 as a statewide non-profit organization whose mission is to promote economic development for North Carolina's Indians. NCIEDI was formed as a result of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs' Year 2000 Strategic Planning Process. The planning process was funded through a grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.

The purpose of the NCIEDI is to support, partner with, and build economic capacity in the 11 tribes and organizations recognized by the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs. NCIEDI represents a new approach to economic development for Indian communities in North Carolina. The NCIEDI will seek to tap both private and public funding to create new business opportunities in Indian communities and create "Indian Communities of Wealth" by providing services not currently available.



The governing board includes members from each of the six state-recognized Indian tribes currently seated on the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs — Coharie, Haliwa-Saponi, Indians of Person County, Lumbee, Meherrin and Waccamaw-Siouan — and four urban organizations — Cumberland County Association for Indian People, Guilford Native American Association, Metrolina Native American Association and Triangle Native American Society. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Metrolina Native American Association did not send representatives.

Also on NCIEDI are 11 representatives of organizations that are experts in economic development. They include the N.C. Rural Center, the Self-Help Credit Union and the N.C. Community Development Initiative. Additional representatives include members of the banking community (Lumbee Bank and BB&T). The chairperson of the Commission of Indian Affairs' Economic Development and Employment Committee will be the chairman of the board of NCIEDI.

The expected benefits from NCIEDI include the following:

Indians will be better able to access economic development grant and loan funds available from government, foundation and private sector sources.

Indians will be better able to access technical assistance and education resources for programs that can benefit Indian tribes and organizations.

Indian communities will develop increased entrepreneurial expertise and capabilities.

Local Indian economic development projects will be stimulated, and more jobs and investment will be created in Indian country.

NCIEDI is unique as a statewide economic development intermediary for Indians. Its creation allows the Indian community access to and leverage with the growing network for economic development organizations in North Carolina and in the United States that are focused on minority economic development, rural development, and low- and moderate-income development.

HUB Resource Center Opens

The Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Resource Center is located at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to attract and assist small businesses owned by minorities and women. Potential contractors can search for jobs and review bidding guidelines.

Legislation requires state universities and community colleges to make a good faith effort to involve underutilized businesses in their efforts. Universities are to channel at least 10 percent of the money to firms owned by minorities and women. More than \$1 billion in new construction opportunities await on campus. We are hopeful that these efforts will translate into HUB vendors benefiting through the award of contracts.

--- Commission Program News ---

Educational Talent Search

ETS Seniors Participate in Workshop

ETS hosted 40 high school seniors on a five-day trip to Cherokee, N.C., and Gatlinburg, Tenn. While in Cherokee, the students were guests of the Cherokee tribe at the outdoor drama "Unto These Hill" and toured the Oconoluftee Indian Village and the Museum of the Cherokee Indian. Several Cherokee students joined the group for dinner. While in Gatlinburg, the students toured the town and spent two days at Dollywood Amusement Park. During the trip, the students attended a college survival skills workshop. The workshop focused on providing information to ensure a successful transition from high school into college life, a round table discussion of expectations and fears about college life, and a discussion of the first year by three Indian students who had just completed their freshman year of college.

ETS Program Funded for an Additional Four Years

The Educational Talent Search Program received notice from the U.S. Department of Education that its program proposal has been recommended for funding for four years. Mickey M. Locklear, director of Educational Talent Search, said, "The announcement comes after an intense nationwide competition of over 800 Educational Talent Search national TRIO program candidates. Four hundred programs were recommended for funding. Three hundred and sixty programs existed before the competition. Funding amounts will be determined by the U.S. Department of Education this summer."



Workforce Development

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Section 166 Program

In carrying out its mandate and objectives, the Commission of Indian Affairs operates a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Section 166 workforce development program that targets the needs of unemployed, underemployed and low-income American Indians in North Carolina. In its provision of Section 166 WIA services, and consistent with WIA law and regulations at 20 CFR §668.300, program applicants who are enrolled members of state or federally recognized tribes, Alaska natives, and native Hawaiians may be availed services through the workforce development program of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs.

Under WIA, the commission's geographic service delivery area spans 59 of the state's 100 counties. The remaining 41 counties are designated among six other Indian grantees in the state: Cumberland County Association for Indian People, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Guilford Native American Association, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe, Lumbee Regional Development Association and Metrolina Native American Association. Commission of Indian Affairs WIA assistance is provided via field offices and staff located within the Indian communities.

The commission's workforce development staff in the Sampson County field office is Joanna Chance, (910) 564-6726. Our Columbus County WIA field office is staffed by Sue Jacobs (nccia@bellsouth.net), (910) 655-8708. Individuals seeking workforce development services can contact one of our offices or an office of one of the above service providers closest to them, or contact the nearest N.C. Job Link Career Center office. Elk Richardson, program director, can be reached via e-mail at elk.richardson@ncmail.net.

Commission WIA Services

In the commission's Comprehensive Services Plan (CSP), the program is designed to provide Classroom Training, Work Experience, and Job Search and Placement Assistance services to eligible clients. In addition to these services, the commission's WIA program may provide employment-related services, transportation assistance and temporary housing assistance for trainees. These services may be provided to overcome barriers to employment or training that have been identified in a client's individual training and development plan, or through an appropriate contract, referral or follow-up service.

The goal of our services is to: (1) increase academic, occupational and literacy skills among the American Indian population; (2) increase American Indian workers' abilities to be competitive in the workforce, thus helping them to achieve personal and economic self-sufficiency; and (3) to promote social and economic development in North Carolina Indian communities.

Section 8 Housing Assistance

918 Tenants Under Contract

During the week of June 24, 2002, the Section 8 Housing Program went through a HUD monitoring review with HUD staff from the Greensboro, N.C., field office. No major findings were noted.

We had 918 tenants under contract at the end of our fiscal year, June 30, 2002. During this past quarter, we were over 95 percent leased up. We currently have 427 families on our waiting list and have suspended taking applications except for emergencies. Emergencies are defined as "homeless and burned out families."

We do not anticipate taking new applications until after Jan. 1, 2003. If anyone has questions concerning the Section 8 Housing Program, please contact our agency at (919) 733-5998.

Reauthorization of Indian WIA Programs

The federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) (Public Law 105-220), the law that funds our Indian WIA programs, expires on Sept. 30, 2003. Congress must act next year to extend that law and its Indian provisions in order for our programs to continue receiving funding.

In May at the 23rd National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference held in Rapid City, S.D. WIA Section 166 grantees expressed great interest in joining the dialogue on WIA reauthorization. A very important part of that dialogue is being able to show the many excellent things that Indian WIA grantees have accomplished. In doing this, it is vital that every grantee become actively involved in the Native American Employment and Training Council's joint efforts to make sure that the federal government continues its financial support for Indian workforce programs. The best advocates for Native people and Native programs are American Indian tribes and organizations. This advocacy is not a job we can or should leave to others outside the Indian community. To aid the effort in support of the reauthorization of Indian workforce development programs, grantee leaders at the state, regional and advisory council levels are working to gather, compile and disseminate some "best practices" and client "success stories" throughout Indian country. Please participate in this effort to support the continuation of Indian workforce development programs.

For more information regarding the national conference, the U.S. Department of Labor's Native American Employment and Training Advisory Council, or WIA reauthorization issues, call Lorenda Sanchez, chairman of the Native American Employment and Training Council, (916) 920-0285, or Norm DeWeaver of the Indian and Native American Employment and Training Coalition, (202) 342-0594. You may also contact Elk Richardson (elk.richardson@ncmail.net) at the commission's office in Raleigh at (919) 733-5998.

Substance Abuse Prevention

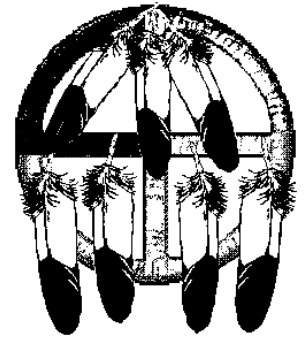
N.C. Annual Indian Youth Unity Conference

The Annual Indian Youth Unity Conference was held June 12-14, 2002, at Barton College in Wilson, N.C. The conference theme was "Learning to Live: Loving Your Life."

Students and chaperones convened to discuss issues pertinent to the lifestyles, development and enhancement skills needed in order for young American Indian leaders to develop and mature. Approximately 300 youth and adults attended the 23rd annual conference.

Participants were exposed to several arenas: lifestyle building, cultural awareness, and educational and career opportunities. Workshop presenters provided students invaluable information and insight to various issues that directly influence their life, their well-being and their future. Presenters represented various fields of studies and many of the tribes in North Carolina.

In addition to the workshops, participants enjoyed the annual Miss NCNAYO Princess Pageant. Ms. Jamie A. Hunt was crowned Miss NCNAYO 2002-2003. Six contestants vied for the title. Participants also participated in the Annual Get-Acquainted Party immediately following the pageant. The social is a highlight allowing youth to meet other Indian students from various tribes and geographical areas across the state.



NCNAYO provided two students with \$500 scholarships each. Recipients were Annie Maria Francis and Quintin Lynn Hunt. Students interested in information concerning the NCNAYO scholarship should contact Greg Richardson at the commission at (919) 733-5998. NCNAYO officers are Lekeshia Jacobs, chairperson; Cameron Jacobs, vice chairperson; Anson Blanks, secretary; and Vanessa Faircloth, treasurer.

Commission Comings and Goings

Welcome Harriett Southerland, New Director, Substance Abuse Prevention and Awareness

Join in welcoming our new director of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Awareness Program, Harriett Southerland. Ms. Southerland comes to us from the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office and brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience. She is a strong advocate for youth issues and concerns, and her expertise will be an asset to the commission.

Farewell to Darlene Jacobs and Brett Locklear

Two employees of the Commission of Indian Affairs recently left the commission to accept other employment.

Darlene Jacobs, director of the Community Services Program, resigned in May to accept a position with the Office of Minority Health in the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services. Brett Locklear, director of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Awareness Program, also resigned in May to accept a position as director of Native American and Hispanic Student Affairs with North Carolina State University.

We want to thank them for the contributions they made to the programs during their employment with the commission.

N.C. Principal Fellows Program Assists in Preparing School Administrators

Master of School Administration Degree Offered at 11 UNC Campuses

A competitive, merit-based scholarship loan program funded by the N.C. General Assembly, the N.C. Principal Fellows Program assists selected individuals to prepare for a career in school administration (i.e., assistant principal or principal). Each scholarship loan will provide funding for up to two years for \$20,000 per year to support students who enroll in and complete a full-time, two-year master's degree program in school administration at one of the participating institutions of the University of North Carolina.



Recipients of the scholarship loan must be willing to practice at an approved site in North Carolina as a full-time administrator for two years for each year of funding (four years) or repay the loan in cash.

The Principal Fellows Program is now in its ninth year of operation. Some 708 Principal Fellows have participated in the program, representing 90 school districts. Principal Fellows enroll in the master of school administration (MSA) program offered at 11 campuses of the University of North Carolina. The second-year students participate in a required yearlong, full-time internship at various school districts throughout the state.

The program has received widespread support from school districts through their granting of leaves-of-absence to employees who are selected to receive the scholarship loan, providing sites for interns, and employing graduates of the program.

Benefits of the program include the financial support provided to the Fellows while earning the MSA, the opportunity for school districts to work with Principal Fellow interns for a year, and the development of a pool of well-trained, highly qualified administrative candidates available to all North Carolina school systems.

The **deadline** to apply for the 2003-2004 academic year is **Feb. 1, 2003**. For applicant requirements and an application, you may write to the

N.C. Principal Fellows Program
The University of North Carolina General Administration
P.O. Box 2688
Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2688
Attn: Dr. Karen Gerringer, Director

Telephone: (919) 962-4575
E-mail: kfg@ga.unc.edu
Fax a request to (919) 962-4328



I N D I A N T I M E

Indian Time is published by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs. The newsletter is designed to highlight activities and issues of importance to the Indian people of North Carolina.

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Cumberland County Association for Indian People
James L. Hunt ~ Roy Maynor

Eastern Band of Cherokee
Vacant

Guilford Native American Association
Nora Dial-Stanley ~ Lonnie Revels

Haliwa-Saponi Tribe
Ruth Richardson Ealing ~ John Hedgepeth

Lumbee Indian Tribe
Aggie Deese ~ J. Garth Locklear ~ H. Dobbs Oxendine

Meherrin Indian Tribe
Patrick Riddick

Metrolina Native American Association
Patrick O. Clark ~ Earlene Stacks

Indians of Person County
Julia M. Phipps

Waccamaw-Siouan Indian Tribe
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