

# North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs-Annual Report 2018 - 2019

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *The mission of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs is to instill a positive vision for American Indians through preserving cultural identity by promoting and advocating for the rights, beliefs, and opportunities which impact the quality of life.*

## North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs

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North Carolina Commission of Indian  
Affairs

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## From Our Executive Director

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In 1971, the Commission received its first appropriation of \$12,500 from the North Carolina General Assembly. Since that time, State support has been expanded, and federal funding of service programs has been secured.

Commission staff administers programs and delivers services. The staff conducts other major activities and initiatives as well as those required by General Statutes. Most staff administer programs and services supported by federal grants. State funds supported seven staff positions including the executive director, two clerical positions, three community developers and an economic developer.

The Annual Report provides a summary of Commission programs and an explanation of activities for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. The Commission served as the lead state entity which advocated for the needs and concerns of American Indians. The Commission was able to accomplish its goals and objectives through various partnerships, collaborations and funding from the NC General Assembly, and state and federal agencies. We were also able to accomplish our goals and objectives this year, due to the support from the state tribes and organizations who are represented on the NC Commission of Indian Affairs.

On behalf of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs membership, we want to thank Governor Roy Cooper, the North Carolina General Assembly, the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Administration, and the citizens of the great state of North Carolina for supporting the efforts of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs this fiscal year.

The Annual Report includes a summary of the commission's accomplishments, program activities and services provided during SFY 2018-2019. The reports also include a summary of all funding received this fiscal year, a total of **\$5,832,752**.

Thank you for taking the time to review our Annual Report and for supporting our efforts!

Gregory A. Richardson  
Executive Director

## History and Purpose

The North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs was created in 1971 by the North Carolina General Assembly in response to the requests of concerned Indian citizens from across the state. The Commission was established pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 143B-404 through 143B-411. Specifically, the Commission was created to:

- GOALS**
- *Increase and maximize educational opportunities for American Indians in North Carolina.*
  - *Increase the economic self-sufficiency of American Indians in North Carolina and maximize Indian economic development initiatives.*
  - *Achieve parity in employment for Indians of North Carolina.*
  - *Improve the health status of American Indians in North Carolina.*
  - *Increase the public awareness of American Indians.*
  - *Provide for the state and/or federal recognition of North Carolina Indian tribes.*
  - *Promote recognition of, and the right of, Indians to pursue cultural and religious traditions that they consider sacred and meaningful, and to promote public understanding and appreciation of Indian culture.*

- Deal fairly and effectively with Indian affairs
  - Bring local, state and federal resources into focus for the implementation or continuation of meaningful programs for the state's Indian citizens
- Provide aid and protection for Indians as needs are demonstrated
- Assist Indian communities in social and economic development
  - Promote recognition of, and the right of, Indians to pursue their cultural and religious traditions
  - The Commission has eight statutory duties outlined in its enabling legislation as follows:
    - Study, consider, accumulate, compile, assemble, and disseminate information on Indian affairs
    - Investigate relief needs of Indians and assist in the preparation of plans for the alleviation of such needs
  - Confer with appropriate officials of local, state and federal governments
  - Review all legislation concerning Indians
    - Conduct public hearings on matters relating to Indian affairs and subpoena any information deemed necessary
    - Study the existing status of recognition of all Indian groups, tribes and communities
    - Establish appropriate procedures for legal recognition by the state and provide for official recognition
  - Initiate procedures for recognition by the federal government

## **About Our Commission**

The membership of the Commission consists of twenty-one representatives from twelve Indian tribes, four Urban Indian organizations, five state officials, and an appointee of both the Speaker of the N.C. House of Representatives and the President of the Senate. Ex-officio members include representatives from two statewide youth organizations, the North Carolina Native American Youth Organization (NCNAYO), and the North Carolina Native American Council on Higher Education (NCNACOHE).

The Commission is housed within the North Carolina Department of Administration, pursuant to G.S. 143A - 6(b) and (c). The Commission employs an executive director to carry out the day-to-day responsibilities and business of the Commission. The executive director serves at the pleasure of the Commission membership. The director employs staffing to administer programs and provide administrative support to the NC Commission of Indian Affairs. The director must discharge his responsibilities, as determined by the Commission, in accordance with the administrative, budget, and management policies of the North Carolina Department of Administration and guidelines associated with programs administered by the commission. The director reports to the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Administration, with respect to the administrative functions of the Commission and to the membership of the Commission with respect to the advocacy work of the work of the Commission.

In the performance of its duties, the Commission held four quarterly meetings in SFY 2017-2018. These meetings were held in September, December, March and June of the fiscal year. Quarterly meetings were held to address issues of concern and to address the needs of the American Indian citizens of North Carolina. Additionally, the purpose of the meetings was to receive reports from standing committees, the executive director's report and reports from commission staff.



## **Officers**

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Chairman: Furnie Lambert, Lumbee Indian Tribe

Vice Chairwoman: Mrs. Shirley Freeman, Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Isabell Freeman-Elliott, Coharie Tribe

## **Members**

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- **State Officials**
  - North Carolina Department of Administration
    - Secretary Machel Sanders/ Designee; Christy Agner
  - North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
    - Secretary Dr. Mandy Cohen/Designee Mr. David Locklear
  - NC Department of Environmental Quality
    - Secretary Mr. Michael Regan/Designee: John Nicholson
  - NC Department of Labor
    - Commissioner: Cherie Berry/Designee: Ms. Jennifer Haigwood
  - NC Division of Employment Security
    - Secretary: Mr. Anthony Copeland/Designee: Mr. George Sherrill
  - President Pro Tem Appointee
    - Daniel Locklear
  - Speaker of the House Appointee
    - Mrs. Wanda Burns-Ramsey
- **American Indian Representatives**
  - Coharie Intra-Tribal Council: Isabell Freeman Elliott, Lenora Locklear
  - Cumberland Co. Association for Indian People: Gladys Hunt, Helen Cook
  - Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation: Sam Lambert, Marvel Welch
  - Guilford Native American Association: Jennifer Baxter-Revels, DeVane Burnette Sr.
  - Haliwa-Saponi Tribe: Jeffrey Anstead, Charles Richardson
  - Lumbee Indian Tribe: Furnie Lambert, Larece Hunt, Ricky Burnett
  - Meherrin Indian Tribe: Constance Mitchell
  - Metrolina Native American Association: Walter Baucom, Jesse Jacobs
  - Sappony Indian Tribe: Ms. Dorothy Crowe
  - Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation: William Anthony (Tony) Hayes
  - Triangle Native American Association: Danny Bell
  - Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe: Elton Ray Jacobs, Shirley Freeman
- **Ex-Officio Members:**
  - State Official Ex-Officio for Cultural Resource Advisor: John Mintz (State Archaeologist)
  - NC Native American Youth Organization: Zianne Richardson, Co-Chair; Brayden Nokosi Locklear Co-Chair
  - NC Native American Council on Higher Education: Vacant

# Financial Resources

## Funding Sources

- NC Commission of Indian Affairs Allocation (NC CIA) - State Funding
- State Recognition (NC CIA) - State funding
- Indian Child Welfare (ICW) - State Funding
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 Program - Federal Funding
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Federal Funding
- Action Partnership - Federal Pass Through from DHHS
- Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) - Federal Pass Through Funding - Governor's Crime Commission
- Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) - Federal Pass Through Funding - Governor's Crime Commission

## Program Revenue

Description	State Appropriations	Federal Funding	Earnings
NC CIA	\$323,641	\$0.00	\$0.00
State Recognition	\$190,446	\$0.00	\$0.00
Indian Child Welfare	\$60,905	\$0.00	\$0.00
HUD	\$0.00	\$4,509,041	\$57,383
WIOA	\$0.00	\$329,065	\$0.00
Action Partnership	\$0.00	\$55,280	\$0.00
LIEAP	\$0.00	\$87,736	\$0.00
VOCA	\$0.00	\$209,255	\$0.00
FVPSA	\$0.00	10,000	\$0.00

\*\*\*\*\*Chart includes carry forward funds \*\*\*\*\*

## Total Revenues

- State Appropriations = \$574,992
- Federal Revenue = \$5,200,377
- Earnings = \$57,383
- **Total Funds = \$5,832,752**

# Program Descriptions

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## American Indian Workforce Development Program

The WIOA Section 166 program is a federal grant dedicated to serving the employment needs of Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian individuals.

To meet the needs of North Carolina's American Indian population the WIOA program serves 63 counties associated with the eight state/federal recognized tribes in North Carolina's American Indian communities. The goals of the NCCIA WIOA program are to:

- Increase academic, occupational, and literacy skills among the American Indian population
- Increase American Indian workers' abilities to be competitive in the workforce, thus helping them to achieve personal and economic self-sufficiency
- Promote the social and economic development in North Carolina Indian communities.

The North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs WIOA program has expanded this fiscal year; there are currently 72 participants in the program. This is a first for the Commission. The WIOA Director, as well as the three Program Coordinators, have worked diligently this year to promote the program's services of tuition, books/fees assistance, career counseling, job search assistance, resume assistance, etc. Staff have attended many community events which has led to the program's growth from 24 participants to 72 participants.

The current funding amount for the WIOA program is \$329,065. This amount is being used to assist American Indian Students ages 18 and up with employment and training needs. Throughout this fiscal year the WIOA program has had 13 Work Experience and two On-the Job Training (OJT) participants. This is the first time that the WIOA program has participated in the OJT portion of the grant and it has proven to be beneficial with successful employment outcomes not only for the employer but also for the participant.

The WIOA program currently is at maximum capacity. Each Program Coordinator has a waiting list they are compiling for the next grant cycle. WIOA program staff are committed to serving as many American Indian participants as possible.





**Community Workshop**

**United States Department of Labor-Employment and Training Advisory Council  
WIOA Director Candace Lowry serves on this council she is pictured at the Bottom-Right**

If someone is interested in the Commissions WIOA program and would like to get on the waiting list, please contact one of the Program Coordinators in the area in which you reside.



**WIOA NCNAYO Workshop June 2019**

**Commission Meeting and Sue's 35 years of Service Awarded Sept. 2019**

**(Pictured-Sue Faircloth)**

**(Pictured- Candace Lowry, Christy Agner, and Sue Faircloth)**

Sue Faircloth-Program Coordinator (Sampson and Surrounding Counties) 910-564-6726 (O) [sue.faircloth@doa.nc.gov](mailto:sue.faircloth@doa.nc.gov)



WIOA Conference in Nevada (Pictured-Carolyn Crocker and Candace Lowry)



Maria Richardson conducting community workshop

- Carolyn Crocker-Program Coordinator (Columbus and Surrounding Counties) 910-655-8708 (O) [carolyn.crocker@doa.nc.gov](mailto:carolyn.crocker@doa.nc.gov)
- **NCWorks Partnership Conference-Greensboro**  
(Pictured-Carolyn Crocker, Candace Lowry, Sue Faircloth and Maria Richardson)
- Maria Richardson-Program Coordinator (Halifax and Surrounding Counties)(919)-807-4449 (O) [maria.richardson@doa.nc.gov](mailto:maria.richardson@doa.nc.gov)
- Candace Lowry-Director (Raleigh Area) (919)-807-4444 (O) [candace.lowry@doa.nc.gov](mailto:candace.lowry@doa.nc.gov)

## Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program

- Establishes advocates within tribal communities.
- Provides service and referrals to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.
- Conducts outreach to the American Indian population statewide to notify of available resources.
- Provides educational resources to the American Indian Communities plus many other services.
- Program funded through FVPSA and VOCA

The NCCIA Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Program is funded through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) by the Governor's Crime Commission and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) through the Council for Women. VOCA funds the program for 21 months, provides for a Program Director and advocates for various tribal communities, funds training opportunities for advocates, and funds building relationships between the American Indian Advocates and community partners. The VOCA grant is continued through September of 2021.



**Nikki Locklear-Women's Conference in Raleigh**

On May 30th, 2020 the FVPSA grant was submitted and we were approved for \$10,000 over a 2-year period (2020-2021). This grant would fund the NCNAYO Conference sponsorships for the next 2-years.

The main goal of the DV/SA program for 2019; was to hire more advocates for the tribal communities. A Coharie advocate was hired at the Harnett County tribal center and is collaborating with Safe of Harnett County to provide services out of their Dunn office as well as the Harnett Tribal center. Also, a Haliwa-Saponi advocate has been hired and will be working in conjunction with Hannahs Place in Roanoke Rapids to provide direct services to victims.

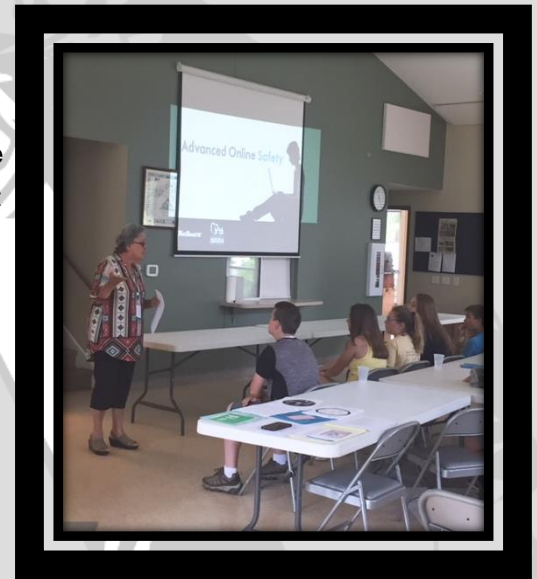
This grant year, the DV/SA program Director was asked by the NC Council for Women to be a Peer reviewer for the Status of Women report. This report highlighted many areas where American Indian women were being underserved, underreported and not reported. Feedback was provided on how North Carolina can better provide access to services to women in underserved areas. The Director was also asked by NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCCADV) to be a part of an Advisory Council for a needs assessment that NCCADV will be developing. The goal of this needs assessment is to ensure that we, statewide serving agencies, offer responsive and tailored resources, training, and technical assistance to our local constituents, in order to improve services for victims of domestic violence in North Carolina. The Advisory Council helps to complete and disseminate the needs assessment, discuss the findings of the needs assessment, create resources, and strategic plans for how we and our constituents can meet the identified needs, and more. It is a great opportunity to improve services for victims of domestic violence in North Carolina and to advocate for the needs of American Indian Victims.

Huge highlights for our advocates are successful collaboration with our Lumbee advocate and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke Title 9 program. Tyra has been working with that program for almost a year now and it has worked out great. Tyra has helped them plan events and trainings for students and the community. She has been involved in the



Coordinated Community Response Team on campus as well as domestic violence and sexual assault awareness week activities for students on campus.

Our Sappony Advocate Fay Martin has been tremendous in her community and her work with Safe of Person County. She has an office at their local DV agency and an office at her Tribal Center and she splits her time between the two locations. She provides direct services at the agency and when she's not she is busy planning trainings and community awareness and prevention events. She has planned and put on a Domestic Violence 101 Training in collaboration with NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She has also planned and put on a Sexual Assault Training. Fay also goes out to the schools and provides a Before the Prom Healthy Relationships workshop to the students. She helped plan the Sappony Youth Camp and collaborated with the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement to provide education of Human Trafficking and online safety for American Indian Youth. In addition Fay has done presentations to her local Chamber of Commerce and Attended Coffee with a Cop to discuss her role at the Commission of Indian Affairs DV/SA Program and the issues facing American Indians today.



**Fay Martin-Community Workshop**



**DV/SA Partners**



**Community Outreach Event**

We are excited about the new trainings for our DV Advocates. Along with the Advocates Institute and NCVAN, advocates will undergo a series of online trainings from the Office of Victims of Crime called Victims Assistance Trainings (VAT). These trainings meet the requirements for the Introductory Advocacy Training area that can be used to apply for the National Advocate Credentialing Program (NACP).

VAT Online has four sections: Basics, Core Competencies and Skills, Crimes, and Specific Considerations for Providing Victim Services. After completing each module advocates are required to pass an assessment where they receive a certificate that they keep in a training folder. Upon site visits I check folders for module/training completion. In my last position my employees and myself took these online trainings. I find them very helpful for new advocates in conjunction with OJT. Our new advocates have already started this training and our current advocates are going through it as well.

This year I was excited to represent the Commission of Indian Affairs at The Women Breaking Barriers event at the Capital in downtown Raleigh and be a part of the planning committee. I was a Vendor and set up an informational booth on the Commission and the programs we offer. I also provided an MMIW awareness activity for people that stopped by the booth. During the program we had podium time where I had a NCNAYO youth representative discuss the MMIW epidemic and read the MMIW proclamation. For that event I was interviewed for UNC TV's show NC Weekend and apart of the episode on the Women Breaking Barriers Event. Attached is the link: |



Community and State Partners



Nikki Locklear's Speech at the Capital Building



Lumbee Spring Powwow



## Housing Assistance Program

- Housing Choice Voucher Program is funded annually by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide affordable, decent, safe and sanitary housing via rental assistance. Subsidized payments are paid directly to each landlord on the behalf of the tenant. The amount of assistance is determined by each family's income and family size.
- The North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs received \$4,509,041 from HUD to provide Housing Assistance and Utility Reimbursement Payments for 845 eligible low-income families during the fiscal year.
- Rental assistance is provided to eligible families in the following seven counties:
  - Columbus
  - Halifax
  - Hoke
  - Granville
  - Person
  - Sampson
  - Warren
- Each month, tenants are pulled from the waiting list and issued vouchers if eligible. The waiting list for the Housing Choice Voucher program has been closed since 2015 but anticipates reopening in the fall 2020 to accept new applications for all seven counties served by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs.
- The Section 8 housing choice voucher program applied for two additional competitive funds from HUD, the HUD VASH Program and HUD Mainstream 811 Voucher Program. HUD VASH (Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing) program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The program anticipates serving 5 veterans in Granville and Person Counties. The Mainstream Voucher program will provide rental assistance for households with a non-elderly person with a disability currently transitioning from, or at risk of entering, an institutional setting in North Carolina. The Mainstream Voucher will provide rental assistance to 30 participants that may choose to lease in Columbus, Cumberland, Durham, Granville, Halifax, Hoke, New Hanover, Orange, Person, Robeson, Sampson, Wake and Warren Counties.
- The agency continues to maintain twenty PBV (Project Based Vouchers) for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Project in Hoke County at Parish Place and Sandy Ridge Apartments.
- The North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs Housing Choice Voucher Program continues to implore all potential landlords or homeowners to participate in the program, as housing is greatly needed throughout the areas served.

## Indian Child Welfare Program

The NCCIA Indian Child Welfare Program received a \$60,000.00 grant from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to recruit American Indian Foster families statewide.

### Program Functioning:

The program is designed to recruit and train American Indian families state-wide to become foster parents. The goal of the program is to increase the number of American Indian homes that are licensed to care for children. Training will be provided through the Commission by incorporating the Trauma-Informed Approach to partnerships, parenting training and individual family training through the Deciding Together program. Additionally, retention strategies are explored to retain foster families, which may be done through family support groups in tribal communities.

Assistance is provided to the Department of Health and Human Services agencies in all 100 counties. The program is also responsible for providing training opportunities to stakeholders in regard to Indian Child Welfare.

### General Program Activities

#### Recruitment:

- Disseminated flyers and engaged in recruitment efforts during tribal events and activities.
- Encouraged members of the Commission's Indian Child welfare committee to reach out to their communities to recruit foster care parents.
- Foster families trained or receiving training through this initiative: 48 families American Indian foster families trained or receiving training,

#### Other:

- The first program relation occurred.
- One Lumbee toddler was adopted by a Lumbee family trained through the program.
- Funds from the program have been used to train the trainers, and these trainers have provided training for prospective foster parents.

#### Community Engagement and Education:

- Consulted with Eastern Band of Cherokee regarding outreach and potential support.
- 2019 Indian Child Welfare Gathering was held in the Coharie Indian Community- Town of Clinton. Over 120 individuals registered - an increase of 40% over the last year's gathering.
- Updated tribal enrollment officer contact list and provided that information to DHHS for reference.
- Provided technical assistance, support and coaching to foster parents who participated in our training.
- Provide support and education to Indian families with child welfare involvement.
- Collaborated with Waccamaw Siouan Tribe to determine enrollment status of a child in foster care who may be adopted by a non-relative.
- Completed 10-week MAPP training offered to prospective foster parents in Robeson County.

- Partnered with NC Department of Transportation to administer surveys during the 2019 Indian Child Welfare Gathering.

#### Future Activities:

- Initiated plans to hold an Indian Child Welfare Gathering in April 2020, in the western part of the state.
- MAPP training at Robeson County DSS tentatively scheduled for October-December.

## Community Development Programs

The Community Development Programs focus on developing partnerships and collaborations with local, state and federal resources for the implementation of programs and services for American Indian senior citizens, veterans, families, children, students and American Indians experiencing life changing circumstances including victimization. Listed below are some highlights of each program.

### Low Income Energy Assistance Program

- Energy Education Events are held in the designated tribal communities of Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Halifax, Harnett, Sampson and Warren on programs and services available at local department of social services offices.
- The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that provides a one-time vendor payment to help eligible households pay their heating bills.
- Priority in eligibility is given to households with:
  - American Indian households
  - Disabled/elderly age 60 or older
  - Families with young children
- 1,686 American Indians in North Carolina received educational services during this fiscal year.

## Supporting Undergraduate Native Student (SUNS) Program

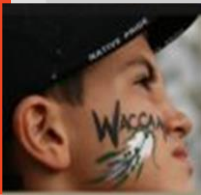
- Designed to provide financial assistance to income-eligible American Indian students enrolled full-time in an accredited North Carolina-based community college or university and assist them in pursuit of their educational goals.
- Educational scholarships and supportive services for tuition, fees, books, supplies, equipment and uniforms are awarded to eligible students.
- College educational access and retention program.
- Federal poverty income guidelines apply.
- 35 students were served during this fiscal year.



SUNS Annual Workshop-Students and Commission Staff- May 2019



## Tribes



## State Recognition

Since 1976, the Commission has administered procedures for the state recognition of previously unrecognized American Indian tribes and organizations in North Carolina. Authorized by N.C.G.S. 143B-406, the Commission administers tribal recognition procedures, as established under Chapter 15 of the North Carolina Administrative Code.

A twelve-member Recognition Committee, composed of representatives of each American Indian tribe and urban American Indian organization, makes recommendations on recognition matters to the full Commission. The Meherrin Tribe of Hertford County was granted state recognition under these procedures in 1986. In 1997, the historic tribal group known as the Indians of Person County had their recognition status reinstated by the North Carolina General Assembly and are now recognized as Saponi. In March 2000, the Commission officially recognized the Raleigh-based urban Indian organization, Triangle Native American Society, Inc.

### Recognition Program Annual Report 2019

The Recognition Program is funded by the NC General Assembly and Staffed by a Program Director, a Paralegal and a Genealogist.

Groups Petitioning for State Recognition this fiscal year:

**Tuscarora Nation of N.C. (Maxton NC):** The Petition for State Recognition was rejected by the Recognition Committee on May 9, 2019 and is currently before the Commission of Indian Affairs for review and final decision.

**Cherokee Indians of Hoke and Surrounding Counties (Red Springs, NC):** Technical assistance documents were sent to this group in June 2018. A revised Notice of Intent and Membership Roll were provided to staff. They have since supplemented their documentation and are in the technical assistance process with Commission staff at this time.

**Roanoke-Hatteras Indian Tribe (Elizabeth City, NC):** Filed a petition in 2019 and have informed the Commission that their genealogical documentation will be finalized and forwarded to the Commission later. This group is in the technical assistance process currently.

**Catawba Indian Nation (Rock Hill SC):** Technical assistance documents were forwarded to this group in June 2018. They have informed the Commission that they are reviewing the technical assistance documents and guidelines.

**Caananite African American Native Nation (Charlotte NC):** This group was provided a denial letter in February of 2018. Following that action, they informed the Commission that they planned to hire a genealogist. The Commission



provided them with technical assistance documents in June 2018. The Commission has since been informed that they are working on a new petition.

**Nuluti Equani Ehi Tribe (Belton, Texas):** The Commission sent them the letter of denial in February 2018. Staff sent them the technical assistance documents in June and no information and been received from them since that time.

#### Other Updates on the Tribal Recognition Program

The following groups contacted the Recognition Staff during this fiscal year:

**Laurel Band of Chickamauga Shawnee Group:** Mr. Holden Vines contacted the Commission inquiring about the recognition process and stated his group is considering submitting a petition. The recognition staff provided this group with technical assistance documents and the commission's weblink to related information.

**Cheroenhaka Group:** Ms. Sandra Ckenan contacted the Commission inquiring about State recognition and indicated that her group descends from the Yamasee and plans to submit a petition. The staff provided her with the Commission's website link and technical assistance documents.

#### SharePoint

The Recognition Staff reviewed the petition files and started the process of electronically uploading them to SharePoint. This process will improve the filing system and make the files more accessible.

Reviewed files, that included recent inquiries, about the state recognition process and that received technical assistance. This process provides detailed information about the technical assistance provided to groups who make inquiries about state recognition. The following groups were contacted; however, they have not responded:

**Cape Fear Indians (Leland, NC):**

**Coree Indian Nation (Atlantic, NC):**

**Shocco Historical and Inter-Tribal Native American Society, Inc. (Warrenton, NC):**

**Southern Band Tuscarora (N. Windsor, NC):** This group formerly submitted a petition for state recognition but withdrew from the process. This group contacted the recognition staff in December 2017. However, no responses or information requested since that time.

**Chowanoke Tribe (Apex, NC):** Mr. Warren Hall made an inquiry regarding state recognition; however, no follow-up has occurred since that time. This group has on several occasions, contacted the NC General Assembly regarding state recognition. However, the leadership of this group were formerly leaders and members of the Meherrin Indian Tribe and represented the Meherrin Indian tribe on the NC Commission of Indian Affairs, the NC Indian Housing Authority etc.

**Recognition Project:** Recognition Program staff with the assistance of interns from UNC Law School performed a survey of the recognition process in other states. This information will serve as a resource for the Commission regarding state recognition matters.

Staff Guidance Documents Created:

Staff has drafted technical assistance documents for state recognition, which can be used by the state Recognition Committee and future Commission staff as a guide for state recognition, as well as future petitioning groups. These documents have been posted on the Commission of Indian Affairs website for the Tribal Recognition Program.



## Tribes and Organizations

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### **Coharie Indian Tribe**

7531 N. US Hwy 421  
Clinton, NC 28328  
Phone (919) 564-6909  
Fax (919) 564-2701

### **Eastern Band of Cherokee Nation**

PO Box 455  
Cherokee, NC 28719  
Phone (828) 497-2771  
Fax (828) 497-7000

### **Haliwa-Saponi Tribe**

PO Box 99  
Hollister, NC 27844  
Phone (252) 586-4017  
Fax (252) 586-3918

### **Meherrin Tribe**

PO Box 274  
Ahoskie, NC 27910  
Phone (919) 209-0934

### **Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation**

PO Box 356  
Mebane, NC 27302  
Phone (336) 227-4594

### **Triangle Native American Society**

PO Box 26841  
Raleigh, NC 27611  
Phone (919) 996-9822

### **Cumberland Co. Assoc. for Indian People**

2173 Downing Road  
Fayetteville, NC 28301  
Phone (910) 483-8442  
Fax (910) 483-8742

### **Guilford Native American Association**

PO Box 5623  
Greensboro, NC 27435  
Phone (919) 273-8686  
Fax (919) 272-2925

### **Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina**

PO Box 2709  
Pembroke, NC 28372  
Phone (910) 521-7861  
Fax (910) 521-7790

### **Metrolina Native American Association**

8001 N. Tryon Street  
Charlotte, NC 28262  
Phone (704) 926-1524  
Fax (704) 347-0888

### **Sappony**

PO Box 3265  
Roxboro, NC 27573  
Phone (434) 585-3352

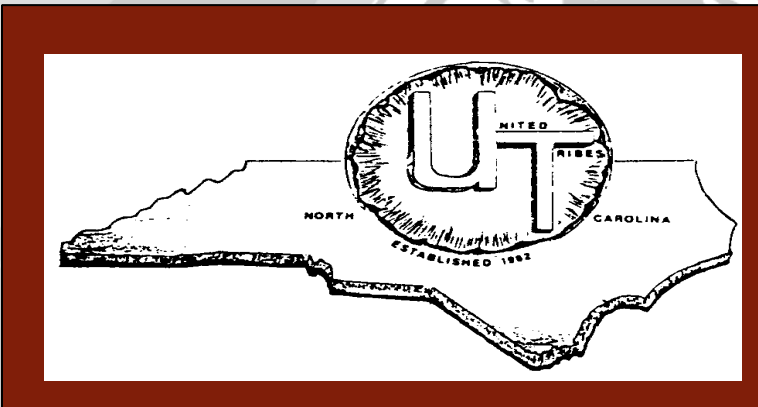
### **Waccamaw Siouan Indian Tribe**

PO Box 69  
Bolton, NC 28423  
Phone (910) 655-8778  
Fax (910) 655-8779

## Conferences and Special Events

Each year the Commission co-sponsors many activities and events in collaboration with tribes and organizations. Additionally, the Commission provides staff support for Indian conferences, workshops, and other special events.

### North Carolina Indian Unity Conference



The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual North Carolina Indian Unity Conference was held in Raleigh, North Carolina, March 7-9, 2018. United Tribes of North Carolina sponsored the conference, in collaboration with the Commission and tribes and organizations. The conference attracted over 400 participants. Commission staff coordinated various conference activities such as the exhibition and conference facilities; served as facilitators, moderators, recorders and/or speakers at various workshops and general assemblies; assisted with conference registration; and supervised conference security.



NC Indian Unity Conference – March 2018

### North Carolina Indian Youth Unity Conference

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual North Carolina Indian Youth Unity Conference was held June 14-17, 2019, at North Carolina State University, North Carolina. Co-sponsored by the North Carolina Native American Youth Organization (NCNAYO) and the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs' Educational Talent Search Program, this event was attended by over 275 Indian youth and adults representing Indian tribes and organizations from across the State of North Carolina. The highlights of the conference included a powwow, Mister and Miss NCNAYO pageants, talent show, basketball tournament, an awards banquet, and art and essay contests. Two \$500 and three \$300 college scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors at the conference. Additionally, the North Carolina American Indian Fund Scholarship Program awarded sixteen \$1000 scholarships to deserving North Carolina American Indian students.





**WIOA Presentation at NCNAYO Conference conducted by WIOA Director-Candace Lowry and Sampson County Program Director- Sue Faircloth June 2019**

## **American Indian Heritage Month in North Carolina**

The Honorable Roy Cooper, Governor of North Carolina, proclaimed the month of November 2018 as American Indian Heritage Month in North Carolina by an official proclamation during the fiscal year. In collaboration with the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources/N.C. Museum of History, the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual North Carolina American Indian Heritage Celebration was held at the North Carolina Museum of History. The annual event was attended by more than 10,000 people, and is the largest event held at the museum. United Tribes of North Carolina commissioned a poster for American Indian Heritage Month, and the Commission coordinated numerous activities associated with American Indian Heritage Month.



**Proclamation Signing at the Governor's Mansion with Tribal Leaders and NCCIA Commission Members**





**Governor and Tribal Leaders**



**Governor Roy Cooper with NCCIA Executive Director-Gregory Richardson (left) and Representative Charles Graham- (right))**

### **North Carolina Indian Senior Citizens Coalition Annual Conference**

The North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs continue to support the efforts of the North Carolina Indian Senior Citizens Coalition Annual Conference held the first Friday in November in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Highlights of the event included a special presentation, workshops focusing on health, nutrition, physical fitness, and personal safety. There was also a quilt exhibit, vendors, and a highlight of the evening was the banquet and pageant.



**NC Indian Senior Citizen Coalition**

## North Carolina American Indian Fund

The North Carolina American Indian Fund Initiative is a collaborative effort between the Commission and Indian tribes and organizations in North Carolina. The fund was established because the resources for meeting the human and economic needs of Indian communities are very limited. Additionally, the creation of the fund is in response to the need for dedicated funding for scholarships, health, human services, education, and tribal organizational infrastructure programs. The Triangle Community Foundation, located in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, manages the American Indian Fund. The North Carolina American Indian Scholarship Fund awarded sixteen \$1000 scholarships to deserving North Carolina American Indian college students during the June 2019 NCNAYO Youth Unity conference.



NC American Indian License Plate

## Missing Murdered and Indigenous Women Proclamation

The North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs held the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Proclamation Reading and Reception on May 13, 2019 at 2:00 pm at the NC Commission of Indian Affairs. Miss Cheyenne Daniel, Miss Indian North Carolina gave remarks and read the Proclamation during the reception. Staff from the Governor's Office, NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement, the Governor's Crime Commission, DOA Fiscal Office etc. participated in the event.



MMIW Proclamation Reading by Miss Indian North Carolina- May 2019

## Quarterly Meetings

- September 2018 Raleigh, NC
- December 2018 Charlotte, NC
- March 2019 Raleigh, NC Held in conjunction with the NC Unity Conference
- June 2019 Elon, NC
- Quarterly Meetings are generally held the first Friday of September, December, March and June.



**NC Secretary-Machelle Sanders at the  
NC Commission Meeting-March 2019**



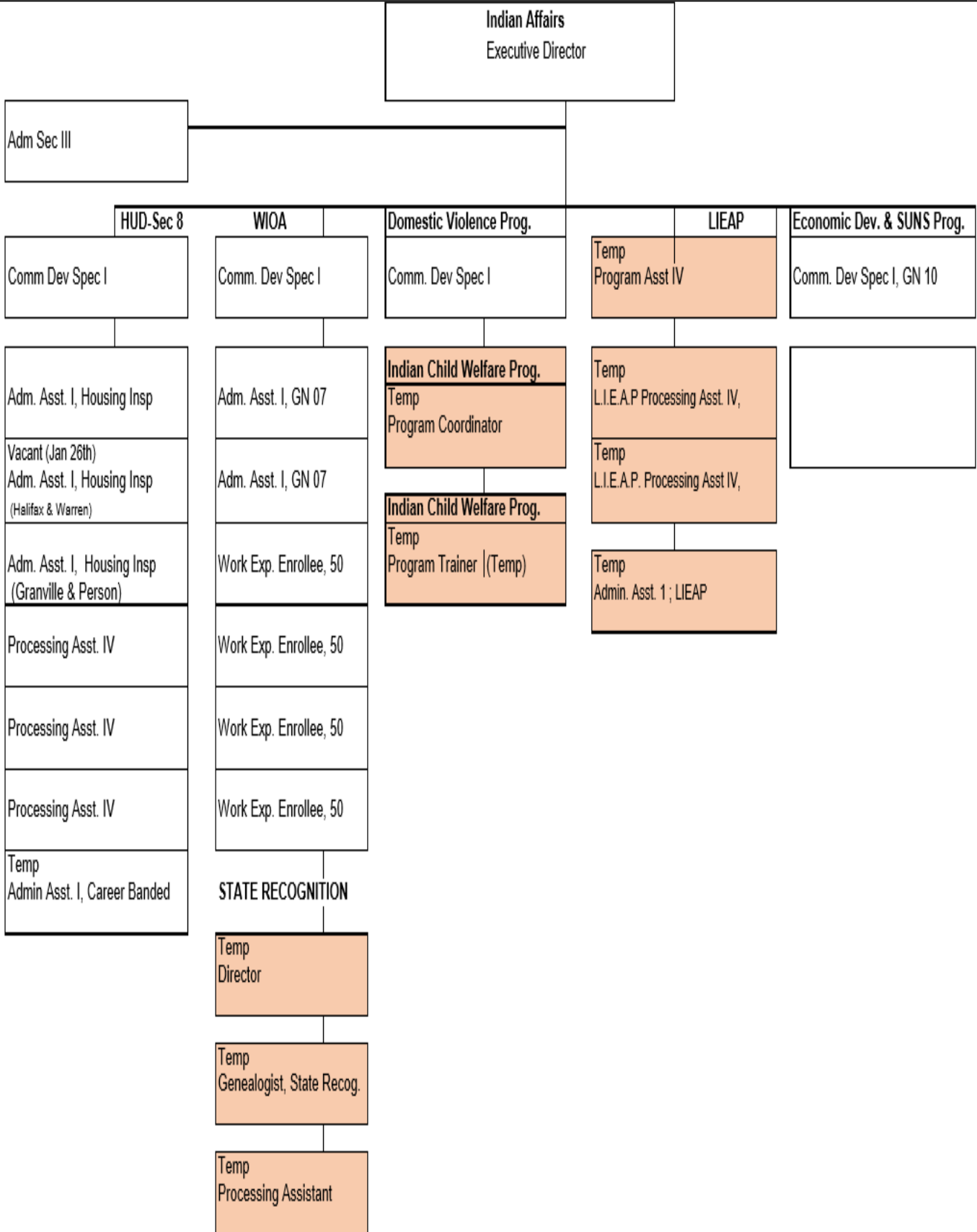
**Commission Members working together at  
Commission Meeting  
-March 2019**



**Executive Director-Gregory Richardson of NCCIA addressing the  
Commission Members at the Commission Meeting - March 2019**



# North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs Organization Chart



\* Pink Highlight - Indicates Temporary Positions