

Financial Support & Benefits

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2023 Statewide Symposium in Support of Service Members, Veterans & Their Families

APRIL 19-20, 2023 | PHOENIX, ARIZONA

 arizona coalition
for military families



Financial Support and Benefits

April 19, 2023



Intersection of Financial Support and Benefits for Veteran Well-Being

Session 1



Facilitators



Joy Sprink
Special Projects
Arizona Coalition for
Military Families

Agenda

1

The Landscape

2

Resources Discussion

3

Closing: Q&A

The Landscape

- **Benefits: Defined and explained**
- **Community Supportive Organizations**
- **What Veterans Need Most**
- **Overview of Sessions**

MILITARY & VETERAN BENEFITS



Resources Discussion



Moderator: Joy Sprink

Amanda French - Phoenix Regional Benefits Office

Anna Hunter - AZ Department of Economic Security

Miles Morell - Arizona Department of Veterans Services

David Silverstone - AHCCCS

Amy Hunsaker - AHCCCS

HoMana Pawiki - VA Benefits: VA Tribal

David Silverstone



**VA Tribal
Government
Relations
Specialist**



LoRae HoMana Pawiki



VA Tribal Government Relations Specialist

VA Organization

OFFICE OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Denis McDonough - Secretary

Guy Kiyokawa - Acting Deputy Secretary for VA

Tanya Bradsher - Chief of Staff of VA

Brenda S. Fulton
Assistant Secretary Office of Public & Intergovernmental Affairs

Zaneta Inez Adams
Deputy Assistant Secretary Intergovernmental Affairs

Stephanie E. Birdwell, Director
Office of Tribal Government Relations

Vacant

Mary Culley
OTGR Specialist
Southern Plains /
Southeast Region

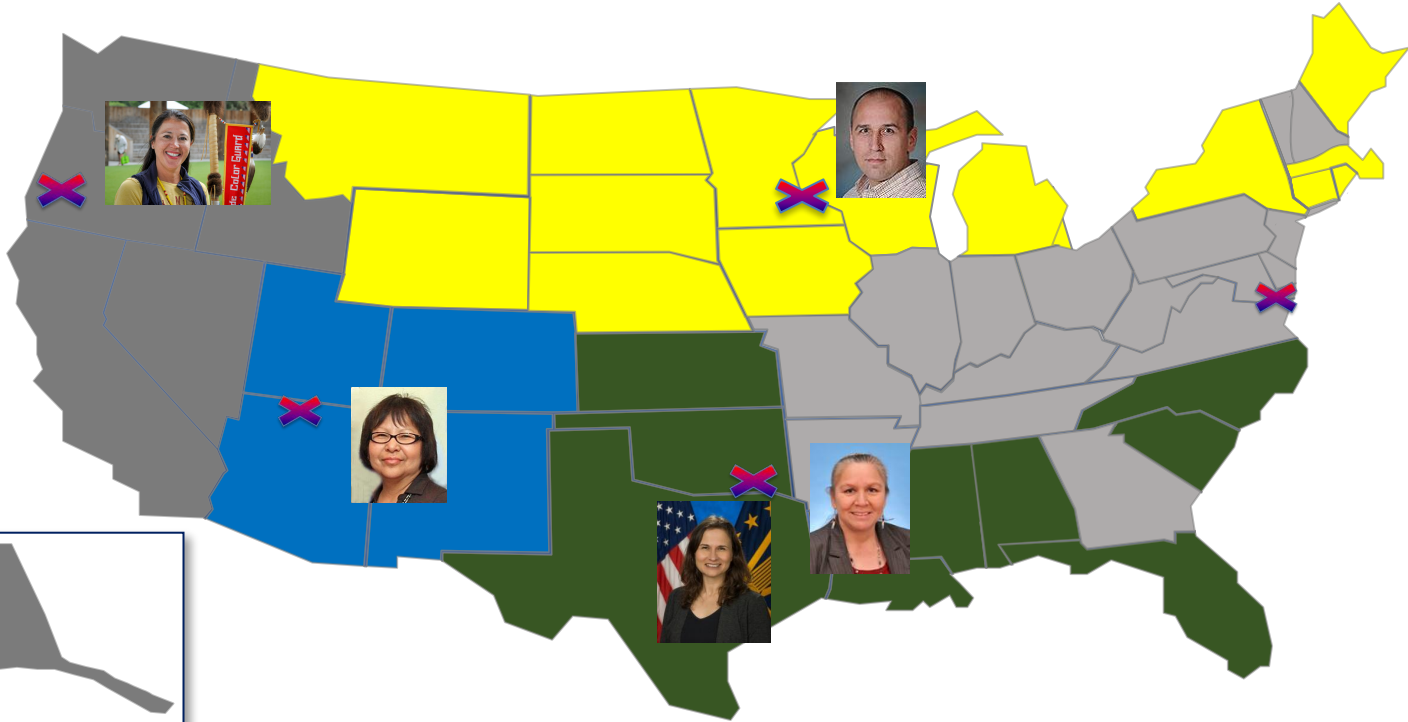
Peter Vicaire
OTGR Specialist
Central / Northeast
Region

Terry Bentley
OTGR Specialist
Western Region

L. HoMana Pawiki
OTGR Specialist
Southwest Region



VA Office of Tribal Government Relations (OTGR)



Three Pillars - OTGR

- Facilitate the VA Tribal Consultation Policy: “Don’t make decisions about us without us”
- Engage in activities that promote increased access to health care and benefits for Veterans living in Indian Country (and urban areas)
- Facilitate economic sustainability for Veterans living in Indian Country (and urban areas)



National Update (VA. VBA. VHA. NCA.)

VA Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

- VA Tribal Consultation Policy Revision
- VA Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs
- VA Office of General Counsel Tribal Representation Expansion Program

Veterans Department of Benefits (VBA)

- VBA Native American Direct Loan. 2.5% Interest Rate
- VBA VHA PACT Act Implementation

Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

- VHA Test: Indian Health Service Purchased Referred Care
- VHA Reimbursement Agreement Program + Urban Indian Organizations
- VHA Readjustment Counseling Services: Vet Center Tribal Outstations



National Update (VHA. NCA.)

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) *(continued)*

- VHA Office of Tribal Health
- VHA Copay Exemption Implementation
- VHA Indian Health Service MOU Operational Plan Revision
- VHA Indian Health Service | Tribal Health Program Enrollment and Eligibility Training
- VHA Tribal HUD-VASH Expansion

National Cemetery Administration (NCA)

- NCA Tribal Cemetery Grant



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[Tribal Government Relations - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs \(va.gov\)](#) - Main website

Tribal.agreements@va.gov – VA-IHS-THP Reimbursement Agreements

Tribal.Consultation@va.gov – email for tribal leaders to submit inquiries directly to VA



Closing



Q & A



Session Evaluation

We want to hear from you!

