

VIDA MARIA CASTANEDA, MSW

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EDUCATION

M.S.W., University of California at Berkeley, 2000

- Recipient, Title IV-E Public Child Welfare Training Stipend
- NASW Student Representative

B.A., San Diego State University, fall 1997, conferred May 1998

- Major: Sociology, Minor: American Indian Studies
- National Sociology Honor Society
- Vice Presidential Student Service Award-“Quest for the Best”
- American Indian Advisory Council-Student Representative
- Native American Student Alliance

EXPERIENCE

Senior Analyst, Tribal/State Programs Unit, *Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts* San Francisco, CA December of 2005-Present

- Expertise in the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and family violence in Native American communities
- Specialize and conduct trainings on California history, historical trauma, issues from historical unresolved grief, cultural case planning, and Native American family systems
- Serve as tri-chair for the Bay Area Collaborative of American Indian Resources (BACAIR) group
- Provided assistance in the creation of the Los Angeles County ICWA Stakeholders' Roundtable
- Awareness of health, suicide, alcohol/substance abuse and child welfare issues in Tribal communities
- Collaborate with state and Tribal court systems to address and correct justice gaps for Native American communities in California
- Participated in the formation of the Tribal Court/State Court Forum
- Facilitate collaborative meetings and/or projects between tribes, judicial officers, social services, law enforcement and probation
- Provide technical assistance to California tribal court systems
- Create and present ICWA trainings for judges, law enforcement, attorneys, court staff, social workers, service providers, Tribal communities and probation officers in California
- Assisted in producing and participated in documentaries focusing on ICWA, historical trauma and Tribal history in California
- Provide educational and technical assistance on ICWA and family violence
- Created Native American directory of resources on CFCC/ICWA website
- Assisted in the creation of Native American Communities Justice Project and writing of the reports from this project

- Collaborate routinely with the California Department of Social Services, ICWA statewide workgroup, Casey Family Programs, Attorney General's Native American Affairs Office and Tribal service providers
- Knowledge of the family, dependency and juvenile delinquency court systems
- Appointed to the American Indian Enhancement Team in 2009 for the Casey Disproportionality Project
- Conduct ICWA, Tribal history, and historical trauma presentations at local Bay Area universities and conferences within California

Child Protective Services Worker, *San Francisco Department of Human Services*

San Francisco, CA October 2000-December 2005

- Provided case management for sub-acute/therapeutic foster children
- Developed case plans, monitored services, providers and placements
- Enforced regulations, policies and laws as directed by the Department
- Knowledge of laws, judicial procedures and produced timely court reports
- Responded to all emergency situations and investigations on the caseload
- Conducted family meetings regularly and supervised visitations
- Experience in working with families having alcohol/substance abuse issues
- Served on the sub-acute treatment team committee with Family Mosaic and DHS
- Extensive knowledge of residential treatment centers and Metropolitan state hospital
- Knowledge of Child Crisis emergency services and 5150 procedures
- Daily experience and working knowledge of children with mental health issues
- Consultant for mental health Native American and ICWA cases within the Department
- Acting supervisor for specialized needs unit when necessary

Intern, Child Protective Services, *San Francisco Department of Human Services*

San Francisco, CA August 1999-May 2000

- Conducted casework for families on the Indian Child Welfare (ICWA) caseload
- Supervised sibling and parent visitations
- Conducted vertical case management (ER to Adoption)
- Knowledge and experience of the Indian Child Welfare Act
- Co-facilitated parenting class at the San Francisco Native American Health Center

Parent Project Intern, *Centerforce*, Marin County, CA October 1998-May 1999

- Facilitated a parenting class to female inmates at Marin County Jail
- Conducted weekly individual counseling to the participants in the parenting class
- Provided case management to chosen female inmates and their families
- Experience in working within jail and prison systems in California

Child Care Worker/Counselor, L12 Residential Treatment Facility for ages 5-12,

New Alternatives Inc., San Diego, CA January 1998-August 1998

- Provided emergency individual and group counseling
- Assessed children for at-risk behaviors and utilized PART methods
- Instructed daily living skills to children with behavioral/mental health issues

San Diego State University, 1996-1998

- **Teaching Assistant for the College of Arts & Letters, 1997-1998**

- **Mentor/Mentor Coordinator for the College of Arts & Letters, 1996-1998**
 - Mentor to incoming freshman and transfer students
 - Coordinated program, outreach, weekly support groups and conferences
- **Research Assistant for Undergraduate Studies, 1996-1997**
 - Liaison between Undergraduate and Mentor Program advisors
 - Co-facilitated Mentor Program trainings
 - Composed and implemented Mentor Program monthly transactions

Additional Activities

Board Member-Tribal Representative, California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC), 2015-Present

Board Member, Intertribal Friendship House, 2013-March, 2016

2012 Native American Day Leadership Award Honoree for “Family Preservation” work in California, presented at the Native American Day Celebration by the State-Tribal Liaisons Committee

NC, Nutrition Consultant Certificate, Global College of Natural Medicine, 2010

FHC, Family Herbalist Certificate, Clayton College of Natural Health, 2009

References Upon Request