Boys & Girls Clubs: Community Wellness Programs for Children & Youth

Ron Gurley & Kristen Lichtenwalner
FirstPic, Inc.

Tribal Justice & Safety – One OJP Training and Technical Assistance
Phoenix, AZ
July 30, 2007

Experiences in Indian Country
FirstPic, Inc.

- Consulting firm
- Offices located in Crofton, MD and Washington, DC
- Staff experienced in crime prevention; Native American issues; youth development; curriculum designs; evaluation and data collection; conference and meeting planning and support; Public and Indian Housing issues

Select Projects and Special Initiatives Focused on Native American Issues
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Office of Native American Programs
Crime Prevention Initiative

- Develop and implement crime and gang prevention workshops
- Conduct Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country Implementation Trainings
- Implement youth development camps in Indian Country
- Provide TA in Indian Country to prevent crime and promote community safety
- Develop and distribute quarterly newsletter, Club Notes, which targets Native youth and highlights successful activities

BGCA National Native American Initiative

- Serve as the BGCA Native American Support Center for Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country
- Leading provider of youth services in Indian Country
- Provide T&TA focused on growth & sustainability of Native Clubs
Growth of Clubs in Indian Country

- 1996 12
- 1997 28
- 1998 51
- 1999 77
- 2000 87
- 2001 110
- 2002 135
- 2003 146
- 2004 184
- 2005 200
- 2006 207
- 2007 209 (to date)

Boys & Girls Clubs in Native Country, 1992
Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country, 2007

Native American Club Support

BGCA Native American One-Day Symposium
BGCA Native American Summit
Native American Club Technical Assistance
Federal and Private Partnership Development
Native American Club Website (www.NACLUBS.org)

Club Notes Publication
Native American Club Exhibiting
Native American National Advisory Committee (NANAC) Support
Native American Sustainability
Special Initiatives

MethSMART
(OJP, BJA)

Diabetes Prevention Program
(IHS, NCAI, Nike)

Navajo Nation Mentoring Program
(HHS, ACF)

G.R.E.A.T. Program
(OJP, BJA)

MethSMART

Funded by Office of Justice Program, Bureau of Justice Program (BJA)

Partner
• Arizona Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs

2007 Pilot Program
• 20 Clubs (9 Native American)
National Methamphetamine Awareness Day
November 30, 2006

Diabetes Prevention Program
Funded by Indian Health Service (IHS)

Partners:
National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)
Nike, Inc.

2003 Pilot Program
6 Clubs

2004-05 Program Expanded
25 Clubs

2005-06 Program Expanded
28 Clubs

2006-2007 Program Expanded
40 Clubs
Navajo Nation Mentoring Program

3 Year Grant Administered by the Navajo Nation

Funded by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) ACF

Targets Children of Prisoners

16 Club Organizations in 7 States awarded funding to implement Mentoring Programs
G.R.E.A.T. Program
(Gang Resistance Education and Training)

Collaborative Effort – BGCA, ATF, USDOJ, BJA and local tribal law enforcement

An increase in life skills that empower Club members to avoid violent behavior

Greater community involvement by Club members

Development of new and improved relationships between Club members and law enforcement officers, community leaders, parents and Club staff.

9 Club Organizations in 8 States awarded funding to implement GREAT in 2007

Professional Partnerships

**Federal Partnerships**

Office of Justice Programs (OJP)
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Indian Health Service (IHS)
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

**Private Organization Partnerships**

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)
Nike, Inc.
America’s Second Harvest – Kids Cafe
National Financial Education Coalition
Upcoming Conferences & Trainings

- OJP BJA
  Law Enforcement and Youth Partnerships for Crime Prevention Conference, Fall 2007
- HUD/ONAP Continuation

Financial Commitments and Opportunities

- Office of Justice Programs
- Indian Health Service
- Health and Human Services
- Office of Native American Programs
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- NAHASDA
- OJJDP
  - New Club start-ups and continuation
Goals and Objectives

Increase the number of Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country from 200 (serving over 140,000 youth) to 210 by the end of 2007

Ensure Sustainability of new and existing Clubs (NAHASDA)

Build the Native American Sustainability Fund

Native American Publications
**Tribal Relationships**

- 80+ Tribes, including:
  - Tribal Councils
  - Tribal Leaders/Elders
  - Tribal Law Enforcement
  - Tribal Governments

**Sustainability Fund**

- Establishment of Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country, Inc. in 2002
- Goal: $100 million to be used to sustain Native Clubs in Indian Country for the next seven generations
- Current Status: $10 million
**Sustainability Fund**

**Major Contributors:**

- BGCA Board Reserves
- National Indian Gaming Association (Pledge)
- Individual donors including members of the BGCA Board of Governors

**NI GA Challenge**

- In April 2006, NIGA announced Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country, Inc. as a beneficiary of their charitable fundraising campaign
- $5 million will be donated to the Fund
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community announced a $1 million match/pledge
- Other tribes challenged to donate to the fund
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