



**21st Biannual  
CDC/ATSDR Tribal Advisory  
Committee Meeting**

# **Tribal Advisory Committee Member Biographies**



**Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention**  
Center for State, Tribal, Local,  
and Territorial Support



## Alaska Area

### **Alicia L. Andrew**

***Karluk IRA Tribal Council, Native Village of Karluk  
President***

Alicia Andrew is the current president of the Karluk IRA Tribal Council in Karluk, Alaska. She has been serving on the Karluk Tribal Council since 1990. Karluk IRA Tribal Council runs all the Bureau of Indian Affairs programs locally, including the Roads Program, and is the only tribe on Kodiak Island that runs their own Indian Health Service contract. President Andrew is the Alaska Representative on the Alaska Native Health Board. The Karluk Tribal Council selected Ms. Andrew as the member representing Karluk Tribal on the National Congress of American Indians and National American Indian Housing Council. President Andrew attended Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado and returned to Karluk in 1989 to work on the oil spill clean-up efforts.

## Albuquerque Area

### **Selwyn Whiteskunk**

***Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
Tribal Councilman***

No biography available.

## Bemidji Area

### **Robert TwoBears (TAC Chair)**

***Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin  
Legislative District V Representative***

Robert TwoBears is the District V Representative of Ho-Chunk Nation predominantly in Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Iowa. He is a member of the Housing Committee and is the second presiding officer for the Health, Social Services, Insurance Committee, and Finance Committee. Additional services and affiliations for Mr. TwoBears include serving as an alternate on the Indian Health Service Budget Formulation Team. Mr. TwoBears' area of interest includes the opioid epidemic.

## Billings Area

### **Byron Larson**

***Northern Cheyenne Nation  
Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council***

As a health care professional, policy analyst, and citizen of the Northern Cheyenne Nation, Byron Larson has continuously promoted health equity and social justice for American Indians and Alaskan Natives (AI/AN). Mr. Larson has developed a broad body of knowledge in health care financing and service delivery, managed care and risk based contracting, epidemiology and evaluation, health promotion and disease prevention, and public health practice and research. In his advocacy for AI/ANs,

he has been successful at working collaboratively with tribal, state, and federal partners to identify, prioritize, and promote tribal public health capacities including design and development of health promotion and disease prevention systems to promote policy, system and environmental interventions in native populations. He has also formally and informally represented these interests with the Centers for Disease Control Office of Minority Health, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the National Institutes of Health's Institute on Minority Health Disparities of Health, the Indian Health Service's Division of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention, regional and national health boards, and native and non-native health institutes. Mr. Larson graduated with a Bachelor of Science in sociology from North Dakota State University and a Master of Science in health services administration from University of Washington.

## California Area

### **Teresa Sanchez**

***Morongo Band of Mission Indians***

***Tribal Council Member***

An ardent champion for improving Native American health care and creating opportunities for Indian youth, Teresa Sanchez was elected to the Morongo Tribal Council in 2019.

Sanchez has been a member of the Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc. (RSBCIHI) Board of Directors since 2010 and served as the board president from 2016 to 2018. She is currently the board's vice president. The organization delivers multi-disciplinary health care, dental, behavioral health, diabetes prevention and other services aligned with tribal cultural values to more than 18,000 clients at seven clinics stretching from Barstow to the Torres-Martinez Indian Reservation. Sanchez previously worked for RSBCIHI's Purchased and Referred Care Department for eight years.

Over the past five years, Sanchez has testified before Congress and met with numerous federal lawmakers in her work to help shape national health care policy for Indian Country, including efforts to secure more equitable health care funding for the nearly 725,000 American Indians and Alaska Natives who live in California.

Sanchez is a member of the Community Health Aide Program Tribal Advisory Group with the federal Indian Health Service; the California Area Tribal Advisory Committee for the California Area Indian Health Service; and the Sacramento-based California Rural Indian Health Board, where she is also an appointee to a subcommittee exploring the impact of the opioid crisis on native populations.

Sanchez previously served on the Morongo Education Committee which supports the Morongo School, the nation's first college preparatory academy on an Indian reservation. She also served on the tribal Election Committee.

Born in Indio, Sanchez's family moved to the Morongo Indian Reservation when she was a teen. She worked in Morongo's tribal administration prior to launching her career in health care. Sanchez has three children and seven grandchildren.

## Great Plains Area

### **Monica Mayer**

***Mandan, Hidatsa, and Hidatsa & Arikara Nation  
Tribal Council Member***

Councilwoman Monica Mayer, M.D. “Good Medicine” represents the residents of North Segment on the Tribal Business Council of the Mandan, Hidatsa, & Arikara Nation, the largest community on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in mid-west North Dakota. She is also a member of the Hidatsa Prairie Chicken Clan.

Dr. Mayer has over 20 years of clinical healthcare experience all in the Great Plains Area of North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska, working for direct patient care in clinical and an ER setting. She has administrative experience as Chief Medical Officer for critical access center, Belcourt Hospital, and the Great Plains Area (Deputy Acting). Most recently, she implemented a Home Health program specific for North Segment, and is collaborating with MHA Chairman Mark Fox and The First Lady of ND Kathryn Burgum on drug and alcohol treatment and recovery initiatives.

Dr. Mayer is a lifelong resident of New Town and attended Edwin Loe Elementary and graduated from New Town High School in 1978. She obtained an Associate of Arts in Business Administration and holds a Bachelor’s of Science in Education. Councilwoman Mayer received her Doctorate of Medicine from the University Of North Dakota School Of Medicine and is a Family Practice Physician. She is also a Peacetime Veteran, honorably serving from 1984-1990 with the U.S. Army Reserves.

Dr. Mayer is dedicated to improving the overall Healthcare, Education, Law Enforcement, and Commerce of the North Segment Community. She also serves as the Chairwoman of the MHA Nation Economic Development Committee, Health & Human Committee, and the Education Committee. “I am committed to upholding a healthy, safe, and clean community.”

## Nashville Area

### **Vacant**

## Navajo Area

### **Myron Lizer**

***The Navajo Nation  
Vice President***

Myron Lizer was elected vice president of the Navajo Nation with President Jonathan Nez in 2018. Vice President Lizer excels in the business arena with a pedigree in building relationships and promoting higher levels of professionalism and excellence in working with tribal entities, and in the private sector. He also contributed to the 2012 Navajo Tribal team that promoted partnering with the Nation of Israel in advancing business and economic relationships and developing the understanding that Israel and the Navajo Nation share a lot of the same hardships and opportunities as a First Nations people.

Mr. Lizer has contributed to his community by leading financial literacy courses across the Navajo Nation and leading other future business owners in Indian entrepreneurship—helping other Native Americans write business plans thus qualifying participants for business start-up loans and consideration for grants and capital investors for aspiring entrepreneurs. Before he was president of Navajo Westerners Ace Hardware Stores and Lumber Yards, Mr. Lizer was an accountant for the Southern Ute Growth Fund, the money-generating arm of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in southwestern Colorado.

Mr. Lizer earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado in 2006.

## Oklahoma Area

### **Bryan Warner**

***Cherokee Nation***

***Deputy Principal Chief***

Bryan Warner is the Deputy Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Prior to June 2019, he has served on the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council for District 6, a position he held since 2015. Mr. Warner holds a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Northeastern State University and a Master of Education degree from East Central University. He is employed at Carl Albert State College and has served as a full-time science instructor and is now Sallisaw Campus Director. Mr. Warner's civic and volunteer experience includes time served as Ward 3 City Commission for the City of Sallisaw, leading local youth in church as well as coaching youth league baseball and football. He also works closely with the Sallisaw MainStreet Organization and is a member of Sallisaw Lions Club, is on the board of Directors for Sallisaw Youth League and the Sallisaw Youth and Recreation Commission.

## Phoenix Area

**Vacant**

## Portland Area

### **Stephen Kutz, RN, BSN, MPH**

***Colwitz Indian Tribe***

***Tribal Council Member***

Stephen Kutz has served as a Tribal Council Member for almost 20 years and is currently serving as Tribal Council Chair. He received his Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Eastern Washington University and has worked as a nurse for 46 years. He received his Master's in Public Health from Tulane University in 1992. He served 20 years on active duty as a nurse in the U.S. Army with 13 of those years spent in Preventive Medicine and Community Health. He also worked for over 12 years in a County Health Department in Washington State as Director of Public Health Nursing while also serving as the Health Department Director for eight years. He has worked for this Tribe for 14 years, for five

years he managed the Medical and Mental Health Clinic in Longview Washington as well as the Mental Health Clinic in Vancouver and Seattle, three years as Deputy Director, and now executive Director of the Cowlitz Tribe Health and Human Services Department. He is involved deeply in Indian health and social services programs and policy formulation at the local, state and national level at numerous levels as demonstrated by his involvement on regional, statewide, and national committees and boards. He is an alternate delegate to the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians along with National Congress of American Indians and serve as an alternate Delegate to the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. He has served as their delegate to the HHS Health Research Advisory Committee where he served as the co-chair and has served on the IHS Budget Formulation Committee for 6 years. In the past he also served as an Alternate National Delegate to the HHS (STAC) Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee. He also serves as a delegate to the Washington State American Indian Health Commission and serves as the elected Chair and is on the board of directors. He also serves as the co-chair of the Foundational Public Health Advisory Committee that is working with the Washington State Department of Health, Local County Public Health and Tribal Public in increasing State funding to the State Public Health System. He is also a delegate to the Washington State Indian Policy Advisory Committee to the Department of Social and Health Services who has further assigned him to represent them on the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee to the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery. He currently works on the State Mental Health Committee that is advising the state in their efforts to redesign how Medicaid mental health services are delivered to AI/AN. He is a board member of the Southwest Washington Regional Health Alliance, the Accountable Community of Health for SW Washington. He has been appointed by the Governor to the State Board of Health representing Tribes and has served for 9 years. The State Board of Health has appointed him as their delegate to the governors' Council on Health Disparities. He summarizes his Public Health experience consists of 13 years in the Federal sector (US Army), 12 years in County Public Health, and 14 years in Tribal Health. He is currently (since March 2020) running the Incident Command for the Cowlitz response to Covid-19.

## **Tucson Area**

### **Vacant**

## **Tribes At-Large\***

### **Doreen Fogg-Leavitt**

***Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope  
Council Secretary***

Doreen Fogg-Leavitt is the Council Secretary for the Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS), elected August 2018. She is the Executive Director for the Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government since November 2018. Secretary Fogg-Leavitt was formerly the Director of the North Slope Borough Department of Health & Human Services from 2011 to 2016. She graduated from Carroll College with a nursing degree in 2001. Secretary Fogg-Leavitt has held various roles employed as a public health nurse, nurse manager, and on national and statewide boards.

### **Connie Barker**

***Chickasaw Nation***

## ***Tribal Legislator***

Connie Barker is a Tribal Legislator for the Chickasaw Nation. She has served the Pickens District since 2008 and has previously held both Secretary and Chairperson positions. Mrs. Barker is a member of the Legislative, Human Resources, Education, Health, and Tribal Historical Preservation committees, as well as the Tribal Co-Chair for the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee, a national committee dedicated to the treatment and prevention of diabetes in Indian Country. She currently serves as Health Committee Chair and serves on multiple other committees. Mrs. Barker is a graduate of Murray State College and an Honor Graduate of the first Leadership Love County Class of 2004.

\*There are currently two Tribes At-Large vacancies.

## **Trinidad Krystall**

***Riverside San Bernardino County Indian Health Clinic Inc.***

***Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians***

Trinidad Krystall, is a member of the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians and mother of three. She attended Venice High School and received a scholarship to attend the University of California Los Angeles. After graduating from U.C.L.A. she worked as a musical performer, theater sound designer and photographer. She eventually accepted a position with the State of California in insurance claims management with the Department of Industrial Relations. Presently, she works on special projects as an executive producer for classical music recordings on the Vivace label. Since 2018 she has been a RSBCIHI Board Delegate and Alternate for Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. She is grateful for the many opportunities She's had to serve her tribe. Some of the positions she's held are; Executive Director of the Torres Martinez Gaming Agency, Torres Martinez Gaming Commission Chairwoman, Tribal Council Proxy for two years, TM TANF Advisory Board member. In 2019 she served as a Delegate on the California Rural Indian Health Board and currently is a member of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC/ATSDR) Tribal Advisory Committee. She is passionate about health and wellness and strive to serve her native community to the best of her ability.

## **Richard Sneed**

***Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians***

***Principal Chief***

Richard Sneed is the 28<sup>th</sup> Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. He is a graduate of Cherokee High School in Cherokee, North Carolina and a graduate of Universal Technical Institute in Phoenix, Arizona, and Southwestern Community College in Sylva, North Carolina. He holds a North Carolina teaching license in industrial arts and taught vocational classes at Cherokee High School where the National Indian Education Association recognized him as National Classroom Teacher of the Year. Principal Chief Sneed is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and he has served as the senior pastor of the Christ Fellowship Church of Cherokee. Principal Chief Sneed and his wife Trina reside in the Birdtown Community of the Qualla Boundary where they raised their five children.