

DISCUSSION DRAFT

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) and the
INSERT TRIBE**

Collaborating Partner	Collaborating Partner
Project Contact:	

National Indian Child Welfare Association (see <http://www.nicwa.org>)
The National Indian Child Welfare Association is dedicated to the well being of American Indian children and families. Our vision is that every American Indian child should have access to community-based, culturally appropriate services that help them grow up safe, healthy, and spiritually strong—free from abuse, neglect, sexual exploitation, and the damaging effects of substance abuse. NICWA was established with several stated purposes, among them to promote safe, healthy, and culturally strong permanent families for Indian children and to provide technical assistance on Indian child welfare matters. NICWA, a nationally recognized resource for advocacy, and policy related research as well as data on Indian children. NICWA depends on collaborative relationships in this and other projects to succeed in our work.

Tribe
Insert name and paragraph description.

History/Basis of Relationship
The history of the relationship between NICWA and (Tribe) has been important to both parties. NICWA was founded to support tribal child welfare programs with advocacy for adequate resources in federal and state budgets, to provide information, training and technical assistance to tribes. The (Tribe) provided important guidance and support to NICWA as a constituent and advisor and by providing a range of child welfare services. In 2002 NICWA entered an agreement with [REDACTED] to create a internet based client information system that was affordable and accessible and compatible with federal data reporting systems. The (Tribe) has elected to purchase services from [REDACTED]. As part of that service the (Tribe) is eligible to participate in NICWA’s data management system. We now wish to build on our history and common missions to work to improve the policies, services, resources and advocacy for Indian children through a collaboration on the use, analysis and aggregation of data.

Roles and Responsibilities of NICWA and (Tribes) for data collaboration:

General

Ownership: The data provided by a tribe is the property of that tribe. The tribe has the option to have their data, in whole or in part, included or excluded from any aggregate reports produced by NICWA. The

(Tribe) will be provided with summary reports of the aggregate data from their tribe for its own use (e.g. in planning and budgeting) and to determine if their data will be included in the reporting to the national data systems or NICWA reports.

Use: Data is to be used solely for the purposes expressed in this agreement. Any other use of the (Tribe's) data outside that described here in will require the written permission of the tribal government.

Confidentiality: The data that the (Tribe) provides is confidential. The reports produced for the federal data systems will be an aggregate (totals) of all participating programs that consent to their data being used. Individual tribal aggregates will not be identified in reports to federal data systems or NICWA generated reports without the express written consent of the tribal government.

The following are specific elements of the relationship between the collaborating partners:

NICWA will:

- Ensure the security of the data provided to NICWA;
- have overall responsibility for planning, developing, and implementing all data analysis and reporting activities;
- provide information to the (Tribe) on the service and related issues on a regular and periodic basis;
- provide advice and assistance on data use and reporting to the (Tribe);
- aggregate (Tribe's) data with data from other tribes, following inspection by the tribe and upon written consent, for the purposes of reporting to federal data systems, preparing reports for national dissemination, or other such reports as might be approved or requested by consenting tribes.

(Tribe) will:

- allow NICWA access to unidentified, aggregate data from the NICWAnet _____ system;
- identify a staff person to act as designated liaison to NICWA;
- work with NICWA to identify reports needed by the (Tribe) on a regular, periodic or ad hoc basis;
- participate in relevant training events on a fee for service basis;
- allow NICWA to aggregate (Tribe's) data with data from other tribes, following inspection by the Tribe and upon written consent, for the purposes of reporting to federal data systems, preparing reports for national dissemination, or other such reports as might be requested by consenting tribes.

Terry L. Cross, NICWA Executive Director Tribe

Date: _____

Date: _____