“Tribal Leaders’ Roundtable with Governor of Arizona, Doug Ducey, 2015”
Mission

To provide Member Tribes with the means for action on matters that affect them collectively and individually, promote tribal sovereignty, and strengthen tribal governments.
THE HISTORY OF ITCA

Caring and support, strong tribal leadership, and healthy tribal communities is the legacy the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) hopes to leave for future generations. It is what inspires us to continue to work toward a better future for generations to come.

In 2015, ITCA celebrated its 40th Anniversary – a noteworthy milestone for an organization with humble beginnings. Established out of a need for a stronger voice through unity and collective action, ITCA was established as a non-profit corporation on July 9, 1975. ITCA became an independent entity able to obtain, analyze, and disseminate information vital to Indian community self-development. It was the first step on the long journey toward Indian self-reliance.

Today, 21 federally recognized tribes with lands in Arizona are members of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona. These members are represented by the highest elected tribal officials: tribal chairpersons, presidents, and governors. These Tribal Leaders bring a shared history and comprehensive view of the Indian communities they represent, giving ITCA the unified voice it needs to support Member Tribes.

At the community level, ITCA operates more than 30 grants and contracts and employs a staff of 70 to provide on-going technical assistance and training to tribal governments in program planning and development, research and data management, resource development, and evaluation. In addition, the staff of ITCA organizes and conducts seminars, workshops, conferences, and public hearings to facilitate participation of Tribal Leaders in the formulation of public policy at all levels.

Today, four decades later, ITCA takes a look back at the tireless work, milestones, and progress still being made. In service to our Member Tribes, ITCA celebrates all the communities that have worked together to have a national impact.

A NOTE FROM PRESIDENT OF ITCA

Over the past 40 years, the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) has continued to meet its mission to increase the quality of life for American Indians living in Arizona through the protection of tribal sovereignty and by strengthening tribal governance. The success that ITCA has achieved has been through collaboration with its Member Tribes. This collaborative effort has been based on thoughtful and strategic planning, the delivery of quality services, and continuous input from our Member Tribes on how to design our programs to meet their needs and serve to build the capacity of all.

We are very proud of our working relationship with our Member Tribes and present to you our 2015 ITCA Annual Report which reflects on our 40 years of excellence in service to our Member Tribes. In this report, we highlight pillar programs that were developed to meet the needs of our Member Tribes and how these programs have evolved to serve as model best practices. We highlight four programs and their impact by providing a timeline of how these programs have grown over the years as well as the people who have made significant contributions to these programs. Additionally, we discuss innovations in policy development in the areas of Tribal Water Rights and Healthcare by showcasing the Tribal Leader Water Policy Council and the IHS Budget Formulation/Steering Committee, which monitors health policy at the state and federal levels.

In 2000, we reported revenue of $11 million with the majority of funds coming from federal sources. Today, we report revenue of $17 million with 93% of revenue supporting tribal programs via the pass-through of funding to Member Tribes or through the provision of training and technical assistance. ITCA continues to seek opportunities to strengthen our programs by tracking and seeking funding opportunities through partnerships, grants, and sponsorship development.

As we work to maintain our services, ITCA is very thankful for the support and involvement that we receive from Tribal Leaders, ITCA staff, and those who have volunteered their time in strengthening the ITCA organization. During the 40th Anniversary luncheon that was held in November 2015, ITCA honored six individuals who made significant contributions to ITCA. Their involvement and accomplishments have provided the foundation for ITCA to be one of the strongest Inter Tribal organizations in the United States.

We are honored to highlight these individuals in this special edition of our annual report which reflects on our past 40 years. In particular, we want to thank Mr. John R. Lewis, who served as Executive Director from 1975 - 2014, and the late Alberta Tippeconnic who served as Assistant Director from 1980 - 2010. These two Legacy Honorees built ITCA into the strong organization it is today. We will continue to honor their legacy by staying the course in meeting the mission of ITCA. It’s been an honor to serve as the President and CEO of ITCA. On behalf of the Member Tribes of ITCA, we hope you enjoy this special edition of our annual report and we look forward to your continued support for the success of ITCA.

Thank you!

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Thomas Beauty, President
Yavapai Apache Nation

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
Herman Honanie, Chairman
Hopi Tribe

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Kasey Velasquez, Vice-Chairman
White Mountain Apache Tribe

SECRETARY/ TREASURER
Terry Rambler, Chairman
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Caring for the people of our Member Tribes is at the core of ITCA’s work. Over the last 40 years, direct service programs administered by ITCA have helped countless tribal families support themselves and their communities. From providing food to infants and children to support services for elders, ITCA has been and will continue to be dedicated to the people of the Tribes in Arizona.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is one of our country’s most important public health programs and has enriched the lives of millions of families over the years. WIC improves birth outcomes, reduces infant mortality, and prepares kids for learning. Since 1986, ITCA WIC has been part of the national WIC program focused on ensuring good health and proper nutrition for moderate to low-income pregnant, post-partum and breastfeeding women, and children under the age of five.

Year after year, ITCA WIC continues to have a positive impact on tribal families. In 2015, ITCA WIC served an average of 9,300 participants per month and was one of only a handful of state agencies nationwide that did not see a decrease in numbers. ITCA’s WIC Until 5 campaign helped to keep participation steady by building awareness of the importance of nutrition and healthy growth through the age of five. As a result of the campaign’s outreach efforts, program participation increased by more than 3% from 2014 to 2015.

This year, ITCA WIC added yogurt and whole grain pastas to the WIC food package to increase food options for better health. WIC continued to connect families with resources they needed such as food banks, domestic violence shelters, mental health services, and jobs programs. At the local level, many agencies expanded their lists of referral agencies to better assist with connecting families with local resources.

ITCA WIC services are provided through 12 local agencies serving 13 Tribes, La Paz County, and the Phoenix and Tucson urban areas to meet the nutrition needs of income eligible women, infants, and children.

FEATURED EMPLOYEE

CLARESA BEDONIE, NAVAJO NATION

“I love what I do and what breastfeeding provides for moms, and families, and babies,” said Claresa when asked about her work at ITCA. “I hope to emphasize the importance of understanding different cultures and traditions within the tribes, and be passionate about the work we’re doing.”

Claresa came to work at ITCA in April of 2007, after earning her degree in Community Health Education from the College of Public Health at the University of Arizona with a minor in nutrition. She says she’s always had an interest in working with the American Indian population and was excited to work with the ITCA WIC program. Starting her career at ITCA as an administrative coordinator, she is now the breastfeeding coordinator and became certified as a lactation consultant in 2011. There are very few International Board Certified Lactation Consultants nationwide and to be an American Indian lactation consultant is noteworthy.

“I work with moms and staff when I go out to the communities once a month. I’ve learned how much of an impact staff has to help their tribal communities,” she said. “I’m thankful ITCA has allowed me to make a difference in that way.”

Claresa wants ITCA and the WIC program to continue to meet the needs of the population it serves to better the overall health of the tribes. A legacy that future generations can build upon.

1975 - Legislation establishes WIC as a permanent health and nutrition program

1986 - Seven tribes come together to establish the ITCA WIC Program

1989 - Breastfeeding funds provided by Congress

1992 - Enhanced food package provided for breastfeeding mothers

1994 - Hopi moves WIC under ITCA

1996 - Pascua Yaqui moves WIC under ITCA

2002 - ITCA participation reaches more than 10,000

2003 - Yavapai Apache Nation establishes WIC under ITCA

2005 - ITCA launches Management Information System

2009 - WIC food packages undergo significant change

2015 - Planning for electronic benefits is initiated at ITCA

2015 - ITCA WIC adds yogurt and whole grain pastas as authorized foods
The goal of ITCA-Area Agency on Aging is to promote healthy aging and help elders remain active and independent in their tribal communities. In 2015, in addition to meeting our service goals, ITCA-AAA focused on information and resources for elders in tribal communities.”

Frank Harrison, member of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, filed a lawsuit which resulted in American Indians be granted the right to vote in Arizona in 1948.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING
American Indian Tribes have a long history and tradition of respecting and caring for elders. The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. – Area Agency on Aging, Region 8 (ITCA-AAA) is the result of decades of state and federal advocacy efforts on behalf of tribal elders.

ITCA-AAA was established in 1979 to administer the Older Americans Act (OAA), Title III and VII programs for tribal governments in Arizona and the OAA Title VI program for tribes. ITCA-AAA advocates for, develops, designs and implements programs to meet the needs of older adults in tribal communities. ITCA-AAA is guided and supported by the American Indian Council on Aging (AICOA) elder advisory board. AICOA is organized to promote and advocate for the interests of the elderly population of the Member Tribes of ITCA.

The first national Indian conference on aging was held in Phoenix, Arizona in June 15-17, 1976. It was here that American Indian tribes recognized the need to maintain a continuing advocacy effort on behalf of their elderly, by establishing the National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA) on June 17, 1976. Arizona tribal members envisioned a need to have a counterpart to NICOA to voice their opinions on issues affecting elders and to advocate on a state level in Arizona. During a meeting on September 16, 1976, representatives of Arizona Indian Tribes and two urban organizations voted to form the Arizona Indian Council on Aging (AICOA).

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) and the Office of Indian Community Development (OICD) are working together to achieve the same vision. In 2015, ITCA and OICD collaborated on the Tribal Epidemiology Center to provide training and technical assistance to Tribes. The Tribal Epidemiology Center is a network of Tribes working together to improve their communities’ health through research, surveillance, and evaluation.

ITCA-AAA was established in 1979 to administer the Older Americans Act (OAA), Title III and VII programs for tribal governments in Arizona and the OAA Title VI program for tribes. ITCA-AAA advocates for, develops, designs and implements programs to meet the needs of older adults in tribal communities. ITCA-AAA is guided and supported by the American Indian Council on Aging (AICOA) elder advisory board. AICOA is organized to promote and advocate for the interests of the elderly population of the Member Tribes of ITCA.

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Oftentimes ITCA programs work in concert to provide services. ITCA-AAA partnered with the ITCA Tribal Epidemiology Center to create and disseminate brochures on Elder Abuse Awareness, MyPlate – Food and Nutrition Label Reading, and Hydration/Summer Safety Tips. ITCA-AAA also has an Ombudsman program that works with certified volunteers. The Ombudsman service has benefitted 605 tribal residents and disabled adults of long-term care facilities by ensuring they receive the best quality of care while maintaining their human, civil, and resident rights. The program was commended for providing culturally competent services to tribal residents by the Administration on Community Living. Other key outcomes from 2015 include the delivery of Evidenced Based Health Promotion Programs designed to increase active lifestyles of older adults. Two thousand tribal elders participated in the Enhanced Fitness program.

Continuing the advocacy work that served as the foundation for our programs, ITCA-AAA advocates on behalf of American Indian elders to state and federal agencies and policy makers by educating them on conditions affecting elders living in tribal communities. The ITCA-AAA initiates planning, training and technical assistance by identifying and prioritizing tribal elder’s issues and advocates for them on local, state and federal levels.

FEATURED TRIBAL LEADER

DELIA CARLYLE, VICE CHAIRMAN, AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

“The Ge’ Gelik Ha Ki Elderly Center would not have been possible without ITCA,” acknowledged Ak-Chin Indian Community Tribal Council Vice Chairman Delia Carlyle. “The center has been years in the making. It started with humble beginnings as a simple meal program for Elders and is now a building specifically for Elders. The name of the building itself means Elders’ Home,” said Vice Chairman Carlyle.

In April of 1983, Delia served as a Program Coordinator for the Ak-Chin Indian Community Center when she was first introduced to ITCA. The Community wanted to start an Elder feeding program and ITCA’s Area Agency on Aging served as both a resource and funder. As a former Emergency Medical Technician, Delia was no stranger to the health field and has since dedicated her career to Indian health and wellness. She has served on the National Indian Health Board for several years and has been involved with the Ak-Chin Indian Community Council for 33 years. During that time, ITCA has played a role in helping the Community secure federal funding and offered ongoing support and guidance. She hopes that legacy of support is carried on and noted that good things are still to come in the next 40 years.

“ITCA is not just a business but understands that we are all connected; we are family,” said Vice Chairman Carlyle.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The ITCA Health and Human Services (HHS) department serves as an umbrella to different programs focused on health and wellness, and addresses the human, family, and social services needs of tribes. ITCA HHS provides training and technical assistance to build capacity for projects aimed to create healthy and sustainable tribal communities in Arizona, Utah, and Nevada. In recent years, efforts have been focused on teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections due to the high rates among American Indians. In 2014, ITCA was awarded the Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC) grant to address chronic disease prevention through the development of culturally appropriate policy, systems, and environmental changes.

One of the most important outreach efforts of ITCA HHS is its annual youth conference. In 2015, the ITCA HHS held its 8th Annual American Indian Youth Conference on Health and the Environment. The conference reached a total of 106 youth and motivated participants to take responsibility for their overall health and become better stewards of their environment. In 2015, the ITCA HHS held its first Leadership Summit for tribes working in the field of chronic disease prevention. A total of 26 participants attended the training to obtain tools, skills, and resources to enrich their leadership skills in creating a community coalition in combating chronic disease in their communities.
In 1952, a small council of Tribal Leaders had a vision for the tribes in Arizona. Faced with similar challenges, Member Tribes recognized that great opportunities require a unified force. ITCA would not exist without generations of strong leaders. Today, elected tribal officials represent each Member Tribe with the passion and steadfast nature to fight for issues that will leave a growing legacy of policy changes that benefit tribal communities.

TRIBAL LEADERS WATER POLICY COUNCIL

ITCA believes that the water rights of all Member Tribes should be quantified, lawfully supported, and protected for future generations. The Tribal Leaders Water Policy Council (TLWPC) broadens tribal leader participation in water policy and collaboration with federal, tribal, state, and regional water resource management entities. It strengthens tribal capacity through improved access to information and analysis on water management. Water policy issues can have short- and long-term impacts on tribes. TLWPC is a coordinated inter-tribal planning forum that ensures a tribal presence to bring a voice to the table that advocates for water policies that keep tribes in mind.

In 2015, the TLWPC held nine meetings, five of which were special meetings focused on single water policy topics. The TLWPC focused on a total of six water policy topics throughout the year and closely monitored those topics by attending a total of 15 water resources group/agency meetings. All information is reported to ITCA Tribal Leaders to assist them in making the best decision possible on behalf of their communities.

TRIBAL WATER SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

Safe drinking water is the lifeblood of any community. Operating and maintaining water systems on tribal lands is complex and challenging. The ITCA Tribal Water Systems Department (TWS) empowers tribal water and wastewater system operators with the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to provide adequate and reliable drinking water and sanitation services to tribal communities.

TWS is the primary provider of tribally led water and wastewater system operations, training, certification, and technical assistance services for tribal communities. Administering these water systems in a sustainable manner is imperative to protect both human health and the environment. TWS works to train and license tribal members to operate and maintain reliable, safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities in their own communities for generations to come.

In 2015, TWS added the Very Small Water Systems operator certification to its professional certifications. A four-day training course was developed to prepare tribal personnel entering into the career path of water and wastewater system operations for the Very Small Water System operator certification. TWS conducted the new training course and opportunity for this new type of certification in Regions 6, 8, 9, and 10.

FEATURED FORMER EMPLOYEE

ELAINE WILSON, NAVAJO NATION

For more than 25 years, Elaine Wilson worked as an environmental advocate for tribes. She joined ITCA in March of 1990, right after graduating from Arizona State University. Her beginning with ITCA was as a program specialist for the Pesticides Program. Her hard work and commitment resulted in 14 years with the program gaining more responsibility and promotions along the way. At that point, she took on the role as the environmental program director overseeing air quality, solid waste, drinking water, underground storage tank inspection training, emergency response, and hazardous materials training. Though challenging at times, Elaine believes ITCA’s programs help tribes to build capacity to run their own programs. Knowing that her work helped to empower tribes kept her going.

“My fuel was the mission of ITCA – to empower the tribes to exercise their sovereignty and fulfill their self determination. That they can make a difference in their own lives and not always have to depend on outside entities for things they can do themselves,” said Elaine.

Now a consultant and employed part-time with the National Tribal Air Association, Elaine is thankful for her time at ITCA. She gives thanks to her mentors, John Lewis and Alberta Tippeconnic, for their mutual trust and support as she knows that ITCA’s legacy is a collaborative effort.
HEALTH POLICY

The Tribal Health Steering Committee (THSC) for the Phoenix Area Indian Health Service (IHS) is comprised of elected Tribal Leaders representing tribes located in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah. It was established by a joint resolution of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada and the Utah Tribes on January 20, 1983. The purpose of the steering committee is to advise the IHS on tribal healthcare concerns, health policy, and the formulation of Indian health budgetary recommendations. The committee provides direction to IHS in order to effectively advance the Presidential Executive Memorandum on Tribal Consultation signed by President Obama on November 9, 2009. In this regard, the committee assists to inform and engage the 43 tribes and bands in the IHS Phoenix Area on the numerous issues that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) bring to the attention of the tribes and likewise the tribal issues, concerns, and recommendations that must be relayed to federal and state health officials.

ITCA THSC staff conducts analysis, disseminates tribal policy recommendations, and provides information on HHS, IHS, state health policy development, IHS appropriations, and health concerns that affect Tribes in Arizona, Nevada and Utah. In 2015, a major area of focus continued to be the implementation of Public Law 111-148, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). During this period, staff provided information and analysis and engaged Tribal Leaders on the policy changes intended to expand health care access. ITCA launched a short-term outreach and education campaign with advertisements for tribal newspapers and for Good Health TV at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center, Public Service Announcements for six tribal radio stations, and posters that were distributed to 28 tribes without a local media outlet. The information focused on the unique ACA protections afforded to American Indians/Alaska Natives and the different policy approaches of the states.

In 2015, ITCA THSC staff completed the report on the Phoenix Area Tribal Recommendations highlighting agreement on a 22% budget increase, as well as a needs-based budget that would provide a 33.8% increase above the FY2016 enacted budget in the following areas:

1. Health Care Facilities Construction (+$145 million, an increase of 133.4%)
2. Mental Health (+$45 million, an increase of 56.9%)
3. Urban Health (+$15 million, an increase of 39.9%)
4. Health Education (+$5 million, an increase of 31.4%)
5. Community Health Representatives (+$15 million, an increase of 30%)
6. Purchased Referred Care (+$255 million, an increase of 28.1%)

In November 2015, the Annual FY2018 Phoenix Area Indian Health Service Budget Formulation Meeting was held in Reno, Nevada. New leadership was selected to serve on the National IHS Tribal Budget Formulation Workgroup to represent the Phoenix Area at that time. Tribal Leaders requested the accompaniment of an urban program representative to the National IHS Budget Formulation meeting to advise the budget process. Medicaid was a top health policy issue in 2015. The Medicaid program helps to alleviate and address American Indian and Alaska Native health risks and improve treatment by enhancing revenue to all IHS, tribal, and urban Indian programs. Varied efforts to further Medicaid policies were pursued by Tribal Leaders in Arizona, Utah, and Nevada.
Working to create healthy communities ensures a lasting legacy of wellness for all of ITCA Member Tribes. Some of the specific American Indian health disparities that tribes are addressing include behavioral health issues, diabetes and other chronic diseases, oral health, and teen pregnancy. ITCA health programs assist tribes to create healthy communities through capacity building and technical assistance in the areas of health policy, program development, and training.

TRIBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER

The ITCA Tribal Epidemiology Center (TEC) is one of the four original TECs and was established in 1996. TECs manage public health information systems, investigate diseases, manage prevention and control programs, respond to public health emergencies, and coordinate these activities with other public health authorities. The ITCA TEC program works to build tribally driven public health and epidemiologic capacity among the tribes in the Phoenix and Tucson Indian Health Service Areas in order to improve American Indian health and wellness.

ITCA TEC continued to provide ArcGIS mapping—a geographic information system (GIS) to help tribes compile geographic data, analyze information, and create and share interactive maps to better collect and convey information that impacts tribal public health. ITCA TEC continued to build upon its successful training and technical assistance and developed tribal and regional community health profiles.

In 2015, the ITCA TEC began planning training and technical assistance to help the nine Tribal Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Domestic Violence Prevention Initiatives (MSPI/DVPI) at the local level. This included plans to expand the hands-on technical assistance visits to 18 tribal communities in 2016. TEC redesigned the survey and data management course and provided it to tribal staff participating in the Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country program in the winter of 2015. TEC plans to provide the same training to MSPI/DVPI tribal staff to assist with the local data collection, surveillance, and evaluation in 2016.

PESTICIDES ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

The Pesticide Enforcement Program (PEP) ensures that tribal farmworkers and their families are protected from potential pesticide exposures. The PEP provides training and education on pesticide safety to ensure that agricultural employers, farm workers, and pesticide handlers are adequately protected.

The ITCA PEP obtains Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) inspection credentials to conduct inspection on tribal lands to ensure pesticide application compliance and coverage in Indian Country. PEP helps to make sure agriculture employers are in compliance with the Pesticide Worker Protection Standards and reduce the risk of pesticide poisoning and injury among agricultural workers and pesticide handlers. An inspection agreement between US EPA Region 9 and ITCA was finalized in March 2016 to conduct inspection activities for Member Tribes in Arizona.

In 2015, ITCA received funding from US EPA to provide training for Tribal Pesticide Inspectors and training to implement Integrated Pest Management Practices to tribal school personnel. ITCA pesticide staff are involved in training steering committees, advisory boards, and councils to ensure that tribal pesticides issues and concerns are addressed at the federal level. It provides the opportunity to establish and enhance tribal/state/federal relationships.

1996 - ITCA enters into a Cooperative Agreement to become one of the four original TECs established.

1997 - ITCA begins to provide public health training and technical assistance (T/TA) to Tribes

2002 - Assisted Tribes with Youth and Adult Tobacco Surveys (YTS and ATS)

2003 - TA for National American Indian and Alaska Native Pediatric Height and Weight Survey

2006 - Office of Minority Health funding used to expand tribal injury prevention programs via the Tribal Motor Vehicle Crash Injury Prevention Program

2007 - ITCA partners with Southwest American Indian Collaborative Cancer Network on the data & evaluation core

2010 - ITCA TEC designated as a Public Health Authority through the Affordable Care Act

2011 - TEC provides T/TA to Rocky Mountain spotted fever outbreak and H1N1 influenza outbreak

2012 - Entered into a Data Sharing Agreement with Indian Health Service

2013 - Continued outbreak T/TA for Rocky Mountain spotted fever

2014 - ArcGIS T/TA implemented to build tribal public health capacity for mapping

2015 - Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country program evaluation support and T/TA

Underlying all of these problems of introducing contamination into our world is the question of moral responsibility—responsibility not only to our own generations but to those of the future.

— Rachel Carson, Author
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT
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Assistant Director, Travis Lane

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Administrative Assistant, Naida Mansfield
Administrative Assistant/Travel Coordinator, Bernadette Guy
Administrative Assistant Meeting Planner/Scheduler, Crystal Wyaco-Little
Graphic Designer, April Wesley

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Program Coordinator, Cynthia Freeman
Caregiver Support Program Specialist, Mary Weston
Independent Living Support Program Coordinator, Edith Thomas
Public Benefits Program Specialist, Stephanie Barehand

DENTAL SUPPORT CENTER
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Solid Waste Environmental Specialist, Brian Davidson
Air Quality Environmental Specialist, Shaina White
Emergency Preparedness/Public Safety Program Coordinator, Nathan Nixon

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Epidemiologist II, Anne van Duijnhoven
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SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN
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Breastfeeding Specialist, Clareea Bedonie
WIC Nutrition Services Coordinator, Sara Najafi
WIC Nutrition Services Coordinator, Laura Munson
Vendor Specialist, Mallory Phelps
Administrative Assistant, Gerald Lopez

TRIBAL WATER DEPARTMENT
Director, Brian Bennon
Technical Assistance Coordinator, Bruce Robinson
Environmental Specialist II, Tyler Walls
Environmental Specialist, Souta Calling Last
Environmental Specialist, Quannee Oosahwe
Environmental Specialist, Marguerite Sheehan
Administrative Assistant, Michelle Ragsdale
THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO ADD YOUR FOOTPRINT TO ITCA’S JOURNEY AND LEAVE A POSITIVE LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

OFFER YOUR TIME.
Volunteer your time to help with one of our conferences or events.

MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION.
Support one of the programs described in this report or the numerous others ITCA offers. Choose the cause that is closest to your heart and make your money work to help others.

LEND YOUR VOICE.
Help us spread the word about the work ITCA is doing within tribal communities with friends, family and colleagues. And share your stories with us! We’d love to hear from you.

For more information please contact us at info@itcaonline.com.
Over his career with ITCA, Mr. Lewis worked to grow the organization from a small one person organization with minimal funding into one that operates more than 30 programs and addresses a wide variety of programmatic areas including: Environmental Quality, Health & Human Services, Nutrition and Research. Within Arizona, Mr. Lewis served as the Executive Director of the ITCA, Mr. Lewis’ work centered around state, national and local policy development which has served to strengthen tribal governance. Mr. Lewis’ career reflects a nearly unparalleled legacy of advocacy with regard to Indian Water Rights, Sacred Sites & Cultural Preservation, Economic Development, and Tribal Sovereignty.

Mr. Lewis’s life’s work has been dedicated to advocacy on behalf of Tribes. His work led to establishing and formalizing the government to government relationship between Tribes and the State of Arizona.

During 2015, ITCA celebrated its 40 year anniversary as a 501(c)(3). During this special occasion, Mr. Lewis was recognized for his significant work in establishing ITCA as a leading American Indian organization which continues to be recognized regionally and nationally.

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**ITCA LEGACY HONOREES**

**JOHN R. LEWIS**
Mr. John R. Lewis is Mojave/Pima/Tohono O’odham and enrolled at Colorado River Indian Tribes. Mr. Lewis served as the Executive Director of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) from 1975 - 2013 during a time of great political change for Tribes across the United States. Throughout the majority of his nearly 40 years of service to Tribes in Arizona as the Executive Director of the ITCA, Mr. Lewis’ work centered around state, national and local policy development which has served to strengthen tribal governance. Mr. Lewis’ career reflects a nearly unparalleled legacy of advocacy with regard to Indian Water Rights, Sacred Sites & Cultural Preservation, Economic Development, and Tribal Sovereignty.

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**ATTORNEY JOE SPARKS**
Joe Sparks served as ITCA’s legal representative and in that capacity he worked to establish the legal framework and structure of the organization’s 501 C3 nonprofit status. Mr. Sparks went on to provide thousands of hours of in-kind services over the years toward major legislative and advocacy projects in support of voter education and voter rights, as well as environmental and Indian Education issues.

During 2015, ITCA celebrated its 40 year anniversary as a 501(c)(3). During this special occasion, Mr. Lewis was recognized for his significant work in establishing ITCA as a leading American Indian organization which continues to be recognized regionally and nationally.

Over his career with ITCA, Mr. Lewis worked to grow the organization from a small one person organization with minimal funding into one that operates more than 30 programs and addresses a wide variety of programmatic areas including: Environmental Quality, Health & Human Services, Nutrition and Research. Within Arizona, Mr. Lewis and ITCA were instrumental in successfully advocating for tribal consultation on many issues and establishing tribal liaisons in state offices.

Mr. Lewis’ life’s work has been dedicated to advocacy on behalf of Tribes. His work led to establishing and formalizing the government to government relationship between Tribes and the State of Arizona.

**DR. EDDIE BROWN**
Dr. Eddie Brown is Director of American Indian Studies and Co-Executive Director of the American Indian Policy Institute at Arizona State University and serves as a member of the U.S. President’s Board of Advisors on Tribal Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Brown has held a unique variety of state, local and national administrative positions including Director of Arizona Department of Economic Security during the late 1980s. Dr. Brown was instrumental in assisting ITCA with garnering major funding which served to stabilize and greatly increase our capacity of service to our Member Tribes.

**MS. SUSAN WHITE**
Ms. Susan White served as the financial architect designing ITCA’s financial systems and infrastructure which has kept the organization strong for several decades. Ms. White’s incredible financial background has assisted ITCA to successfully navigate the complexities of operating state and federal contracts, grants and cooperative agreements. Susan maintains her work with ITCA and recently gave a day long financial workshop to our program managers on the new changes to the OMB super circular. Ms. White continues to be ever responsive to our financial information needs and we greatly appreciate her service to ITCA and our Member Tribes.

**MR. NORM DEWEAVER**
Mr. Norm DeWeaver has provided his service to ITCA in support of Tribal Water Rights for more than a decade. Mr. DeWeaver has been a strong advocate for Tribal Sovereignty and our inherent Tribal Water Rights that Tribes must continue to defend. Mr. DeWeaver has published numerous white papers and given hundreds of educational presentations on tribal water management throughout the state and beyond. Mr. DeWeaver has only recently retired as of October 2015, but he continues to provide valuable input to ITCA staff and Tribal Leaders without hesitation.

**COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS**

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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT
Grants and Awards ........................................... $15,166,427
Infant formula rebate revenue ............................ $2,270,049
Donated facilities and supplies ......................... $139,167
Contributions ........................................ $6,632
Investment Revenue/Rental Income/Other .......... $17,708
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT .................. $17,599,983

EXPENSES
Program Services ........................................... $16,256,478

SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES
Management and general .............................. $1,075,678
Fund raising/Grant solicitation ......................... $15,025
TOTAL EXPENSES ...................................... $17,347,181

Change in net assets ................................... $252,802
Net assets-Beginning of year ......................... $2,445,938
NET ASSETS-END OF YEAR ......................... $2,698,740

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

CURRENT ASSETS
Cash .................................................. $329,076
Grants and Awards Receivable ....................... $2,449,102
Prepaid Expenses ................................... $2,999
Other Receivables .................................... $15,338
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS ......................... $2,796,515
Property and Equipment, net ......................... $2,154,586
TOTAL ASSETS ....................................... $4,951,101

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
CURRENT LIABILITIES
Accounts Payable ...................................... $1,427,673
Accrued Expenses ................................... $213,408
Funds held in trust ................................... $37,633
Current portion of long-term debt ................. $53,037
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITY ....................... $1,731,751
Long-term debt, net of current portion ......... $520,610

NET ASSETS-UNRESTRICTED
Controlling interest .................................. $2,662,074
Temporarily Restricted .............................. $36,666
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS .............. $4,951,101

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

REVENUE SOURCES
- United States
  Department of Agriculture - $10,208,631
  (Includes Infant Formula Rebate Revenue)
- Department of Health and Human Services - $4,622,252
- State of Arizona - $360,627
- Environmental Programs - $1,357,983
- Other Federal Programs - $411,515
- Other Funding - $638,975

FUNCTIONAL EXPENDITURES
- Tribal Pass-through - $10,141,211
- Tribal Support - $6,143,018
- ITCA Administration - $1,090,703