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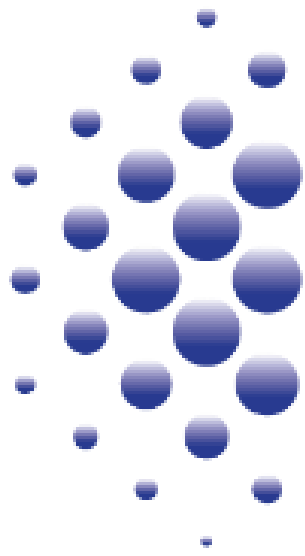
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Investing in Fatherhood: Supporting Native Fathers Struggling with Addiction

July 21, 2022 | Presented by:

Kevin Poleyumptewa,
National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College





BJA's

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse

Program



BJA's

Comprehensive
Opioid, Stimulant,
and Substance Abuse

Program

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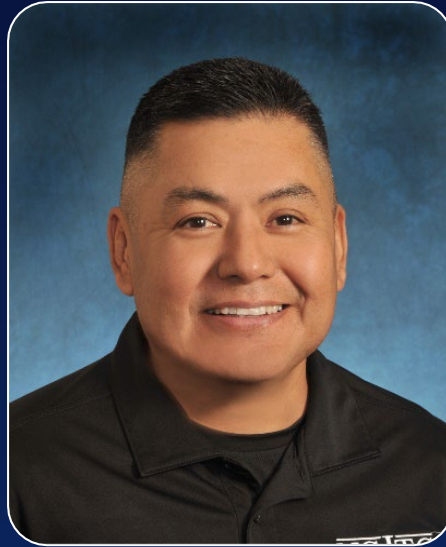
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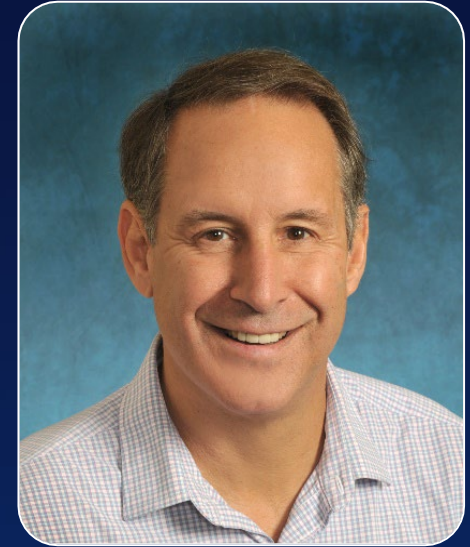
Today's Presenter & Panel



Kevin Poleyumptewa
Project Coordinator,
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Kevin Mariano
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Greg Brown
Program Manager,
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Learning Objectives

- ✓ Explain the importance of investing in fatherhood.
- ✓ Describe the benefits of fatherhood programs.
- ✓ Identify resources for developing a fatherhood program.
- ✓ Develop strategies for working with fathers struggling with addiction.





Why Invest In Fatherhood?

The Biggest “Big Brother”
Program in the World

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=Em1TrAXUF3s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Em1TrAXUF3s)

A close-up photograph of a man with dark hair and glasses, smiling warmly. He is holding a young child with dark hair who is sleeping peacefully against his chest. The man is wearing a blue polo shirt. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green foliage.

What Is A Fatherhood Program?

- Empower men to play a more active role in their children's lives
- Educate men on the importance of their roles, not only as fathers, but as community members
- Provide skill building for active fathering and relationship building
- Case management for participants
- Safe and a place that is their own

A photograph of a man with dark hair, a beard, and glasses, smiling warmly. He is holding a baby in a white hoodie on his shoulders and a young child with blonde hair in a grey hoodie. They are outdoors with a blurred background of trees and a house.

Increasing Strengths and Capabilities

- Fatherhood curriculum(s) and activities
- Cultural education
- Role play
- Community involvement and volunteering
- Introspective activities
- Talking circles

A photograph of a woman with grey hair and a young boy holding a football on a grassy field. The woman is wearing an orange shirt and the boy is wearing a grey shirt. They are both looking at the football. In the background, there are brick buildings and a cloudy sky.

Fathers That Can Be Served

- In-home Fathers
- Noncustodial Fathers
- Incarcerated Fathers
- Low-Income Fathers
- Stepfathers
- Military Fathers
- Teen Fathers
- Fathers of Children with Special Needs
- Father Figures



Pillars Of The Program

- Setting the foundation: Creating a positive self concept
- Understanding parent/child relationships: developmental stages, behaviors, discipline, etc.
- Understanding adult relationships: co-parenting, how to fight fair, functional versus dysfunctional relationships

A young man with dark hair, smiling broadly, is in the foreground on the right. In the background on the left, a woman is wearing a white dress with a floral pattern. The background is slightly blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting with trees and other people.

Pillars of the Program

- Accountability and responsibility: understanding that the consequences in our lives are based on the choices we make
- Father's importance and responsibility to family and community
- Creating purpose in men
- Open mindedness: Willingness to change



Where to Implement Fatherhood Program

- Community
- Department of Corrections (DOC)
- High school
- Re-entry
- Juvenile detention/facilities
- Group homes

Potential System/Provider Barriers

“Progress is impossible without change, and those that cannot change their minds cannot change anything.” - George Bernard Shaw

- Location (social services, behavioral health, etc.)
- Punitive Vs. rehabilitative approach
- Service provider bias
- Probation
- Tribal Council
- Venue environment (dad friendly)

Potential Outcomes

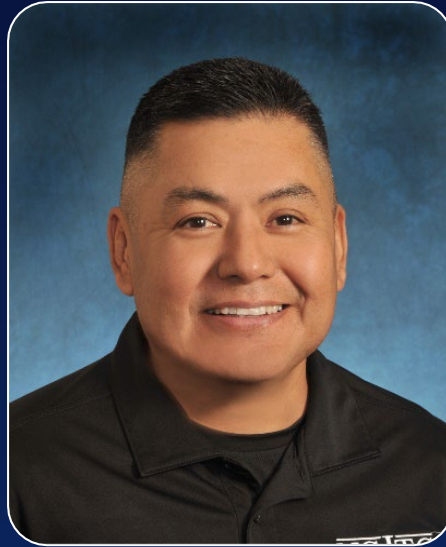
- 3.7 GPA, starting externship for Nursing Assistant
- Graduating in December, also completed IOP class
- Reunified with children who were in CPS custody
- Released from federal prison
- Has obtained a job, driver's license, purchased his first car
- Received GED and enrolled in community college
- Increased involvement with his children and communication with his wife/girlfriend
- More involved with community and cultural practices



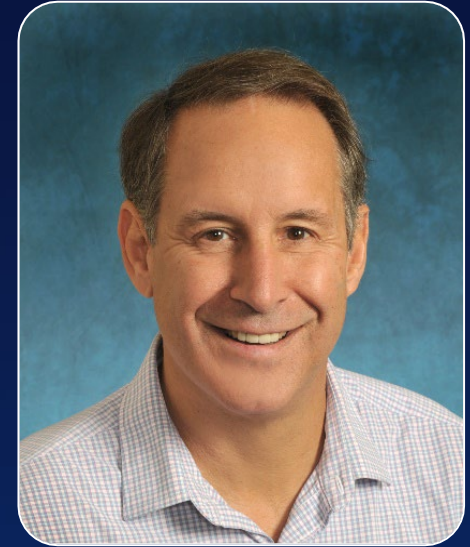
Contact Information & Final Q&A



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Bureau of Justice Assistance's **Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) Resource Center**

Website

www.cossapresources.org

Tailored Assistance

www.cossapresources.org/Program/TTA/Request

Funding Opportunities

www.cossapresources.org/Program/Applying

COSSAP Webinars

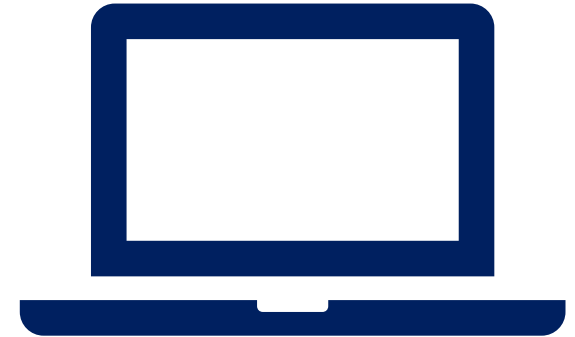
www.cossapresources.org/Media

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