

# TSCC NEWSLETTER UPDATES



ISSUE NO 4 | FEBRUARY 2023



## THIS ISSUE

- P.1 What's happening?
- P.2 February Spotlight
- P.3 Updates & Events

LEARN MORE  
ABOUT TULALIP'S  
HEALING TO  
WELLNESS  
COURT ON PAGE 2!

## WHAT'S NEW?

Welcome back!

As you may know, the TSCC is currently in a revitalization stage. As we begin this new year, one of our goals is to obtain updated responses from Washington State tribal courts regarding TSCC [initiatives and focus areas](#). This outreach will be ongoing and may occur via phone, e-mail, or survey link. Please know that we appreciate your time and support in gathering this information as we continue strengthening relationships between tribal and state court.

Best,

TSCC Co-Chairs and Staff

If you are interested in receiving information from the TSCC such as:

- Newsletters
- Trainings
- Updates
- Conferences
- Scholarship opportunities
- Additional resources

Please sign up for the [TSCC listserv here!](#)

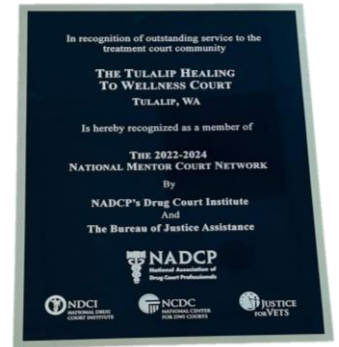
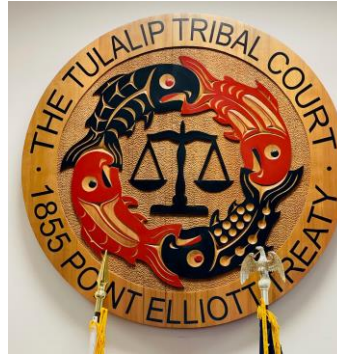
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PROTECTION  
ORDERS- STEPS  
TOWARD  
VISIBILITY. PAGE 3

# February's Active Role Spotlight

## Tulalip Tribal Court - Healing to Wellness

**Community based justice system.** This is a term that is still relatively new when we look at the history of corrections; it's a concept that is still being navigated in both rural and larger cities, so what exactly is it?

For Tulalip tribal court it is **culturally-responsive restorative practice.** Tulalip's Healing to Wellness court includes an abundance of alternative practices their clients can utilize based on non-violent offenses relating to drug abuse or mental health conditions. At Tulalip you can find a weekly docket that includes healing to wellness, mental health court, and family wellness court (FWC). Services embedded in the programs include medical, mental health, chemical dependency treatment, job skills, parenting classes, housing, educational options, and other resources depending on individual needs.



Courtroom artwork by artist Mike Gobin (Tulalip Tribal Member)

Tulalip Healing to Wellness Court is recognized as a member of the 2022-2024 National Mentor Court Network by the NADCP Drug Court Institute and The Bureau of Justice Assistance.

### Tulalip's Family Wellness Court (FWC)

#### **"AN ALTERNATIVE TO CURRENT DEPENDENCY PROCEEDINGS FOR PARENTS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND PAST PERSONAL OR HISTORICAL TRAUMA"**

Transformation begins immediately. Prior to the hearing, Tulalip staff comes into the court and rearranges the room from a standard setting into one that feels inviting and encourages open communication. First on the agenda is a staffing meeting consisting of a support team; this team includes a social worker, SUDP counselor, child advocate attorney, bedah?chelh attorney, FWC coordinator, recovery support specialist and any other support needs required by the participant. The team debriefs and updates each other on the compliance of the participants. If there is noticeable regression, they discuss potential solutions for getting the individual back on track; If there is progression, there are incentives offered and next steps are discussed. The participant is also awarded with a certificate of step completion. There are 5 steps to the program which usually takes place over the length of a year.

1. Orientation and Stabilization
2. Connection Support & Awareness
3. Empowerment-Overcoming obstacles on your Healing Journey
4. Restoration & Family Healing
5. Pulling together as a Family

There is an average of about 3-4 participants per session, per week. The FWC meets more often in order to maintain progress, support, and accountability of the individual--this program is voluntary and the participant can choose to opt out. The uniqueness of this program is the cultural activity feature, where a minimum of one cultural event occurs each month. At the end of the docketed hearings a traditional song/prayer was offered from a local community member to close a very special session.

In FWC, the child's health, safety and overall welfare is the motivator, and this is demonstrated through the growth and transformation of the parent. These parents get the opportunity to learn, develop emotionally, and demonstrate their newfound knowledge. When asked what the most rewarding aspect of her job was, Melissa Johnson (Wellness Program Manager) responded, "*Seeing the family have hope.*" These participants are breaking the cycle of substance abuse, and within that process they are also strengthening their home, their community, and future generations to come.

A very special thank you to Melissa Johnson, Erika Moore, and Judge Peter Boome for allowing the TSCC to observe.

You may find additional information on their website: <https://www.tulaliptribalcourt-nsn.gov/>

## UPDATES & EVENTS

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### CONFERENCES TO WATCH FOR:

#### National Indigenous Women's Resource Center- Women Are Sacred Conference

Date: Mon, Jun 26 - Wed, Jun 28 2023, All day.

About:

The Women Are Sacred (WAS) Conference is one of the oldest and largest gatherings of advocates, survivors, Tribal domestic and sexual violence programs, Tribal community members, Tribal leadership, law enforcement, and Tribal court personnel dedicated to ending violence against Native American women and children. WAS offers state-of-the-art training and networking opportunities designed to increase the capacity of Tribal nations, Tribal domestic violence, and community-based programs to address violence in Tribal communities. [Click to learn more.](#)

#### NICWA's 41st Annual Protecting Our Children Conference

Date: April 2-5, 2023; Reno, Nevada

About:

This event, held in Reno, Nevada will bring together diverse and influential stakeholders, making this event the preeminent conference on addressing the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native children. Attendees comprise a cross-section of experts including child welfare, mental health, and juvenile justice service providers; legal professionals; advocates for children; and tribal and federal leaders, convening to continue our work towards building the capacity of tribal nations and ensuring that all Indian children have safe, permanent homes. [Click to learn more.](#)

## KEEP AN EYE ON IT

### E2SHB 1320 Resources. Viewing Domestic Violence Protection Orders

Video available [here](#)

Protection Order Document Sharing (**PODS**) allows protection order document images filed in Superior Court to be viewable through Judicial Access Browser Server (**JABS**).



Tribal Court Judges may access **JABS** via authorization from the **AOC**.  
New Tribal Judges may initiate that request [here](#).



If a tribal issued protection order is filed in superior court and docketed with one of the codes found on the "Protection Order Docket Code List", then it will be available to view.

**As of January 1, 2023 Protection Order Document Sharing (PODS) is live. This project was moved forward pursuant to E2SHB 1320, specifically [RCW 7.105.105\(1\)\(a\)](#).**

**Any tribal judge will have the capability of viewing these documents upon entry.**

More information regarding E2SHB 1320 can be found [here](#).  
You may also contact [Mishani](#) for FAQ's and the Protection Order Docket Code List.

### PODCAST SPOTLIGHT



[Click to listen](#)

**Keeping Us Whole: Preventing Missing and Murdered Indigenous People - Podcast Series**

"Podcast episodes include interviews with a variety of speakers, from tribal leadership to federal partners, advocates, members of grassroots organizations and native athletes, that have all joined together to raise awareness of the MMIP epidemic and identify ways we can focus on prevention and continue the work of keeping us whole."

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services- Office of the Administration for Children and Families.