



## Office of Tribal Government Relations

## Southwest Region

1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly ConferenceTuesday April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012

8:30 am – 9:00 am	<p align="center"><b>Opening Ceremonies</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Address:</b> <i>Mr. John Garcia, Deputy Assistant Secretary Office of Intergovernmental Affairs</i></p> <p><b>Invocation:</b> <i>Joe Garcia, Past President, National Congress of American Indians, Ohkay Owingeh (invited)</i></p> <p><b>Post Colors:</b> <i>Pueblo of Laguna Honor Guard</i></p> <p><b>Welcome/Blessing/Tribal Leader Opening Remarks:</b> <i>Chandler Sanchez, Chairman, All-Indian Pueblo Council</i></p>
9:00 am – 9:30 am	<p align="center"><b>Overview of OTGR and VA</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Stephanie Birdwell, Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations</i>  <i>Erika Moott, Specialist, OTGR Eastern Region</i>  <i>Mary Culley, Oklahoma City VA Medical Center</i></p>
9:30 am – 10:20 am	<p align="center"><b>Veterans Health Administration Chief Business Office</b></p> <p align="center"><b>“VA 101” – Eligibility</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Bill Etchison, Executive Assistant, Chief Business Office, Office of the Deputy Director for Purchased Care</i></p>
10:20 am – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 am – 11:15 am	<p align="center"><b>Veterans Health Administration (VHA)</b></p> <p align="center"><i>George Marnell, Director, New Mexico VA Health Care System</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Barbara Jaramillo, VISN 18 Geriatrics &amp; Extended Care Program Manager</i></p> <p>Healthcare Services Overview</p> <p>Program Highlight: Geriatrics &amp; Extended Care - Home Based Primary Care</p>
11:15 am – Noon	<p>Tribal Veterans Office – Panel Discussion</p> <p><i>Moderator: Stephanie Birdwell</i></p> <p><i>Marvin Trujillo, Veterans Committee Co-Chair, All Indian Pueblo Council, Pueblo of Laguna</i></p> <p><i>Eugene “Geno” Talas, Director, Hopi Veterans Services, Hopi Tribe</i></p> <p><i>Robert Lucero, Veterans Director, Ute Tribe Veterans Office</i></p> <p><i>Theo “Ted” Underwood, Veterans Affairs Coordinator, Chickasaw Nation</i></p> <p><i>Rod Grove, Tribal Service Officer, Southern Ute Indian Tribe</i></p> <p><i>David Nez, Department Manager, Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs, Navajo Nation</i></p>
Noon – 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	<p align="center"><b>National Cemetery Administration (NCA)</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Speaker: Timothy L. Spain, Director, FNOD, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs</i></p> <p>Introduction</p>

	Cemetery Grants: <i>Pascua Yaqui Success Story Burial</i>
<b>2:00 pm – 2:15 pm</b>	15 Minute Break
<b>2:15 pm – 3:15 pm</b>	<p align="center"><b>Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Speaker</i></p> <p>Introduction – Grant Singleton, Director, VA Albuquerque Regional Office</p> <p>Native American Direct Loan Program. Jeff Wilson, VA Regional Loan Center, Phoenix, AZ (invited). Donna Peigler, Manager, Land, Title, and Records Office, Southwest Region, Bureau of Indian Affairs.</p> <p>Post 9/11 GI Bill and Education Benefits – <i>Scott Lajiness, Management and Program Analyst, VA Albuquerque Regional Office</i></p> <p>Vocational Rehabilitation and Education – <i>Kathy Nelsen, Vocational Rehabilitation &amp; Employment Officer, VA Albuquerque Regional Office</i></p> <p>e-benefits – <i>Scott Lajiness</i></p>
<b>3:15 pm – 4:00 pm</b>	<p align="center"><b>Veteran Business Outreach Center</b></p> <p><i>Col Tim Hale, USAF (Ret), Cabinet Secretary, NM Department of Veteran Services</i></p> <p><i>Joseph Long, Director, Veteran Business Outreach Center</i></p>
<b>4:00 pm – 4:30 pm</b>	Q&A with <i>Director Stephanie Birdwell</i>
<b>4:30 pm</b>	Break for the Day

**Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

<b>8:30 am – 9:30 am</b>	<p align="center"><b>Office of Rural Health</b></p> <p><i>Dr. Byron Bair, Director, Veteran Rural Resource Center Director-Western Region</i></p>
<b>9:30 am – 11:00 am</b>	<p align="center"><b>Tribal Veterans Representatives</b></p> <p><i>Buck Richardson, Minority Veteran Program Coordinator Rocky Mountain Region</i></p> <p align="center"><b>Telehealth</b></p> <p><i>Jay H. Shore, MD, MPH, Native Domain Lead, Veterans Rural Health Resource Center - Western Region, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Rural Health</i></p> <p><i>Rod Sepulveda, MBA, PHR, Rural Health Coordinator, Northern Arizona VA Health Care System, Prescott, AZ</i></p>
<b>11:00 am – 12:15 pm</b>	<p align="center"><b>Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Veterans Affairs (VA) and Indian Health Service (IHS)</b></p> <p><i>Stephanie Birdwell, Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations</i></p> <p><i>Donna Jacobs, Director, Northern Arizona VA Health Care System</i></p> <p><i>Admiral Richie Grinnell, Indian Health Service Albuquerque Area Director</i></p> <p><i>Ron Tso, MPH, CEO, Chinle Service Unit, IHS</i></p> <p><i>HoMana Pawiki, American Indian Services Coordinator/Health Systems Specialist, Northern Arizona VA Health Care System</i></p>
<b>12:15 pm – 1:30 pm</b>	Lunch
<b>1:30 pm – 2:00 pm</b>	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>

	Chaplain's Service: Traditional Healing – <i>Jeni Cook, Associate Director, National VA Chaplain Center (invited)</i>	Homelessness Initiative – <i>Steven Cohen, VISN 18 Homeless Program Coordinator</i>
<b>2:00 pm – 2:30 pm</b>	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>	
	Suicide Prevention/Crisis Line: <i>Dr. Brenda Mayne, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, New Mexico VA Health Care System</i>	PTSD Services – <i>Dr. Diane Castillo, Women's Stress Disorder Treatment Team Coordinator, New Mexico VA Health Care System</i>
<b>2:30 pm – 3:00 pm</b>	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>	
	Transition Assistance Program – <i>Tom Bonnel, Community Readiness Consultant, Airman and Family Readiness Center, Kirtland AFB, NM</i>	Vet Centers – <i>Sharon Bataa, Counselor, Hopi Outreach Center, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs</i>
<b>3:00 pm – 3:15 pm</b>	15 Minute Break	
<b>3:15 pm – 4:00 pm</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION</b>	
	Tribal Veterans Panel – Moderator: <i>Stephanie Birdwell</i> <i>Speaker: Avelino Calabaza, Pueblo of Santo Domingo and Commander - Southwest Region National American Indian Veterans Inc.</i> <i>Speaker: Tonya Goggans, Pueblo of Zuni</i> <i>Speaker: Jeanette Jagels, Pueblo of Tesuque</i> <i>Speaker: Charlotte Atso, Navajo Nation</i>	
<b>4:00 pm – 4:45 pm</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION</b>	
	State Dept. of Veterans Affairs Directors - Moderator: <i>John Garcia</i> <i>States Directors of Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas - invited</i>	
<b>4:45 pm – 5:00 pm</b>	<i>Closing Remarks</i>	

**Thursday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

<b>8:30 am – 9:30 am</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Opening Remarks: <i>Mr. John Garcia, Deputy Assistant Secretary Office of Intergovernmental Affairs</i></b> <b>Listening Session Panel:</b> <i>Moderators: Mr. John Garcia, Deputy Assistant Secretary Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and Stephanie Birdwell, Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations.</i>  <i>State Directors</i>
<b>9:30 am – 11:00 am</b>	Listening Session
<b>11:00 am – 11:15 am</b>	15 Minute Break
<b>11:15 am – 12:45 pm</b>	Listening Session
<b>12:45 pm – 1:00 pm</b>	Closing Ceremony – Pueblo of Laguna Honor Guard