

Operator: Welcome, thank you for standing by. Throughout today's conference all participants will remain in listen-only mode. Throughout the conference, you may press star-one if you would like to ask a question. Today's conference is being recorded, if you have any objections, you may disconnect at this time. Now I'll turn your call over to Tara Nokelby. Thank you, you may begin.

Tara Nokelby: Thank you! Good afternoon and thank you for joining us today. My name's Tara Nokelby and I will be facilitating the webinar today. Today's webinar will be a question-answer session with the Administration for Community Living, Administration on Aging Regional Staff. To open up your line for questions, please press star-one or you can use the chat box on WebX and I can read them aloud. This presentation will also be recorded and posted on Older Indians at a later date, and at this time, I will turn it over to Cynthia LaCounte.

Cynthia LaCounte: Good afternoon, Title VI programs! Thanks for calling in, and good afternoon, ACL Regional Staff, thank you also for calling in so that we can help field questions. I hope everyone's doing well today and I have a response to our very first question, and that question is going to be- see, I'm telepathic everybody- that question is going to be, "When are you sending out our Title VI money? We're broke, and we can't pay any more bills or continue to operate our Senior Center without the rest of our funding," and the answer straight from the ACL Grant Office is: We had a funding issue come up last week that necessitated pulling all of our grants- *putting* all of our grants on hold temporarily. This has essentially been resolved with no changes required for Title VI. I am waiting for the department, which means Health and Human Services, to give me the green light to move forward, which I expect later today. Once we have the approval from HHS, you should be able to move your grants immediately. And I know that Yee Shin [could not verify spelling] has everything ready because I signed off on it a week ago and just to let you all know as well, you know that we had a slight increase in our Title VI appropriations both on- in Title- er, Part A and in Part C. Overall, you can anticipate about a 22.5% increase in your Part C, 22.5% increase from your last year's amount, and about a 5% increase in your Part A allocation. So, again, about a 22.5% increase in Part C and about a 5% increase in your Part A, and hopefully we'll hear from the department, so we can push the button today. So, if that's the main question that everybody called in for, don't hang up! Ask some more. I hope everyone is looking at coming out to our National Conference in August. It will be our usual wonderful annual conference full of information, but also a celebratory event as we are celebrating forty years of Title VI legislation. Other than that, I have no grand announcement, so let's move forward with your questions and see where that takes us.

Tara Nokelby: Again, you can press star-one for any questions that you have for the ACL regional contacts or Cynthia. And you can also ask any questions in the chat box.

Cynthia LaCounte: Are we waiting for questions?

Tara Nokelby: Yes, I think people are being shy today.

Cynthia LaCounte: I will fill in the- I'll fill in spaces with announcements. There will be a new voice in our ACL Office here beginning July 9th when Cecilia and I welcome our- OK, thank you. When Cecilia and I welcome our new intern. This intern's name is Demetrius Harmon [could not verify spelling] He is a veteran and he is currently a student at the University of Maryland, I don't remember what the name- rest of the name of the campus is, but he's currently a graduate student and, therefore, eligible to come into us as an intern. I'm going to have him working on some files and some data analysis, but I'm also going to be depending on Demetrius to help us develop our Coming Home Program where we mentor younger veterans, and the mentoring comes from our older veterans. Demetrius and I will be working with the Veterans Association and the office we will be working in, I think, has done a webinar for us recently, but there is a tribal office at the Veterans Administration, and then we will also be working with the Corporation for National and Community Service, who is the office that runs the Vista Programs and Senior Core Foster Granny and Senior Companion Programs. So, when Demetrius starts on July 9th, I will send out a picture and little introduction, but we will have one more person working in our office for a few months. Any questions yet, Tara?

Tara Nokelby: Alright, I see one question in regard to the conference, asking about the hotel rooms. We are adding additional rooms to the room block, so I will have an update for you come this Friday. We will be adding additional room. The hotel is not sold out itself, just the room block has already been sold out on Sunday and Thursday evening. So, we will be adding additional rooms this week.

Cynthia LaCounte: Do we anticipate having enough rooms?

Tara Nokelby: We do anticipating have enough rooms, but we will be selling- I do not doubt that we sell out of the rooms. I cannot guarantee that the hotel will have the rooms available, so my suggestion would be- to book your rooms as soon as possible. Again, I know that we've already sold out on two of the nights, so we will be adding the additional rooms, but as soon as we add the additional rooms, my suggestion would be to book them as soon as possible.

Cynthia LaCounte: Great. Thank you, Tara.

Tara Nokelby: Thank you.

Cynthia LaCounte: Any other questions on the line?

Operator: Currently there are no questions on the phone queue, but as a reminder, press star-one and record your name at the prompt.

Cynthia LaCounte: This is a reminder, too, for all of you that that grant application process is going to come up faster than we're all ready for it, I'm sure. So, this is a really good time- grant applications for the 2021 through 2024, I believe, cycle will be due in December of 2019. So, this is a really good time for you to get your resolutions to conduct your needs assessments, get that process done, and start planning the needs of- that you want to apply for in your application. I anticipate the process will be much the same as it always has been, except it will be less chaotic than it was last time. Any questions yet? Because, if not, I think Shelly's [could not verify spelling] gonna greet everyone with some information next.

Shelly: Well, I don't know what information I could possibly have except that it's good to have everybody on the phone and good to have so many people participating. I am back kind of part way, some of you may have heard, I know that the Moccasin Telegraph has been running. Some of you may have heard that I've had some cardiac problems in the last couple of weeks and am going to the doctor today to find out when I will be back full-time in the office, so, I look forward to getting back with you as well. One update that I have that is a project that I'm working on that I'm pretty excited about and that is working with the Food and Drug Administration about the training for tribes in the use of traditional foods. And so, that's something that I think we can look forward to. Probably not in time for this conference, but next year's conference we should have a product to share with you. I shared with the Food and Drug Administration a resource that was developed by Canada for their indigenous populations in gathering foods and it talked about the environmental concerns and what to watch out for with the animals that may be sick because we have different diseases now than we did in traditional days, and so, they are looking at that and saying, "Yeah, I think we should do something similar." So, I was pretty excited about that. And I think that's about all the updates that I have, but if people have questions, I'm happy to answer them.

Tara Nokelby: Alright, we do have a question here from Mary Anne Mills [could not confirm spelling], said, "I'm working on annual reports. How does the ACL use the answers to the questions about the number of staff paid by the grants? I'm wondering if I should include direct service staff or if I need to include supervisors and record-keeping staff as well?"

Shelly: Since Mary Anne is one of my grantees, I'll go ahead and take that one. Mary Anne, one of the things that we're trying to look at is the number of people who are participating. Your situation is a little bit different from most folks, so I'm gonna answer it for most folks first and then I'll give you some advice. If you have anybody who works with your program directly and a piece of their time is paid for by Title VI, all of those people would be included. And so, what you can do is add up the number of individuals that are there. Mary Anne, you have a directorship and you have multiple grants

underneath your program, so what I would do is, for each one of those programs, I would divide up the [inaudible] administrative staff and include those in each one of them and then add the direct service staff from each village that you have a contract for and include those in there. I know there's going to be some duplication, but if those grants were standing alone, they would be using individual staff as well, so I think it's probably legitimate to include that. Cynthia, do you disagree?

Cynthia LaCounte: I absolutely agree and thank you for taking that question. I was just going to make something up.

Shelly: Good! That's what I did, but Mary Anne knows me well enough, she could call me and tell me off, so I have to be very careful.

Cynthia LaCounte: Well, thank you for that, Shelly.

Shelly: Sure!

Cynthia LaCounte: Any other questions or is it Courtney's turn?

Tara Nokelby: No questions on my end.

Cynthia LaCounte: OK.

Courtney: So, it's my turn! Hey! So, I have a couple things that I have on my list that I want to just let everybody know. First, as Mary Anne mentioned, it is reporting season. So, we would love, love, love if you got your reports in accurately and on-time. We may have prizes for people if you come to the New Directors Training or the Reporting Training in D.C. so that segues me into my next comment, which is about the national training that is going to take place in August in Washington D.C. As tradition, we are going to have a New Directors Training. So, if you are a new director on this call, we would love to have you come to the New Directors Training, which is going to be on Monday of that week. I can't remember the dates at this point.

Cynthia LaCounte: 13th. 13th of August.

Courtney: 13th of August. So, we're going to have more of a programmatic New Directors Training in the morning and then in the afternoon, we are going to have a recording and budgeting-type session, which will be open to new directors and all of our

Title VI directors. So, that is super excited and we, the regional staff, are working on both of those sessions. Anything else, Cynthia, that I didn't quite get off your mind?

Cynthia LaCounte: No, but thank you, and yes, regional staff, I am going to call on all of you. Thank you, Courtney. I want our program directors, our Title VI directors to see that regional staff are all involved in their own projects, their own regional, their own individual projects in something that they particularly think needs to be done in Title VI or their programs have asked for or something that they see will be a good resource for us. So, that's another reason that we really depend on you folks, Title VI directors, to stay in contact with your regional liaisons because from the questions you ask them and the information you provide to them, helps us know what the needs are out in the field. Who needs what training and what we need to be concentrating on. So, if you ever feel like we're- you don't really have anything to share with us or you don't have any issues, call us anyway because, undoubtedly, you are doing something that's very unique to your tribe or you're offering a service differently than someone else is and that's the kind of information that we're really interested in and wanting to expand upon. So, just a reminder to keep in touch with your folks because they're doing some really fun stuff on your behalf. Any other questions?

Fong Yee: Hi, this is Fong Yee of Region 9. Fong being Fong, I would like to have some reminders for the Title VI Directors: make sure your 2017 PPRs ended March this year to be submitted online or through your ACL Project Officer or Fiscal Officer no later than June 30th, 2018, and Cynthia can tell you how hectic it was to award you for the [inaudible] grants just released recently. So, please, make sure you sent me your PPRs by the end of this month with accurate numbers, and into our PPRs that it says, "remark section," that you can communicate with ACL if you have like a big jump or a big decline in your new accounts and/or the participants, please, let us know because that will save us an email or a phone call. The importance of the PPRs with the accurate numbers will affect your 2019 [inaudible] awards, so, please, act timely and accurately. My second reminder is: I see some of the Title VI Directors here, but I do not see many Fiscal people, so would you please work with your Fiscal people to submit the 2017 Financial Status Reports, ended March 31st, 2018, no later than July 30th. So, yes, that is correct, [inaudible] twenty-five are due thirty days after the PPR for the first and second years. So, please, remind your financial office to submit those reports timely. Also, we receive some phone calls or emails saying they have some money left over, what are they going to do? Go ahead, use that in year two, if you have any unspent money in year two, then you can use it year three without asking for ACL's approval. For those old timers, you remember we- AC- I mean AOA, at that time, our old name, asked our Title VI Grantees to send in carry-over requests. It is not needed. So, you just continue to use it until the end of the third year, which will be March 31st, 2020. So, that is it. Any comments or suggestions from my Fiscal colleagues here?

Rhonda Schwartz: Fong, this is Rhonda. I just want to-

Fong Yee: Hi, Rhonda!

Rhonda Schwartz: Hi! I just want to supplement what you're saying on a couple points that you made. It's really important the Title VI Directors work with the Fiscal staff, it really is a good idea for you to have budgets of your funds for each year and have a plan for how you're going to spend the funds because we don't want to see you end up in year three with a lot of carried forward funds that you can't spend down. So, we really encourage you to work with your Fiscal staff, develop budgets for both Part A and Part C, and have a plan each year for spending down each year's funds currently in that year. I would recommend that you try to minimize the amount of carry forward.

Cynthia LaCounte: I also have one thing to add to that- this is Cynthia again- before any other Regional staff jumps on. If, by chance- and I'm thinking, again, of the money that was not spent and therefore is going to be returned to the government- if by the end of year two or early in year three, if you by chance know that you are not going to spend out your entire allocation, *please* let us know. And please work with your Fiscal staff because, at that point, we would still be able to retrieve those dollars to reallocate them to other programs. I don't ever want another time where we're sending back literally millions of dollars to the government that could be spent on tribal elders. So, we're going to be reminding you of that from now on. If you think you're not going to spend out your money, please don't keep it. Please return it early so that it can be reallocated. Fong, what would be the latest that we would be able to reallocate? Six months into the year or what?

Fong Yee: Something new to me, but well, Cynthia-

Cynthia LaCounte: That's why I asked you!

Fong Yee: Well, I think it might be, like, six months before the end of the third year. Let's say end of September 2019, so by that time, most of the tribes might have some good ideas of how much money they might or might not be able to spend and I don't know how long [inaudible] might need to work on her magic because once we allocate some money to the tribes that do need those extra funds, they need to maybe do some obligations before March 31st, 2020. So that we have-

Cynthia LaCounte: Yeah, that would be preferable.

Fong Yee: Yeah, so they need to have some time for them to return the money to ACL and then ACL needs to ask maybe the other tribes, see who might need extra money. That would be a new process, so I think this is the first time, so we might give them six months, and then in the future we might cut it short or prolong it. So, it is your call,

Cynthia, you are the Director. So, yeah, you are the horse, so the words from your mouth are worth more than I do.

Cynthia LaCounte: OK! OK. Well, we will be looking at that and I'll be talking with Tanielle, who is our Grants Officer, for her direction in doing this, but I- we need to get this money out and in the hands of the elders. So, you folks really need to manage your money well. Let's go onto other questions. Tara, are there any others?

Tara Nokelby: I don't see any on WebX right now, and again, if you want to ask a question, please press star-one and the operator will pass your line through or you can type in the WebX and I can read it aloud.

Cynthia LaCounte: Thank you. Lacey, what's going on in Regions 5 and 7?

Lacey Vaughn: Hi! Oh, always a lot, always a lot. So, selfishly, I'm going to put in a plug for the National Area Agency on Aging Conference because it's in Chicago at the end of July, and so, there is a reduced registration fee, registration is still open for Title VI Directors, they are also a good advocate for your organization, but I truly am only sharing this because I want to see people. So, I'm going to definitely just be selfish and if you do come, please let me know so I can say hi, and then, I know that there's some work happening in this region around opioid- the opioid crisis, there is- the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes, MAST organization, has issued an emergency declaration and, in response to that, are holding an event in Minneapolis, Minnesota on August 22nd and 23rd to create a plan to address opioids in this area and have secured funding for the thirty-four tribes in this area to send three representatives to the event. So, it's going to be a good opportunity to maybe volunteer yourself as a Director, I'm going to be sharing that and encouraging the Directors in this area to have a voice at that table and be a part of the response. And then, my only other thing just as a general announcement is I would encourage anyone who is the new Director or a long-term Director to take a look at olderindians.gov, you know, Tara and the team at Teya are definitely real people, you've heard her voice, and they want- *they and we* want that to be a real resource for you. So, if you are looking at that and finding something that is not on there that maybe should be, or you like something that's on there, I would just encourage your feedback to Tara at Teya, and make that a real resource for you.

Cynthia LaCounte: Thank you. And, you know, Lacey- when Lacey brought up the N4A Conference, going to training is an allowable expenditure for Title VI Programs. So, if at the end of a year, you see that you still have money left over, you could also send staff to different training events. I know I hear often from Title VI Directors the need to train cooks, and that's something that we can't always do. So, really be aware of training happening in your area and pay attention to the announcements that Teya puts in our weekly blasts. Because that's another way to spend money and not- er, to have it

benefit your program and not by sending it back. Rhonda, did you have anything else to add?

Rhonda Schwartz: I do just want to add- related to the opioid work- Lacey and I are working on an opioid session for the National Title VI Conference. And if there is any tribe that is doing any work in this area that they would like to share at that conference, please let Lacey or me know- or your tribal liaison, if not one of us, and they can put you in touch with us. Let us know, and we are- we have made some information available about the opioid crisis. It is relevant to older adults in tribal communities in particular where you have a lot of older adults dealing with their children and grandchildren and being caregivers. So, it is really relevant. We had an article on it in the spring newsletter, and we did a training on it in May, and we also can distribute some information, there was a series of webinars that the- I think that- was it, Lacey, the HRSA folks in Region 5-?

Lacey Vaughn: Yes.

Rhonda Schwartz: -did with the SAMHSA Tribal TTA Center?

Lacey Vaughn: Mhm.

Rhonda Schwartz: And we can forward the information to you, so you can access those webinars, it's a series of three or four.

Cynthia LaCounte: And following up on Rhonda's comment, too, about opioids, you hear us- Title VI folks- you're hearing this conversation all across the Federal government and all across the country about opioid abuse and combating opioid abuse. The government is putting money into it. We know that it affects our elders, as Rhonda said. We know we've got our elders taking medications and often those medications are being taken and misused. We've got some really volatile situations that we kind of setup in Indian Country sometimes. There- we are also talking at the Federal-level about the relationship between opioid abuse and elder abuse. Not only that it's a financial form of abuse, but it can also lead to physical abuse. So, tribes, please jump on that bandwagon on opioid abuse and start participating on behalf of your elders because it does appear that they're starting to put out tidbits of money into communities, and I want you folks eligible for those funds, which could enhance your program. So, when you hear these new initiatives- you know, it took me a long time to jump on the opioid bandwagon, first I had to learn how to spell it, but then after I got on the bandwagon, I can see that there's a lot of money available and it really is an issue for us. We're told by CDC- I think it's CDC and Indian Health- that our population has the highest rate in opioid abuse and misuse than any other population in the country. So, please be aware of that and work with us on this. Any questions, Tara?

Tara Nokelby: I don't see any that's come through on WebX, no.

Operator: We do have a couple participants on the phone line. Robin, your line is open.

Robin: Yes, hi! This is Robin [inaudible 0:31:16] from Region 6 and 8, and I was wondering- I know- well, the tribal budget for the tribes are pretty much kinda like ours, very limited. However, I was wondering if the- since we deal with so much with the Fiscal, the Tribal Fiscal staff and the Tribal Director, I was wondering, is there any way that we could open the conference up by webinar for the Fiscal- in the tribal staff that are not able to attend?

Cynthia LaCounte: Tara, you want to take the first level of that and then I will?

Tara Nokelby: OK! Sorry, do you want to repeat that really quick? Thank you.

Robin: Yes, I was wondering since the tribes, you know, their budget is very limited in regard to traveling for other staff members, I was wondering if there's any way that they could actually view the conference by WebinX, like the presentations and be able to call in to listen in on the call?

Tara Nokelby: So, unfortunately, we do not have the capability to stream the entire conference, but we will be posting the information online afterwards. So, we post the agenda online and then if there're- we'll also be posting all of the presentations, and if there's a certain presentation that you are interested in that you may see even online in the next month or so, we can always get that to you prior to the conference as well.

Cynthia LaCounte: Robin, you brought up the exact point that I heard from tribes in North and South Dakota about, and they really got me thinking, they ask us if we can record some of our training and- so that it's available for tribes to use. It would be available through our website and it would be, you know, turn into an online training course for the folks on fiscal management, on nutrition and menu planning, on billing Medicaid, some of these big things we're doing. So, I'm going to talk with- I've already talked with Meals on Wheels. I'm going to try to find us some funds so that we can record some of our sessions so that it would be available just like you said.

Robin: Because I- I brought that up because the last time we had the State Directors Conference Call here in Dallas, I was able to do the webinar and open it up for the people who were unable to travel to call in on the conference call and be able to see the presentations and also hear the dialogue that was actually going on in the conference.

Cynthia LaCounte: Mmk, yeah.

Robin: Yeah, so that was just a question that I had is if any way that you all could think about that in the future for the tribes who are unable to travel. Thank you.

Cynthia LaCounte: I'll involve you in this planning as I'm working with whoever that could pay for it for us. Thanks, Robin.

Tara Nokelby: So, we do have a couple questions I see on WebX. So, I will read them aloud. We have one from Raynell Miller [could not verify spelling], it says, "Cynthia, I would like to know how the evaluation of Title VI is going. I realize certain tribes were funded who work with the contractor, since the new applications are due next year.

Operator: And, excuse me, Raynell, your line is open. She was actually in the queue as well, so.

Cynthia LaCounte: Oh, perfect!

Tara Nokelby: Oop, sorry about that!

Raynell Miller: OK. Good afternoon, everybody. Tara just read my question. Do we know how that evaluation process is going?

Cynthia LaCounte: Yeah! We- Christy Hudson, Dr. Hudson, who manages that project for ACL comes in and updates Cecilia and I frequently on it. They spend- the project is going very well, they are down to twelve grantees, they started out with thirteen and one tribe went through some political stuff, as we all know about in our tribes, and then we had to take them out of the evaluation, but Christy has started making some site visits to programs involved in the evaluation, and I know that they- the evaluation team- I don't remember the name of the folks that we contracted with- anyway, have started working with tribes on their data development and analysis. So, we're definitely at the place where we expected to be now. There's also a lot of documents coming out of this evaluation. Christy has done a wonderful report that, if folks haven't seen, we'll make sure that you're linked to it. They've also been developing some single-page, like, fact sheets for us from the information that they're getting from the surveys and from the evaluations. So, no, this is very good, and I remain totally thrilled that after forty years we're finally being evaluated.

Raynell: Exactly. One other thing that I wanted to share with the group, like in state of- the state of Nevada, they have a notice of funding available through the SNAP-Ed for

fiscal year 2019, it's a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education grant for elders, and I want to let you guys know about it so you can check- I know not everybody's in the state of Nevada, but we're utilizing it for an elder exercise program. And what it does is it makes a difference in our elders' lives by providing nutritional, educational, and physical activity that will provide access to safe, structured, and effective exercise program capable of building muscle and increasing bone density, thus decreasing frailty and osteoporosis and the risk of falls, and it's a certified training through the University of Missouri. And one of our tribes, the Lovelock Paiute Tribe, is currently funded to do and we're in the process of applying for the rest of the tribes we serve. It's an eight-week course and it just stresses nutritional health education covering topics such as hydration, healthy food choices, and food safety. So, I wanted to share that with you all. There is an exercise program that will help the elders and it's extra money. So, I wanted to share that with you folks. A non-binding letter of intent is due Friday June 15th, and that's for the state of Nevada now. So, whatever state you're located in, check it out. It's called SNAP-Ed.

Cynthia LaCounte: OK. I will check and see if I can find similar programs in other states and then, if we can, we will block the information in Friday's- when we- Tara sends out the blast.

Raynell: OK, perfect.

Cynthia LaCounte: I love hearing when you folks are developing other grant funding, funding from other resources and bringing it in, developing other services, I *love* that happening. Was there another question, Tara?

Tara Nokelby: Yes. We have Carla Eben [could not confirm spelling], she says, "When will the 2021-2024 grant application come out?"

Cynthia LaCounte: Oh, certainly after we develop it. I'm not being smart, that's really the answer, but we wouldn't be able to post that- well, we would talk about it at next year's conference, we'll probably review. So, we will be working on the new application packet and then begin training on it probably at next year's conference and in some of our clusters next year. Any other questions, Tara?

Tara Nokelby: I don't see anything- Oop! There's another one that just came in. It says, "Is it recommended that the fiscal person attend the training?"

Cynthia LaCounte: Yes. Yes, and I was just going to respond further to Robin's point- and again, thanks, Robin, for making them- and how important it is that we work with our fiscal staff. Tara and Caitlyn and Melissa from Teya are starting their new round of

updating our directory, our database, so they're going to be calling or emailing all of you programs to see if all- if there's any changes. At that same time, they're going to be collecting information about your fiscal people. We want that information so that we can start including them in all of our announcements and inviting them to trainings. We do intend, we will be putting together- and say "we" like I'm going to have anything to do with it- Fong and Alice and Robin and the crew will help us put together some training, some fiscal training, for finance people, and what I want to do is, in the future, as- when a tribe signs off to accept their money from us, I want to include another agreement that they agree to send the fiscal person to one of our trainings within the grant- the first year of the grant. We also want to do some online trainings for fiscal staff and I'm absolutely convinced that some of our problems with spending out our money results in us not working well enough with our fiscal people. So, we're really going to put an effort out to involve them more than we have in the past. And we need your help in doing that. Drag 'em tooth and nail to the conference. If you need letters from me or your Regional staff encouraging fiscal to come to the trainings, just let us know. Joyce Robinson, what's happening in your neck of the woods?

Joyce Robinson: I was sitting here trying to figure out how to plug in when Robin made her comment about the fiscal people. Right now, we're not doing a lot, we had- remember, we had- our conference call and the next effort that is planned- or what I want to do- is work on the policy procedures manual and that had come up in talking with our- with the Cherokee I think it was. Something came up over there and I'd say, "OK, what does your manual say? What does your policy manual say?" And she goes, "Huh?" I said, "Ohh, OK, you're gonna work on that." So, that's going to be the focus of our next conference call.

Cynthia LaCounte: Very good, thank you. And we've also been hearing- mentioning policies and procedures, Joyce- we've also been hearing about the need to have policies on elders' behavior in the Senior Center. If you come in and you fight with everybody and you hide your Bingo cards and don't want to cooperate that maybe they're going to not let you come back the next day. So, yep, there's a lot of things that should be included in our policies. So, good!

Joyce Robinson: One of the other areas- when you mentioned that- one of the other areas that I tend to focus on, but hadn't thought about it with this group as much is mental health, and one of the things that happens, as we all know, aging is a process and it offers a lot of challenging opportunities for us, so that is an area that we might want to look at in working with the tribes, and I'm- you know, I'm sure it going to be a very touchy situation because of the spiritual focus of the tribe, so you know, we would have to figure out how to delicately work with them in getting them involved with that. Because sometimes that behavior is just something else going on with the person.

Cynthia LaCounte: You know, I saw a session that was done by I think a program in San Diego and I stole their idea for our conference. We are going to have a session

that's called "Do Children Who Bully Turn into Adults Who Bully?" And just that kind of discussion and what do we do with those mean-spirited seniors that we respect so very much in our communities. So, yeah, I think this is going to be a really interesting session, and I hope it's a session where people really participate and talk about- kind of a support group so we can all kinda shed the stress and the problems of working with elders that are difficult. So, good one.

Joyce Robinson: Yeah, the other part to the opioid crisis has a lot to do with mental illness.

Cynthia LaCounte: Yes, it absolutely does.

Joyce Robinson: It's a good one, it's a good one.

Cynthia LaCounte: OK, good. OK! Anyone else? Any other questions? Any other Regional staff that I haven't called on who wanted to talk about anything you're doing?

Operator: Excuse me, we do have a question on line. Robin, your line is open.

Cynthia LaCounte: Hi again!

Robin: Yes, Joyce, I was just wondering, what are you going to- when you said you were going to discuss the policies and procedures with the tribe. What's the basis? Are you going to be using the Title VI manual or what guidance are you going to give them in regard to their policies? Or just discuss what they have onboard? I'm just kinda interested in knowing about that.

Joyce Robinson: OK, I'll go to the history, and some of us who've been in Title VI for a minute will remember there was a time in which we really monitored the procedures. So, of course, I would be using the manual, that would be the key, but there is a- I'll have to track it down- but there is a format by which the manual should be created. Of course, you know, allowing for the fact that each tribe is individual in what they do, but the manuals I would base on what is in the Title VI manual as well as some of the margin techniques that are required or have been required for monitoring tribes when we would visit them to determine how that manual is being applied. One of the things that happens based on the statement that Cynthia made about behavior in the sites, that's something that can be addressed through the manual. There was a point in which they had a lot of nutrition site tribal councils and they got to be very touchy situations in which often times the Project Director was required to go back to her manual and reiterate the importance of how they are to handle those type of settings. So, yes, I was using that. Does that answer your question?

Robin: Thank you, Joyce.

Cynthia LaCounte: Any other questions from Title VI or any other comments or questions from ACL staff?

Fong Yee: Yes, this is Fong Yee, I raised my hand. Please call my-

Cynthia LaCounte: OK, I saw you, but you're so short.

Fong Yee: OK, yeah, I know I'm too short, you cannot see even though I raised my hand. So, this is just to remind for the audience the Title VI Directors and the Fiscal people, if any that you are going to receive emails from our- me and my counterparts because PMS is going to close out the 2013 accounts in the Payment Management System, and we just received a list from our Grants Office, and there are some discrepancies between the Payment Management System [inaudible 0:50:04], the expenditures reported to Payment Management System, and the [inaudible 0:50:10]? Well, this will prevent ACL and PMS to close out the account. So, please do not ignore our emails. For me- OK, for me, I will send out individual emails to those who have issues with this close-out process. So, when you get the email from me, please respond and take action. For those who do not receive emails, that means you are OK or you are in the other regions. So, again, I repeat, please do not ignore ACL's email communications because they are very important and after you read the emails, please respond and take action. Keep us posted so that if you need more assistance, we are willing to do that, but please reach out to us if you do not understand what the requirement or what the emails, especially mine- so, just reach out to us. So, Cynthia, I am done. Thank you.

Alice Keltie: Hi Fong, this is Alice, is it alright if I jump in?

Fong Yee: Of course!

Alice Keltie: Hi, this is Alice Keltie [could not verify spelling] from Regions 5 and 7, I'm your Fiscal contact and, just to piggy-back onto what Fong said, some of these emails that are going to be coming out, if your tribe does not respond to them, they can result in an audit finding or a repayment, and you know, this is kind of also piggy-backing on some of the comments made earlier I believe by Shelly on, you know, working closely with your Fiscal staff. I know I've heard from some program staff that they didn't know they had money left on these grants until our offices started calling because they hadn't been in close contact with their Fiscal staff over the year. So, you know, if you have an opportunity, make- have a quarterly meeting with your Fiscal staff just to get a quick

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touch-base on where you are on spending your funds. It's a great idea and it'll keep everybody in the loop.

Cynthia LaCounte: Thank you. Anything else?

Tara Nokelby: I don't see any additional questions on WebX. Operator, do we have any that are trying to patch their line through?

Operator: No, there're no other participants in the phone queue.

Tara Nokelby: OK!

Cynthia LaCounte: OK!

Tara Nokelby: Well, we're just about at the end of the hour anyways. Cynthia, do you want to give any closing remarks?

Cynthia LaCounte: No, I'm getting ready for- to send you a blast to send out to the tribes about their money. So, just expect that and, programs, please keep in touch with us and/or your Regional Offices. We like talking with you. Oh! MIPPA, so, Cecilia just reminded me that we will be- she's working on the MIPPA Grant announcement now and we expect the due date will be August the 10th. And remember MIPPA is the program Medicare Improvement Patient Protection Accountability or- did I get it right? Sort of. It's one of those things and it's a program where we use those funds to try and get people to sign- signed up for Medicare. The MIPPA grants used to be a thousand dollars a tribe, now the grants are dependent upon the number of tribes who apply. We've had about one hundred tribes apply the last few years with grants, I think the grants were between about two and four thousand dollars. So, if you're interested in MIPPA, get your application in as soon as you see the very easy announcement. It's essentially just a single page you fill out and send in. Thanks, Cecilia. Alright, we're done!

Tara Nokelby: Alright! Thank you, everyone, for joining us today.

Operator: Thank you for your participation, this concludes the conference. You may disconnect your lines at this time.

Tara Nokelby: Thank you.

[END 0:54:55]