

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Date: May 25, 2023
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COMMISSION ON NATIVE CHILDREN TO HOLD EASTERN REGIONAL HEARING IN NASHVILLE, TN, JUNE 14–15

The Commission will hear from expert witnesses and the public on the successes, challenges, and needs for supporting Native children.

NASHVILLE, TN — The Commission on Native Children will hold its Eastern Regional Hearing in Nashville, TN, June 14–15, 2023 at the DoubleTree Nashville Downtown. The prior regional hearing was held in Seattle, WA in April 2023.

The Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children was established by Congress as an independent federal entity charged with conducting a comprehensive study of federal, state, local, and tribal, Native programs and developing recommendations on solutions that would improve the health, safety, and well-being of Native Children.

The Commission will examine the unique challenges Native children face and make recommendations on improving the current system by building on the strengths and leadership of Native communities, with the goal of developing a sustainable system that delivers effective, culturally appropriate, meaningful wrap-around services to Native children.

“For too long, in spite of their resilience and rich heritage, the life experiences of Native children have been disproportionately marred by poverty, child abuse, domestic violence, crime, and substance abuse; it is our job, as Commissioners, to do all we can to change those

circumstances for our youngest and most vulnerable Native people,” said Commission Carlyle Begay.

The Eastern Regional Hearing is currently scheduled to be held simultaneously in-person and virtually on June 14 and 15. During the two days of the Regional Hearing, the Commission will hear from respected researchers and experts in the region on the successes and challenges in supporting Native children on four key topics:

1. Physical, mental, and behavioral health;
2. Education and early childhood development;
3. Child welfare, juvenile justice, and violence; and
4. Systems innovations and best practices in Native communities.

The Commission also invites Native children, their families, community leaders, and community members to share their thoughts on issues that are important to protecting Native children served in the various communities on June 15 at 11:15 a.m., CST.

Register Today

Please register for each day’s proceedings with the links below. Once registered, you will receive information on how to participate virtually and in-person.

- June 14, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., CST
 - <https://kearnswest.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrcuCpqj0iGtyqZ9hBtNdFCsGjFBTQzt7g>
- June 15, 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., CST
 - <https://kearnswest.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYofuypqTIsH90HD6x1XaCnMf009tkPvXNC>

In person hearing location:

DoubleTree Nashville Downtown
Salon AB Room
315 4th Avenue N
Nashville, TN 37219

To learn more, please visit <https://commissiononnativechildren.org>. For media inquiries, contact Regina Gilbert: regina.gilbert@bia.gov. The public can submit oral and written testimony, as well as questions, at any time to email@commissiononnativechildren.org. Follow the Commission on Facebook at: [Alyce Spotted Bear & Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children](#), or on Twitter: [@asbwscnc](#).

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