

#### Native America 101:

What the Council of State Community Development Agencies Should Know about Engaging and Collaborating with Tribal Entities



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✓ Number of Sovereign Tribal Nations Bands, Colonies, or Reservations

#### **GREAT BASIN**

- ✓ Self Identified American Indians in U.S. 2.791 million / 341.7 million
- ✓ Self Identified American Indians in Nevada 111,000+
  >75,000 Urban Indians in Nevada
- ✓ 26/28 Tribal Nations are rural 8 Frontier Nations
- ✓ American Indians have dual citizenship Tribal and United States
- ✓ All American Indians residing in the state, on or off Tribal lands/reservations, are citizens of Nevada

## FACTS





### MYTHS

- ✓ That was decades ago...
- ✓ Indians look a certain way...
- ✓ How Indian are you?
- ✓ All Indians are rich...
- ✓ All Indians have casinos...
- ✓ Indians don't pay taxes...







#### **ONE SIZE DOES** *NOT* **FIT ALL**

✓ Different:

- Cultures
- Languages
- Essential Services
- Customs
- Priorities
- Needs

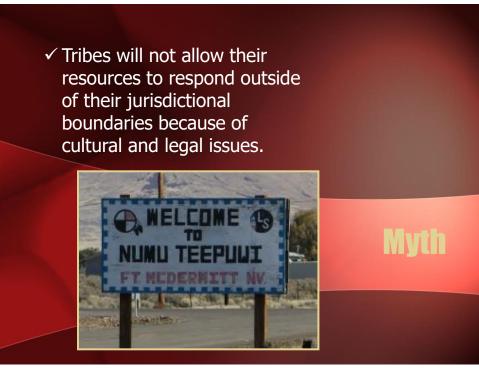


#### HOUSING

- ✓ DNAA Found Unanimous Housing Need
- ✓ Waiting Period Average 10 Years
- ✓ Multi generational homes
- ✓ Definition of Homeless







✓ Pride in our culture ✓ Pride in the American Flag ✓ Pride in being U.S citizens ✓ Pride in contribution to U.S. military ✓Very spiritual ✓ Love for environment and natural resources ✓ Great Respect for Elders **Tribal Truth** 

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# TODAY'S TAKE AWAY ✓ Listen, observe, more than you talk ...

- ✓ Wait for response from tribal member.....do not try to fill the silence void...
- ✓ May have to earn trust ...
- ✓ Do not go right into business. Create a connection through casual conversation, then be clear about your purpose...
- ✓ Know how a Tribe refers to itself: Nation, Reservation, Colony, Band, Community Council...
- ✓ Be cautious about asking for data specific to the tribe...



# TODAY'S TAKE AWAY

- ✓ Speaking loudly may be interpreted as arrogant or disrespectful...
- ✓ Prolonged eye contact may be inappropriate...
- ✓ Native laughter or humor is coping mechanism...
- Practice patience when speaking with and listening to elders and elected representatives...





#### **Contact Information**

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