

VA Office of Tribal Government Relations

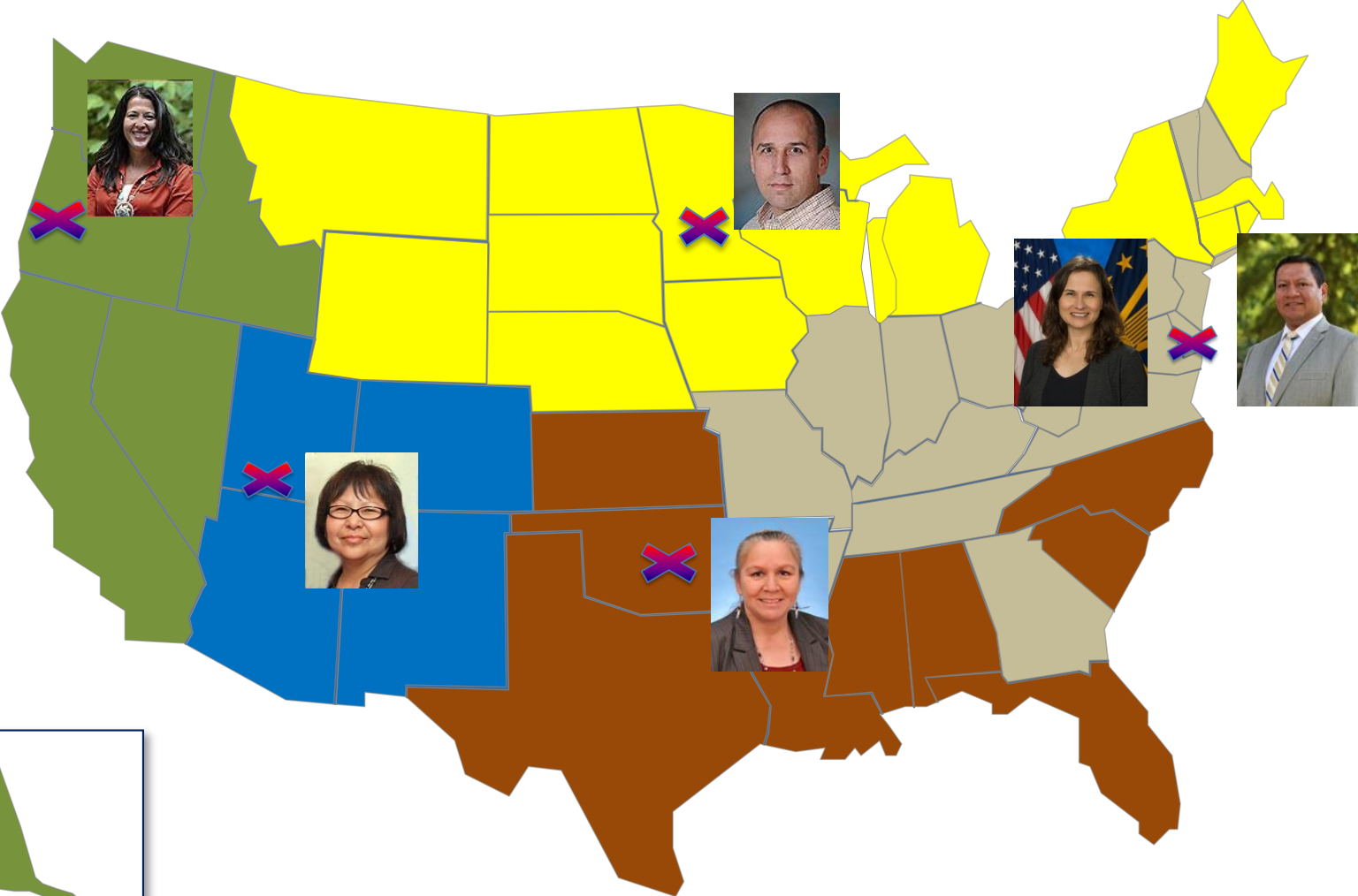
**National Indian Health Board
2019 National Tribal Health Conference**

September 17, 2019

Pechanga Casino Resort, Temecula, CA



VA Office of Tribal Government Relations (OTGR)



VA Organization

OFFICE OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Robert Wilkie
Secretary

Pamela Powers
Chief of Staff of VA

James Hutton
Assistant Secretary Office of Public & Intergovernmental Affairs

Thayer Verschoor
Executive Director Intergovernmental Affairs

Stephanie E. Birdwell, Director
Office of Tribal Government Relations

Clay Ward
Program Specialist DC

Mary Culley
OTGR Specialist
Southern Plains /
Southeast Region

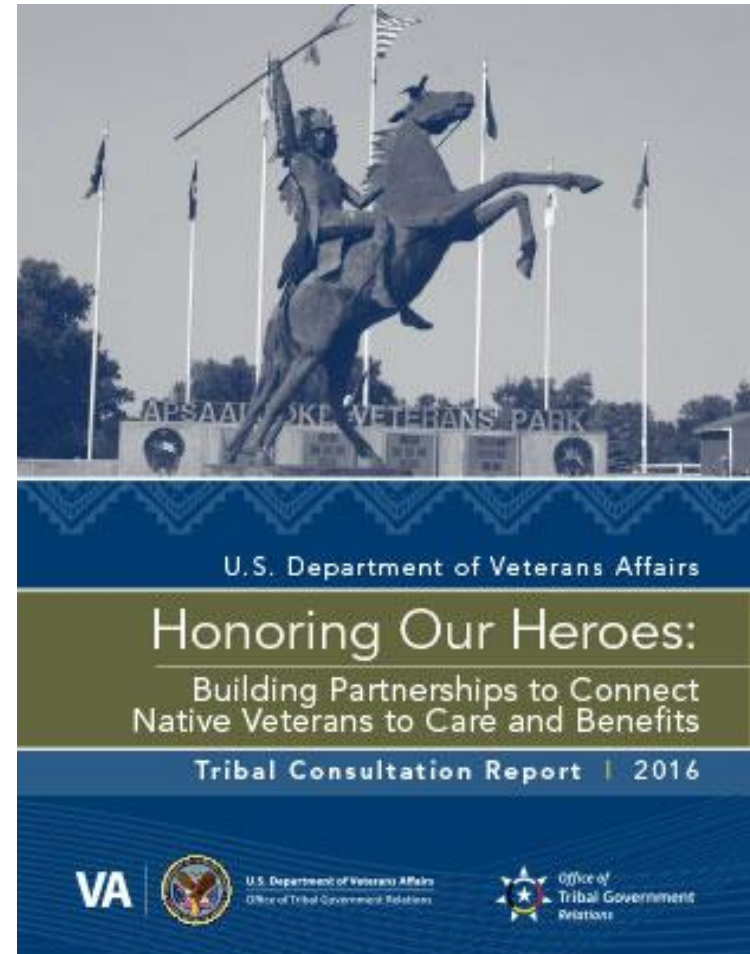
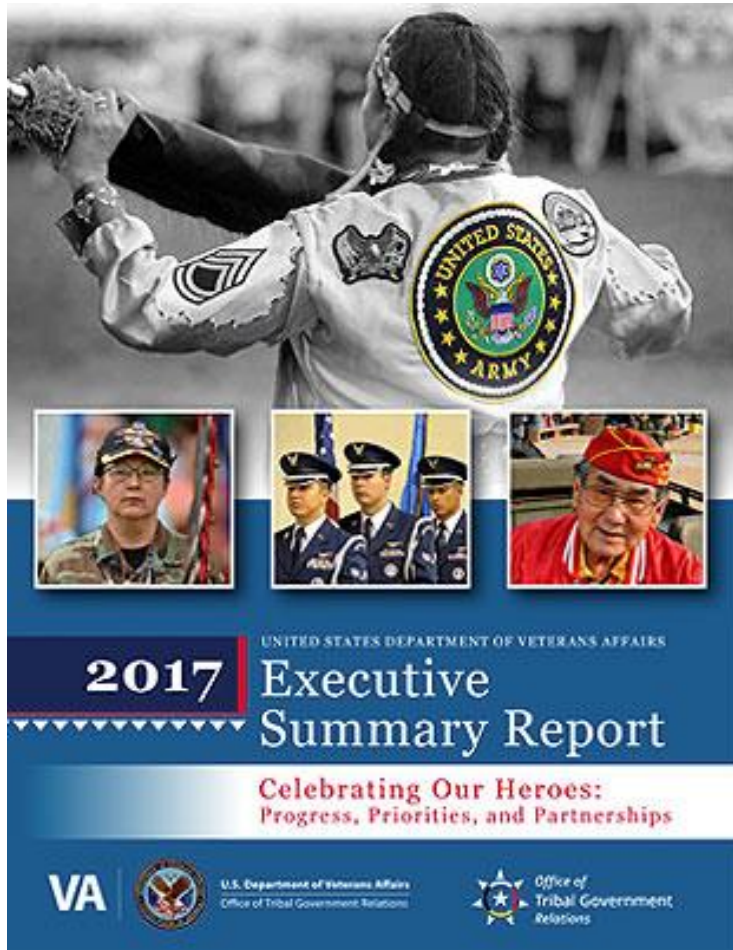
Peter Vicaire
OTGR Specialist
Central / Northeast
Region

Terry Bentley
OTGR Specialist
Western Region

L. HoMana Pawiki
OTGR Specialist
Southwest Region

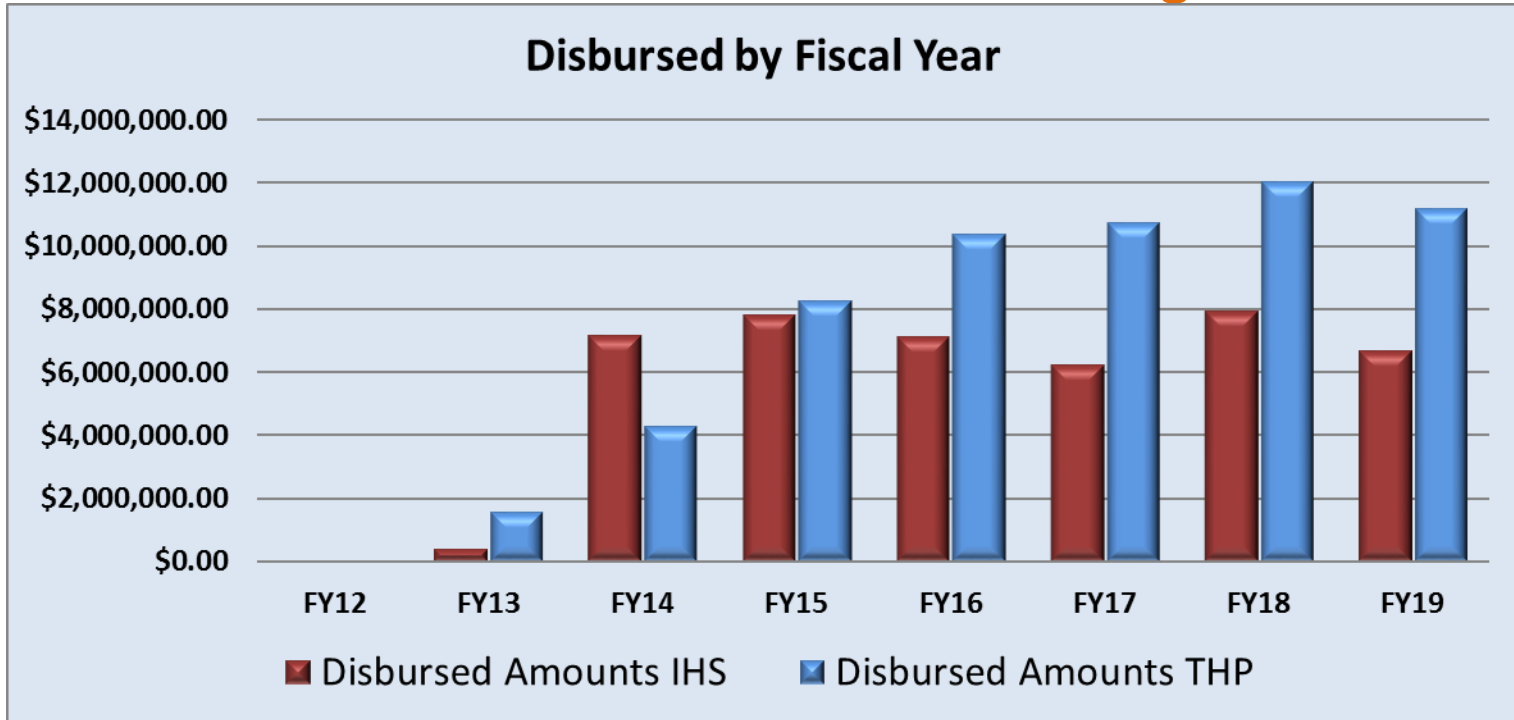
Connecting Tribes and VA

OTGR Goal 1: Implement Tribal Consultation Policy



Connecting Tribes to Goals

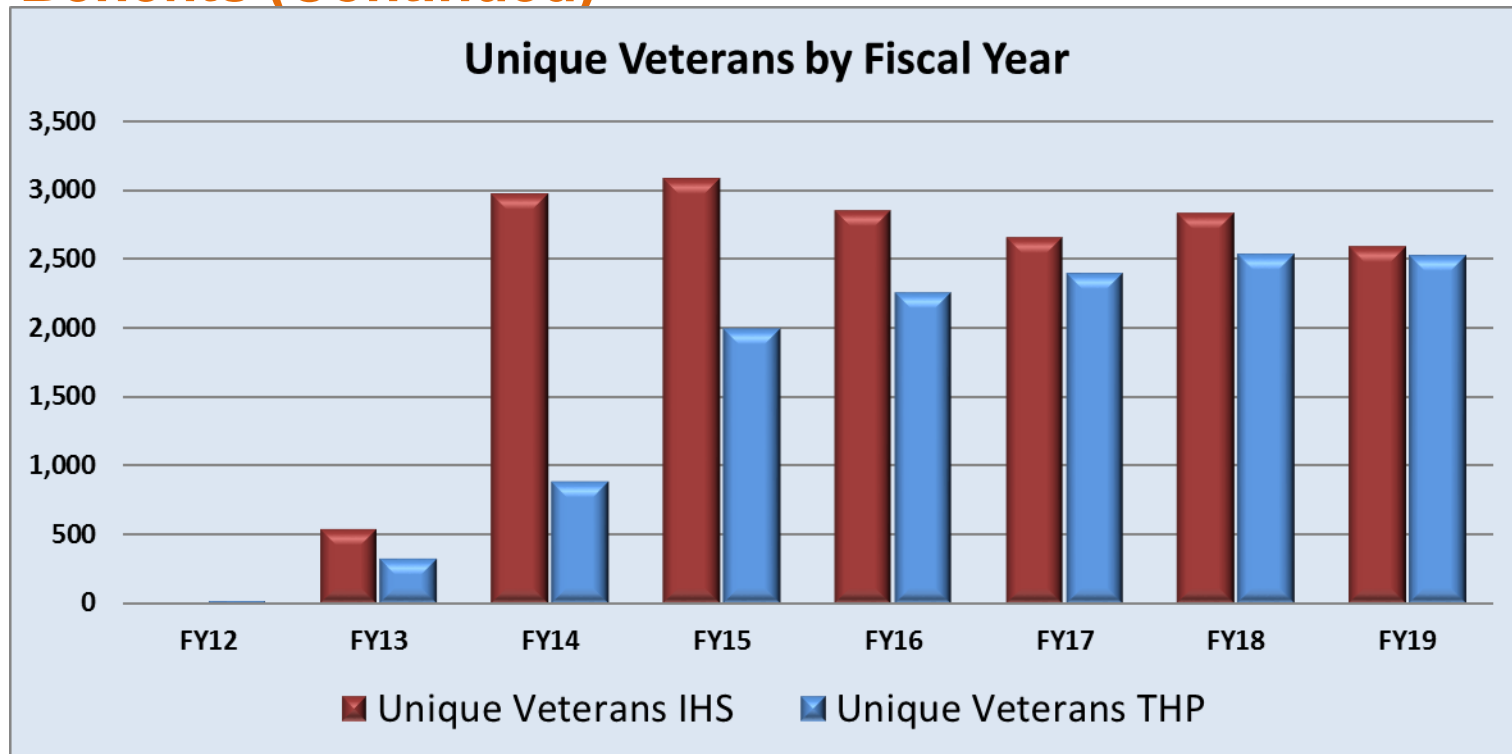
OTGR Goal 2: Facilitate Increased Access to Health Care & Benefits – VA/IHS/THP Reimbursement Agreement



	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
IHS		\$402,085.41	\$7,203,217.76	\$7,834,172.94	\$7,153,927.87	\$6,247,807.75	\$7,960,902.90	\$6,715,016.98
THP	\$4,517.30	\$1,587,529.64	\$4,294,338.41	\$8,275,181.29	\$10,383,845.46	\$10,768,627.61	\$12,068,643.82	\$11,201,696.88
Grand Totals	\$4,517.30	\$1,989,615.05	\$11,497,556.17	\$16,109,354.23	\$17,537,773.33	\$17,016,435.36	\$20,029,546.72	\$17,916,713.86

Connecting Tribes to Goals

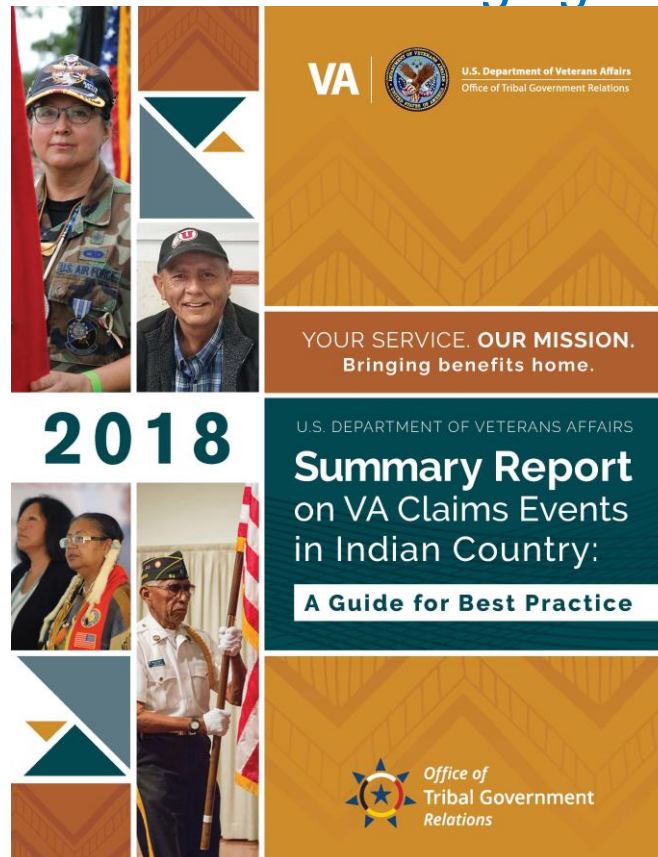
OTGR Goal 2: Facilitate Increased Access to Health Care & Benefits (Continued)



Connecting Tribes to Goals

OTGR Goal 3: Promote Economic Sustainability

- OTGR partnered with VBA Benefits Assistance Service in FY18 for a nationwide campaign to Indian Country: 22 Tribes/30+ Claims Events
- *“Your Service. Our Mission: Bringing VA Benefits Home.”*



Tribal Partners

- Tribal Governments
- VA Rural Health Consultants
- Minority Outreach Coordinators
- Tribal Indian Health Boards
- Tribal Health Program Directors
- Indian Health Service
- Urban Indian Health Programs
- Veteran Service Organizations
- VA Administrations (VHA, VBA and NCA)
- State Departments of Veterans Affairs
- Other Federal, State and Community Partners

Office of Tribal Government Relations

Office of the Director

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