

CALIFORNIA INDIAN MANPOWER CONSORTIUM, INC.



The CIMC Movement: Creating Positive Change for Native Communities

July 2025 - Volume VI, No. 2

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CIMC Youth attended 2025 National UNITY Conference



The [CIMC Elevate Youth California Project](#) made it possible for approximately 50 youth from throughout California to attend the [United National Indian Tribal Youth \(UNITY\) Conference](#) in San Diego, California, on June 27-July 1, 2025. This year's conference theme, "Voices of H.O.P.E." centers on youth using their voices and leadership to create positive change in their communities through meaningful discussions and action to promote positive mental health and substance abuse prevention efforts. H.O.P.E stands for Native youth engaging in Heartfelt Conversations, Open Dialogue, Promoting Resources, and Encouraging Change.

CIMC mourns the Passing of Board Member



Mr. [Paul Arnold](#), a member of the CIMC Board of Directors began his journey on June 24, 2025. Paul joined the Board as a representative of the CIMC Chicago Geographic Service Area in March 2024. He was also a 2015 graduate of the CIMC Native Entrepreneur Training Program, which contributed to his success in business. Paul served as the Chair and CIMC Delegate for the [American Indian Health Service of Chicago, Inc.](#) in Chicago, Illinois.

Paul was a valued part of the CIMC Family, and he will be greatly missed.

CIMC Elders Program hosted Wellness & Healing Gathering





In partnership with the [Native Wellness Institute](#) and the [Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria](#), the CIMC Elders Program convened a Wellness and Healing Gathering in Loleta, California, on July 8-10, 2025. More than 60 individuals, mostly elders, had the opportunity to experience three days of Indigenous wisdom with humor, while exploring topics such as forgiveness, grief and loss, mobility challenges, and sobriety. Cultural sharing included dance demonstrations and traditional food.

CIMC participated in TECC Summit

CIMC was invited to participate in the partnership sessions of the second annual Tribal Energy & Climate Collaborative (TECC) Summit, held on July 16, 2025, in Pala, California. This Summit provided an opportunity for TECC's partners to connect and build relationships with representatives from the 25 Tribes that are part of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association and TECC. During the event, CIMC Executive Director Dr. **Lorenda T. Sanchez** presented information on the new CIMC initiative, Accelerating Tribal EV Charging Infrastructure, Planning, and Workforce Development.



CIMC honored CERP Participant at GSA Meeting



CIMC honored **Tukwet Holguin** (Cahuilla), one of six high school graduates who participated in the CIMC COVID Education Recovery Project, at the CIMC Escondido Geographic Service area meeting in Pala, CA on July 17, 2025. He was joined by his case manager, **Julie Dome**, CIMC Education Coordinator.

CIMC Fresno Field Office hosted Workin' Skills into Careers



The CIMC Fresno Field Office hosted a Workin' Skills into Careers training session on May 27-29, 2025 in Fresno, California. This three-day workshop focused on developing soft skills to enhance career readiness and employment opportunities. These skills included communication, goal-setting, time management, conflict resolution, managing emotions in the workplace, and other essential abilities valued by employers.

CIMC Chicago Based Operations Update

National Veterans Gathering

The CIMC Chicago Based Operations (CBO) attended the [Trickster's Cultural Center's 11th Annual National Gathering of American Indian Veterans](#) on July 18-19, 2025, in Schaumburg, Illinois. This event honored veterans and military personnel of all cultures, eras, and branches in a Native Way that was open to all. Mr. **Sy Schultheis**, a member of the Big Sandy Rancheria of Mono Indians Veterans of Foreign Wars Color Guard, attended as a CIMC representative.



Workin' Skills into Careers in Rock Island, IL



The CIMC Chicago Based Operations (CBO) hosted a Workin' Skills into Careers workshop in April 2025, at the [Project Now](#) office in Rock Island, Illinois. Attendees gained skills to improve their employability in today's labor force.

Workin' Skills into Careers in Chicago, IL



The CIMC Chicago Based Operations (CBO) hosted a Workin' Skills into Careers workshop on June 24-26, 2025, at the CBO office in Chicago, Illinois. Attendees gained skills to improve their employability in today's labor force. This training was conducted by **Vincent Romero**, Workforce Development Coordinator II, and **John McPherson**, Field Office Program Secretary.

CIMC CCDBG Program Update

Public Hearings held in June 2025

The CIMC Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Program invited all participating parents, providers, tribes, and community members to attend public hearings to discuss the CCDBG Fiscal Year 2026-2028 plan. Hearings took place in Pala, California on June 17, 2025, and in Sacramento, California on June 19, 2025.

Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Training



In May, June, and July 2025, CCDBG Program Specialist **Susan Morla** organized several free training sessions focused on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness. These sessions covered various topics, including the different types of emergencies, assessing local risks, initiating preparations, packing a “go” bag, and identifying useful resources. Each participant

received a backpack filled with essential emergency supplies. On May 20, 2025, a training session was held in Los Angeles, California, in partnership with United American Indian Involvement. This was followed by a session on May 23, 2025, for the Quartz Valley Indian Reservation community in Fort Jones, California, and a session on May 24, 2025, for the Tolowa Dee-ni’ Nation community in Smith River, California. On June 17, 2025, the CCDBG collaborated with the Tuolumne Band of Mi-Wuk Indians to provide training in Tuolumne, California. Finally, on July 16, 2025, the CCDBG Program worked with the Inter Tribal Council of Nevada to conduct a session in Reno, Nevada.

Care Packages, Summer Reading Kits, and School Supplies

In May and June 2025, the CIMC CCDBG Program organized and distributed Bear Necessities care packages to participating families. These packages included children’s dental kits and oral health guides to promote good hygiene habits from infancy to adolescence. In June 2025, summer reading kits were also distributed to keep



children engaged and active during the warm months. Each reading kit included several books, a towel, and a water mister. In July 2025, age-appropriate backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed to ensure that the participating children were well prepared for a successful 2025-2026 school year. Additionally, Raising a Reader kits were provided to new families who had not previously received them.

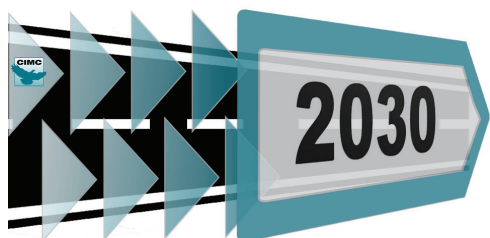
CIMC Census Information Center Update

Virtual Annual Training

CIMC Census Information Center Liaison, **Teresa Marie Willson**, participated in the 2025 [State Data Centers](#) (SDC), [Census Information Centers](#) (CIC), and Data Dissemination and Training Branch (DDTB) Annual Training Conference, which took place virtually on July 22-24, 2025. This year's event was an opportunity to reconnect, get updates, explore tools (or refresh skills), and showcase the work happening across each network.



US Census Bureau released Initial 2020 Operational Plan



On July 23, 2025, the [U.S. Census Bureau](#) released the first version of the [2030 Census Operational Plan](#), along with an [interactive tool](#) for exploring it.

This plan documents the initial, high-level design for the next decennial census, outlining the breadth of work needed to conduct and support a quality population and housing count. Future iterations of the plan will describe the work in more detail.

CIMC Informing Native Communities Project Update

INC Project Staff Member served as Panelist at OCPSC Convening

Ms. **Dinezbaa Smiley**, CIMC Trusted Messenger Network Specialist, (in center of photo) participated as a panelist in the Strategic Community Engagement panel, one of six panels presented during the [From Connection to Action: 2025 Trusted Messenger Convening](#). The Convening, hosted by the State of California's [Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communication](#), was held on May 7-8, 2025, in Sacramento, California.



INC Project surpassed Goal of completing Deliverables on Schedule

The CIMC Informing Native Communities (INC) Project concluded its outreach activities on May 31, 2025. In collaboration with five subcontractors, the project goal was exceeded, meeting 177% of the project goal, with 13,248 interactive engagements, in which important information was shared about youth behavioral health, extreme heat, water conservation, and other State initiatives for California residents. Subcontractors included: [Cache Creek Conservancy](#), [California Indian Basketweavers' Association](#), [Fresno American Indian Health Project](#), [Native American Environmental Protection Coalition](#), and [Save California Salmon](#).

CIMC recognized at OCPSC Statewide Convening



As part of the State of California's [Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications](#) (OCPSC) Trusted Messenger Network, CIMC was recognized at the OCPSC 2025 From Connection to Action Trusted Messenger Convening, held May 7-8, 2025, in Sacramento, California. OCPSC provided a [Certificate of Recognition](#) to CIMC for its dedication to delivering culturally resonant information to drive meaningful change and build a stronger, healthier California through the years.

CIMC Staff Member attended State Communications Training



CIMC Interim Outreach/Project Assistant, **Dinezbaa Smiley**, attended the 2025 Ready Together Communications Training, part of the [California Office of Emergency Services \(CalOES\)](#) initiative launched in 2019 to prepare residents for disasters. The two-day event featured discussions on best practices, new tools, and peer-to-peer learning, with leaders sharing insights on using Artificial Intelligence (AI) for quick information dissemination.

1. Sign Up for Alerts: Download the free MyShake App (available on iOS and Android) to receive notifications about earthquake activity near you.
2. Create a Safety Plan: Write down contact information for friends and family and choose a safe meeting place.
3. Pack a Go-Bag: Prepare a bag with essentials like a portable radio, flashlight, important documents, and first aid supplies for quick evacuation.
4. Build a Stay-Box: Ready yourself to stay home for at least three days without water or power by packing up to three gallons of water, non-perishable food, trash bags, and a bucket. Include supplies for your pets.
5. Help Others Prepare: Talk to friends and family about their disaster plans and share your own preparations.

For more tips on being disaster-ready, visit [ListosCalifornia.org](https://listoscalifornia.org).

Project Highlight: COVID Education Recovery Project and Elevate Youth California Project



Sara Macdonald, CRM/Grants Advisor

Sara Macdonald-Boswell has been an invaluable member of our team for nearly a decade, currently overseeing the Elevate Youth California (EYC) Project, High Road Training Project (H RTP), California Energy Commission (CEC) Project, and COVID Education Recovery Project (CERP). With extensive knowledge in grants management and customer relationship systems, she excels at collaborating with diverse teams and partners throughout California. Ms. Macdonald appreciates the variety her role offers, whether it's navigating complex projects or building connections with colleagues across the state. Her favorite aspect of the job is working alongside her dedicated teammates, and she values the strong sense of community that the company fosters. Outside of work, Ms. Macdonald

is a passionate traveler who has visited over 30 countries. She is also an avid scuba diver and a hiking enthusiast. At home, she enjoys reading and experimenting with new recipes.

COVID Education Recovery Project

The [COVID Education Recovery Project](#) (CERP) is specifically designed for Native American youth living in our California service areas, ages 5-24 years, whose education was adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Project staff engage in outreach and recruitment, case management, educational tutoring, and general educational services. Participants in the program focus on achieving their educational goals, which may include improving their grades, meeting national and state standards, earning a high school diploma, or accessing additional educational resources. The online platform, which participating students utilize to achieve their educational goals, is provided in collaboration with Grade Results. Federal funding is provided for this project by the California Department of Housing and Community Development through the Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus Relief.

M. Ligaya Hattari, Ph.D., Education Program Coordinator

Ligaya Hattari partnered with CIMC during the state-funded 2000 Census Campaign, where CIMC was assigned as the sole community-based organization responsible for educational outreach activities aimed at promoting a complete census count of all Native Americans in California. Since then, Dr. Hattari has felt humbled and honored to continue her work with CIMC in various capacities, serving Native communities. Currently, she serves as the Education Program Coordinator and is excited about the outstanding guidance and mentorship provided by the COVID Education Recovery Project through its Education Coordinators.





Annaliza Kemmerle, Education Coordinator

Osiyo Ginali, As the Education Coordinator for the COVID Education Recovery Project, I focus on identifying challenges and implementing solutions to enhance each student's overall learning experience. As the primary point of contact for Native American students and their families, I am dedicated to delivering excellent customer service and case management. I take pride in using my skills to support and advocate for our students' educational needs, ensuring that they receive culturally relevant and equitable opportunities. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to assist others in preparing for and accessing post-secondary education and career opportunities. This work empowers individuals to support their families and make a positive impact in their communities. One of

my favorite aspects of my job is fostering meaningful connections between traditional practices and modern approaches, recognizing the value of wisdom from both generations. In my free time, you can find me with my family exploring California's waterways and natural landscapes, appreciating their beauty, power, and resources.

Julie Dome, Education Coordinator

Julie Dome joined CIMC as an Education Coordinator in July, 2024. Ms. Dome holds a Masters degree in Counselor Education/School Counseling and Guidance Services. She has also earned a Bachelors degree in Organizational Management, and Associate degrees in History and Humanities/Humanistic Studies.



Elevate Youth California Project

The CIMC [Elevate Youth California \(EYC\) Project](#) - [Vision Keepers Youth Alliance](#) is a substance use prevention project designed to create a safe space for Native American youth. The project aims to equip participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to influence substance use policy in their local communities. Youth participants gather in monthly peer-led support groups, where they engage in cultural activities and use this platform to discuss the social factors surrounding substance use among Native American youth. [The Sierra Health Foundation](#) provides funding for this initiative.



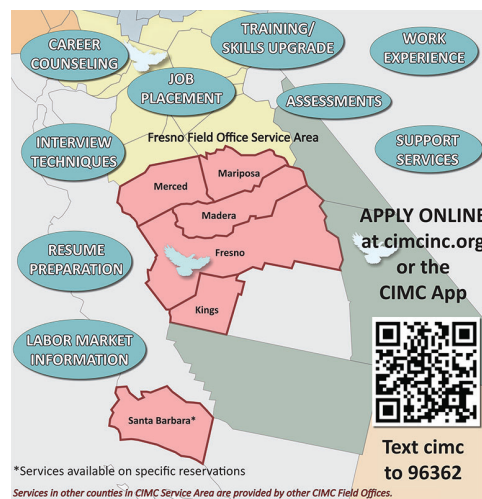
Priscilla Ortiz
Youth Leader



Shane Lara
Youth Leader

Field Office Highlight: *Fresno Field Office*

The CIMC Fresno Field Office, located in Fresno, California, provides [employment and training services](#) for eligible Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian individuals residing in Fresno, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced and Santa Barbara Counties.



Gabrielle Mills, Workforce Development Coordinator III

Gabrielle Mills, a member of the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians, joined the CIMC Team of Caring Professionals in November of 2017 as Youth Coordinator in the CIMC Career Pathways for Native Youth Project. She has since served as a Workforce Development Coordinator II and as the ANA Project Coordinator, overseeing the CIMC 7th Generation Coders Project. Ms. Mills has served as the Workforce Development Coordinator III in the Fresno Field Office since April 2021.

Paula Bryant, Field Office Secretary

I am an enrolled member of the Hewisedawi Band of Pit River Indians, a mother of three boys, and a grandmother to both a boy and a girl. For most of my adult life, I lived in the small town of Loleta, located in Humboldt County. Throughout my 60-year career, I have gained a diverse range of experiences. My journey began by operating farm equipment for my family's custom farming business. To avoid paying for childcare, I also took on various night jobs, including cleaning offices, making lawn furniture, and making donuts. Later in life, I enrolled in college and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Planning and Interpretation. I spent 15 years working in the Geology Department of Redwood National Park. In my 50s, I transitioned to the field of social services, working as a social worker and court advocate in Humboldt County. After relocating to Fresno due to family medical reasons, I initially planned to retire. However, I realized that I wasn't ready to stop working and found opportunities as an Employment Coordinator for the Owens Valley Career Development Center and as a Tribal Advancement Program Counselor for Chukchansi Gold Resort and Casino. On May 16, 2017, I began working as the Secretary for the CIMC Fresno Field Office. This job gives me purpose, and I am happy to contribute to the Native community at 77 years old.



CIMC Announcements

Last Day to Apply for CERP - August 1, 2025



Apply Today!
Due Date: August 1, 2025
COVID EDUCATION RECOVERY PROJECT

ABOUT THE PROGRAM
The goal of the project is to increase succession in school and help youth achieve graduation into the next grade level through an online education platform providing online courses and tutoring services, to improve their grades in subjects they are having difficulty with and to learn at a grade level that is respective to their age group. Preference will be given to Native American individuals.

ELIGIBILITY

- Youth ages 5-24 years
- At-risk students
- Non-traditional learners
- Reside in CIMC's service area
- Low to moderate income requirements
- Educational attainment has declined due to COVID-19

CONTACT US

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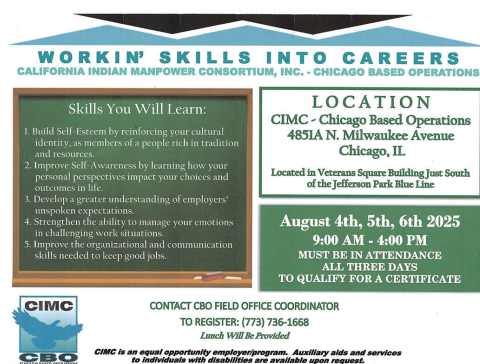
CIMC COVID Education Recovery Project
California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc.
800.640.CIMC (4642)
cimcinc.org

GradeResults

The CIMC [COVID Education Recovery Project](#) (CERP) announced the last day, August 1, 2025, to apply for CERP services. Native American youth (5-24 years), residing in the CIMC California service areas, whose education was negatively impacted by COVID-19, and are at-risk or are non-traditional learners are encouraged to join the CIMC COVID Education Recovery Project (CERP).

Download [application](#) or [apply online](#).

CIMC Workin' Skills into Careers Workshop in Chicago, IL



WORKIN' SKILLS INTO CAREERS
CALIFORNIA INDIAN MANPOWER CONSORTIUM, INC. - CHICAGO BASED OPERATIONS

Skills You Will Learn:

1. Build Self-Esteem by reinforcing your cultural identity as members of a people rich in tradition and resources.
2. Improve Self-Awareness by learning how your personal perspectives impact your choices and outcomes in life.
3. Develop a greater understanding of employers' unspoken expectations.
4. Strengthen the ability to manage your emotions in challenging work situations.
5. Improve the organizational and communication skills needed to keep good jobs.

LOCATION
CIMC - Chicago Based Operations
4851A N. Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL
Located in Veterans Square Building Just South of the Jefferson Park Blue Line

August 4th, 5th, 6th 2025
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE
ALL THREE DAYS
TO QUALIFY FOR A CERTIFICATE

CONTACT CBO FIELD OFFICE COORDINATOR
TO REGISTER: (773) 736-1668
Lunch Will Be Provided

CIMC is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities are available upon request.

The CIMC Chicago Based Operations (CBO) is conducting a [Workin' Skills into Careers](#) workshop on August 4-6, 2025 at CBO Office in Chicago, Illinois. Interested eligible individuals are requested to contact the CBO office at (773) 776-1668 to register in advance, and are required to attend all three days to qualify for a certificate. Attendees will gain skills to improve their employability in today's labor force.

CIMC Caregiver Training in Blue Lake, CA



CAREGIVER TRAINING
Application Due Date: August 1, 2025
Wednesday, September 3, 2025 to Saturday, September 6, 2025
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Blue Lake Casino Hotel
777 Casino Way
Blue Lake, California

REQUIREMENTS

- A DESIRE TO LEARN NEW SKILLS
- PROVIDING CARE
- RELIABLE
- TWENTY-ONE (21) YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
- LONG TERM COMMITMENT
- ALCOHOL/DRUG FREE

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- Role of the Caregiver
- Consumer Rights
- Mental and Physical Conditions Including Aging Process
- Observation and Reporting
- A Safe Environment
- Infection Control/Universal Precautions
- Personal Care

CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Deanna Quintana, Elders Program Coordinator
Rebecca Allen Hill, Elders Program Specialist

Phone: (916) 920-0285 Ext. 2123
Cell Phone: (916) 764-7699
Phone: (916) 920-0285 Ext. 2124
Cell Phone: (916) 764-7699

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THE NATION'S FIRST NATION, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95831
Phone: (916) 920-0285 or (916) 764-7699
*Available as 501(c)(3) for the purpose of receiving.

CIMC is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities are available upon request. Funding provided, in part, by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The CIMC Movement: Creating Positive Change for Native Communities

The CIMC Elders Program is hosting a [Caregiver Training](#) on September 3-6, 2025, at the Blue Lake Casino Resort in Blue Lake, California. To apply, interested individuals are requested to contact the CIMC Elders Program at (916) 920-0285.

SAVE THE DATE: CIMC Vision Keepers Youth Alliance Conference in Sacramento, CA



The CIMC [Elevate Youth California Project](#) announced plans to host the [Vision Keepers Youth Alliance](#) Conference. The event will be held on November 21-23, 2025, in Sacramento, California. Travel expenses will be provided for a limited number of participants. For further information, contact the Youth Leader in your region or the supervisor:

Central California: Shane Lara, shanel@cimcinc.com - (916) 775-9154

Southern California: Priscilla Ortiz, priscillao@cimcinc.com - (916) 775-9377

Supervisor: Sara Macdonald, saram@cimcinc.com - (916) 546-9320

CIMC Job Opportunities

Open Positions (Starting Pay shown on announcement is not the pay range; it is the range of the starting pay rate.)

[Accounting Clerk](#) - CIMC Central Office, Sacramento, CA

[Education Coordinator](#) - To be determined

[Field Office Secretary](#) - CIMC Eastern Sierra Field Office, Bishop, CA

[Field Office Secretary](#) - CIMC Ukiah Field Office, Ukiah, CA

[Program Secretary \(CCDBG Program\)](#) - CIMC Central Office, Sacramento, CA

[Workforce Development Coordinator II](#) - CIMC Chicago Based Operations, Chicago, IL

[Workforce Development Coordinator II - Floater](#) - CIMC Escondido Field Office, Pala, CA

[Workforce Development Coordinator III](#) - CIMC Redding Field Office, Redding, CA

Other positions may be available; visit the [CIMC website](#) for more information. A completed CIMC [employment application](#) must be received at any CIMC office or emailed to [CIMC Receptionist](#) by the closing date listed on each job description to be considered.

Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate persons with disabilities. Please notify the contact person at the telephone number listed on the announcement in advance of any special needs.

UPCOMING CIMC MEETINGS / EVENTS

- August 4-6, 2025 - [CIMC Workin' Skills into Careers](#) - Chicago Based Operations, Chicago, Illinois
 - August 9, 2025: 10:00 am - [CIMC Eastern Sierra Geographic Service Area Meeting](#) - Bishop Tribal Administrative Conference Room, Bishop, California
 - August 12, 2025: 6:00 pm - [CIMC Ukiah Geographic Service Area Meeting](#) - Twin Pine Casino & Hotel, Middletown, California
 - August 16, 2025: 10:00 am - [CIMC Redding Geographic Service Area Meeting](#) - Elk Valley Rancheria Administration Building, Crescent City, California
 - August 23, 2025: 10:00 am - [CIMC San Jacinto Geographic Service Area Meeting](#) - Avi Resort & Casino, Laughlin, Nevada
 - September 3-6, 2025 - [CIMC Caregiver Training](#) - Blue Lake Casino Hotel, Blue Lake, California
 - October 31 - November 1, 2025 - [CIMC Annual Membership Meeting](#) - Pala Casino Resort & Spa, Pala, California
 - November 21-23, 2025 - [CIMC Vision Keepers Youth Alliance Conference](#) - Sacramento, California
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