



# GLITC Resiliency

Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. Newsletter



## GLITC News and Announcement

GLITC is excited to announce that after a rigorous interview process, **Gina Brown**, GLITC Staff Accountant and Interim Controller, has accepted the Finance Manager position, effective January 3, 2022.

Gina has experience in the GLITC Accounting office, with four-plus years in Accounting staff positions. Gina also has eleven-plus years of experience in financial and accounting positions in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Gina has a Master of Science in accounting, bachelor's degree in forensic accounting, and Small Business Accounting Certificate.

Gina is well positioned to succeed in this position from both an educational and experiential background.

Please join us in congratulating Gina Brown!

## From GLITC Leadership

December 2021

Pandemic... Who would have thought they would have to live through one, let alone work during one? In March 2020, we had to adjust and adapt to a new way of life and new work habits. This created a large challenge for the GLITC Accounting Department: How would we still be able to work?

As most workers shifted to working from home, our Accounting Department adopted a hybrid approach that combined working from home and working in the office. In the accounting world, there are many rules and regulations to ensure checks and balances are in place. This is the main reason why our Accounting Department still had to be in the office at least two days a week. To go from a five-day week to a two-day week is a challenge, especially when you must decide what needs to be done now, what can wait, or what can be done at home. Much of our work shifted from handling paperwork dropped off at our office and talking in person to instead communicating via emails and phone calls. In the beginning, it was a challenge, but then it became the norm for us. We had to learn to be flexible and adjust to any new challenge that came our way.

As we continue to move forward through this pandemic, we still accomplish what needs to be done. We now have new norms and are ready to take on new challenges that come our way.

Gina Brown

Staff Accountant and Interim Controller

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## Our Mission

To enhance the quality of life for all Native people



# CARES Act Tourism Recovery Program

## Economic Development Highlight

As tribal nations continue to rebuild their organizations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism plays a key role in diversifying and boosting the economy. The CARES Act Tourism Recovery program was developed mid-2020 as part of GLITC Economic Development. Through collaboration with the tribes, the program's goal is to support tribal tourism recovery by providing technical assistance to tribes as they develop long-term pandemic recovery plans and implement resiliency strategies and initiatives. For more information, contact Fawn Cottrell, Tourism Recovery Coordinator, at [fcottrell@glitc.org](mailto:fcottrell@glitc.org).

### Pandemic Impact Assessment

The program conducted a pandemic impact assessment on Wisconsin tribal tourism in 2020-21. The assessment's outcome will be shared with each tribe, along with strategies to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. The assessment identified one clear theme of tribal tourism: the scarcity of resources to recover.

**\$240 million of the U.S. Economic Development Administration's American Rescue Plan funds are allocated to support communities (including tribal nations or consortiums of tribal nations) that have been hardest hit by challenges facing the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors. These funds will invest in infrastructure, workforce, or other projects to support the recovery of the industry and economic resilience.**

### Funding Opportunities

The Tourism Recovery program is helping connect tribes with available resources, including potential funding opportunities. The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration introduced the American Rescue Plan Act Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation program this year to offer financial assistance to communities, including tribal nations. This federal program aims to rebuild and strengthen travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation industry through various infrastructure and noninfrastructure projects. The Tourism Recovery program is currently distributing information about the federal program and assisting tribes that are planning for or currently have tourism projects that may qualify for this and other programs.



▲ The Tourism Recovery program provides tourism technical assistance by advocating for tribal tourism's digital presence using social media.



# Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)

## Family Health Highlight

The Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program for Teen Pregnancy Prevention (Tribal PREP) has been serving the Stockbridge-Munsee Community and Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Community for the past five years through various educational and outreach events and by facilitating Native-designed curriculum in Gresham and Bowler public schools and Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe School.

The grant's objectives are to delay pregnancy until age 22 and reduce sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS, all while reducing risky behaviors that may lead to unintended pregnancies and unsafe sexual activity. This grant is federally funded through the Family and Youth Services Bureau.

### Diverse Grant Activities

You may think all Tribal PREP is about is sex education, but we are so much more! Although we do teach reproductive and sexual health with substantial emphasis on abstinence and contraception, we also focus on adolescent development, healthy relationships, healthy life skills, education and career success, financial literacy, and communication between child and parent/caregiver.

We have held many activities including events for parents and other community members to raise awareness of our curricula, a ten-week relationships course for adults to help them understand and demonstrate healthy relationships and life skills for youth, annual financial literacy events for middle schoolers, trauma informed care training for school staff, reproductive health education for summer youth workers, music therapy for Shawano Boys and Girls Club Summer Camp, and more.

The program uses two best practice curricula, serving 237 youth in Multimedia Circle of Life and 290 youth in Discovery Dating. After programming, youth reported an increased ability to resist peer pressure, increased intention to delay sexual activity, and increased condom use if engaging in sexual activity. Youth reported that they liked the program's content, felt respected by facilitators, and appreciated the openness of the discussions.

GLITC has been awarded another five-year funding cycle for Tribal PREP and will expand this program to cover three more Tribes. For more information, please contact Lori Hunter, Program Director, at [lhunter@glitc.org](mailto:lhunter@glitc.org).



▲ Tribal PREP hosted nationally known speaker Gyasi Ross. He spoke to all middle and high schoolers in Gresham and Bowler public schools and Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe School and at an evening event for other community members.



▲ Lori Hunter (left) and eighth-grade Discovery Dating students sort through the benefits and pitfalls of relationships.



# Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council

## Programs and Grants

### Aging and Disability

Aging and Disability Resource Specialist (ADRS)  
 Dementia Care Specialist (DCS)  
 Disability Benefit Specialist (DBS)  
 Elder Benefit Specialist (EBS)  
 Healthy Living With Diabetes  
 Medicaid Improvements for Patients and Providers  
 Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)  
 State Health Insurance Information Program  
 State Pharmaceutical Assistance (SPA)  
 Together Strong Dementia  
 Tribal Technical Assistance Center (TTAC)

### Economic Development

Small Business Technical Assistance Program  
 (American Indian Economic Development Grant)  
 CARES Act Tourism Recovery  
 Economic Development  
 Native American Tourism of Wisconsin (NATOW)

### Education, Health, and Research

Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health  
 (Great Lakes NARCH)  
 Wisconsin Native American Tobacco Network (WNATN)

### Elders

Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)  
 Senior Companion Program (SCP)  
 VISTA AmeriCorps Initiative  
 Youth and Elder Community Empowerment

### Epidemiology

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response (CPAR)  
 Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC)  
 IHS Epidemiology Program Cooperative  
 Increasing Vaccine Coverage in AI/AN Adults (iVAC)  
 Lead Testing in Drinking Water  
 Tribal EPI Center Public Health Infrastructure (TECPHI)  
 Tribal Public Health Capacity Building (UMB)

### Family Health

Cooperative American Indian Health  
 Family Foundations Home Visiting (FFHV)  
 Lincoln Hills Program  
 Native Breastfeeding Coalition of Wisconsin  
 Rural Infant Health  
 Sexual Risk Avoidance Education  
 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed)  
 Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)  
 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

### Vocational Rehabilitation

American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation  
 American Indians With Disabilities

### Our Heartfelt Gratitude

GLITC extends a special note of thanks to acknowledge all the federal, state, and private funders, donors, and foundations that support our programs and mission.