

FY 2018 Directory of Funded Programs:  
Organizational Profiles and Project Summaries  
Tribal Court Improvement Program  
HHS-2018-ACF-ACYF-CS-1348  
Administration for Children and Families - Administration on Children,  
Youth & Families - Children's Bureau

## Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

**Award Number:**

90CS2033

**Project Title:**

Tribal Court Improvement Project

**Ponca Tribe of Nebraska**

2523 Woodbine Street  
P.O. Box 288  
Niobrara, NE 68760

**Project Director (PD) and  
Principal Contact:**

Elise Emanuel

**PD Email:**

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**PD Phone:**

(402) 738-3173

**Project Period:**

60 Months

**Federal Program Officer  
(FPO)/Specialist:**

David Kelly

**FPO Email:**

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**Target Population:**

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska  
children and families

**Geographic Area(s) Served:**

This project will operate within the  
Tribe's 11,674 square mile service  
area consisting of the following  
federally designated counties:  
Boyd, Burt, Douglas, Hall, Holt,  
Knox, Lancaster, Madison, Platte,  
Sarpy, Stanton, and Wayne  
counties in Nebraska; Charles Mix  
County in South Dakota; and  
Pottawattamie and Woodbury  
counties in Iowa.

**Agency Region:**

ACF Region 7

**Organizational Description**

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska delivers services to tribal members residing in fifteen designated counties in Nebraska, South Dakota, and Iowa. Tribal enrollment exceeds 4,000 worldwide, with 1,620 members residing the service delivery area as of October 2017. The Tribe exercises territorial jurisdiction over lands held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe and members of the Tribe, as well as all lands within any service area of the Tribe as defined by the Ponca Restoration Act and all amendments thereto.

**Use of Program Funds**

This project will continue to support one (1) full-time Court Services Specialist, who will oversee collaborative processes to gather relevant information, implement data management and sharing plans, train court related and child welfare personnel, maintain the Tribe's mediation program, and develop and implement a program of traditional Ponca peacemaking practices into child welfare proceedings.

**Expected Outcomes**

Improve the performance of the Tribe's Tribal Court in child welfare proceedings in order to ensure that the safety, wellbeing and permanency needs for each child it serves are met with a culturally appropriate, comprehensive approach undertaken in a fair, timely and complete manner.