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Seminole Tribe of Florida Provides Host Sponsorship of NICWA Conference

(Portland, Oregon, April 5, 2018)—The National Indian Child Welfare Association received a \$25,000 host sponsorship from the Seminole Tribe of Florida for this year's 36th Annual Protecting Our Children National American Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, to be held at Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center, in Anchorage, Alaska. This year's sponsorship by the tribe will help NICWA bring a wide range of workshops and relationship-building opportunities for child welfare workers, tribal leaders, and ICWA advocates from all across Indian Country and maintain the conference as *the* premier national gathering to discuss best practices in Indian child welfare.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida is a long-standing supporter of NICWA and its mission of strengthening the well-being of American Indian and Alaska Native children, families, and communities. Collaboration and cooperation between tribal leaders and child welfare workers helps to increase access to community-based services that help our children grow up safe, healthy, and spiritually strong. The Protecting Our Children conference is an important gathering for tribal leaders and frontline workers from across the country.

NICWA Executive Director Sarah Kastelic noted, "We are truly grateful to the Seminole Tribe of Florida tribal government and people. NICWA's annual conference is only possible with the generous contributions of sponsors. With Seminole's support and partnership, 2018 will be NICWA's largest conference on record. More than 1,100 people have pre-registered to participate in this incredible training and networking opportunity that builds the knowledge and skill set of service providers and leaders working to protect Native children and keep Native families together."

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About the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA)

NICWA works to support the safety, health, and spiritual strength of Native children along the broad continuum of their lives. The organization promotes building tribal capacity to prevent child abuse and neglect through positive systems change at the state, federal, and tribal levels. For more information, visit www.nicwa.org.