

From: goinscolumbia@aol.com
Sent: 10/4/2015 3:14:47 PM
To: kcmcgill@gmail.com; bjames@scsdb.org; KCMcGill@gmail.com; jameswb27@gmail.com; kennethbattle@hotmail.com
Cc:
Subject: Re: FYI- Educational Grant helps to get Native students in Higher education and trained for Jobs- to help with the socio-economic systemic problems

Dear Ms McGill:

I appreciate you acknowledging that you received this mail, regarding the GRANTS to help uplift the socio-economic systemic problems facing Native American Indian youth.

I had hoped that you would send me the report, as you promised.

I guess you all are having trouble following all of this information, because I have made it VERY clear that I have **FOIA (Freedom of Information Act)** requests that have been ignored by the **Commission of Minority Affairs Office**, still pending since 2008.

I have NOT been able to get any public information requests answered from that office since 2008. Yes, the report that you were going to send me in NOT **secret** and is a matter of **public record** and should be able to be accessed, just like many of my other requests that have gone to that office from me since 2008.

Unfortunately, the CMA has decided to ignore **all** of my requests for things that should be a matter of public record and therefore, **I am not sure where you suggest I get that Report, if you don't provide it to me!** This was all covered in the Office of the Inspector General Investigation and Evaluation that everyone seems to be ignoring.

I sent you and all the Board mention of this in my most recent letter. This letter was also sent to Governor, and Mr. Smith received this letter also, and has never attempted to correct or respond or fulfill the FOIA requests mentioned. Here (below) is the excerpt from that letter.

"I have requested from the Board of Directors, through the FOIA, specific documents for use in clarification of some of these issues, within that state agency since 2008. I have not received a response or correspondence regarding my request. Therefore, I fear that there is a specific reason for this lack of responsiveness. I also requested this information and documents again in writing (September 09, 2010, September 9, 2011, June 16, 2011, June 19, 2011, August 22, 2012, Nov 20, 2013, Aug 30, 2013, Jan 29, 2014, March 25, 2014.) From my understanding, as stated in State Law 139-203. All meetings, documents and work produced or performed by an Advisory Committees and The Commission for Minority Affairs Board of Directors, Executive Committee, except as exempted by these regulations, shall be covered by the

Freedom of Information Act. All information I have requested is NOT exempted by FOIA. I cannot seem to get the agency, the Board or the Executive Director to be responsive to all of my requests for Freedom of Information (FOIA)."

It seems that no one is actually understanding my letter or that fact that I am serious! Mr. Smith and Ms Marcy Hayden skirted their responsibilities to respond to **all of my requests for things of public record** and **ALL of my FOIA requests**. I have brought many issues of misinformation and lack of transparency to every CMA Board member, with no correction.

It is unfortunate that nothing is going to change in that agency, in response to my requests for public information. It is very unfortunate that the "new" Board of Directors have decided to not be a "change agent" for the good and correct any of the misdealing within that agency, as was hoped.

Thanks again for acknowledging that you received my email.

Dr. Will Moreau Goins

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen McGill <kcmcgill@gmail.com>

To: goinscolumbia <goinscolumbia@aol.com>

Sent: Sat, Oct 3, 2015 11:26 am

Subject: Re: FYI- Educational Grant helps to get Native students in Higher education and trained for Jobs- to help with the socio-economic systemic problems

Dr. Goins, I apologize for not getting back to you on this. I know that, when we talked on the phone, you asked me to send you a copy of the Annual Accountability Report. After thinking about it, I wondered if that was something I could do as a Commissioner of the CMA. **The report may be a matter of public record.** I do hope that the CMA pursues grants such as the one described in this article. I know that the Native community appreciates your advocacy for their interests.

Karen McGill

On Tuesday, September 29, 2015, <goinscolumbia@aol.com> wrote:

Grant to help UNC Pembroke, partners improve access to college for American Indian youth

A partnership between the Lumbee Tribe, the **Public Schools of Robeson County** (PSRC), **Robeson Community College** (RCC) and The University of North Carolina at Pembroke has been awarded a **\$2.4 million, four-year grant to improve access to higher education and career preparedness for American Indian youth of Robeson County.**

From the U.S. Department of Education's Native Youth Community Projects program, the grant award was announced in a joint press conference on September 24 in the offices of the Lumbee Tribe. A representative of U.S. Congressman Richard Hudson was on hand.

Titled Project ACCESS (Achieving College Opportunities, Community Engagement and Student Success), the partners will reach out to American Indian middle and high school students, their families, tribal communities and tribal networks employing camps, a tutoring program and other programming. The goal is to improve the community's awareness of higher education and its benefits.

The partners have defined roles. At UNCP, the grant will fund a community engagement specialist who will be headquartered in the Southeast American Indian Studies (SAIS) offices in Old Main. UNCP's portion of the grant is a little more than \$880,000. UNCP and its community engagement specialist will organize summer, day and community camps, a countywide College Day and a tutoring program with the Lumbee Tribe's Boys and Girls Clubs. The camps will introduce students and their families to issues related to higher education, including how to complete a college application, apply for financial aid and navigate the process.

Another goal is to increase PSRC's American Indian student participation in RCC's Career and College Promise program and to introduce health sciences and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) subjects and careers to American Indian students.

Officials from all four partners praised Project ACCESS and its goals. "This is

a historic moment for the Tribe,” said Lumbee Tribal Chair Paul Brooks. “This is an amazing partnership, and we’re going to make great things happen.”

“UNCP’s historic mission is about access for Lumbee Indians to higher education, and this grant is a perfect fit,” Brooks said. “This grant will focus solely on our youth and assure that they are equipped with the tools they need to succeed in college or a career.”

“The purpose of the grant is to develop a college-going culture in Robeson County,” said Lawrence Locklear, coordinator of UNCP’s Southeast Indian Studies program, who helped write the grant. “Improving access to higher education will change the lives of many American Indian children and their families.”

RCC President Pamela Hilbert thanked her staff, including grant writer Lisa Hunt, for their work on Project ACCESS. “For our part, we want to spread the word to high school juniors and seniors that they can enroll in a college class free of charge,” Dr. Hilbert said. “This grant will help us make it happen.”

Tommy Lowry, PSRC’s superintendent, thanked the partners. “Any time we can reach out and help support children is a good time,” Lowry said.

U.S. Rep. Richard Hudson said in the release: "This is a huge win for our community. This grant is necessary to help introduce families to the higher education system, equip students with critical knowledge and ensure folks have the skills they need to get and keep good-paying jobs."

The grant lays out specific goals: 1) Introduce 240 American Indian middle and high school students, along with 1,400 family and tribal community members, to higher education through camps; 2) Improve the academic support and success of 40 students in the Lumbee Tribe’s Boys & Girls Clubs by implementing an academic tutoring program; 3) Increase the PSRC’s American Indian student participation in RCC’s Career and College Promise program to 685 students; 4) Provide four (4) annual Health

Science and STEM summer camps for 60 K-12 students to broaden their exposure to higher education: and 5) Remove transportation and financial barriers that prevent American Indian students in the Public Schools of Robeson County from participating in Robeson Community College’s Career and College program by providing transportation and the cost of books and fees for program participants.

UNCP and its growing SAIS program are especially pleased to be a partner in Project ACCESS, said its director Dr. Alfred Bryant. He noted the grant also gives UNCP students much needed employment opportunities.