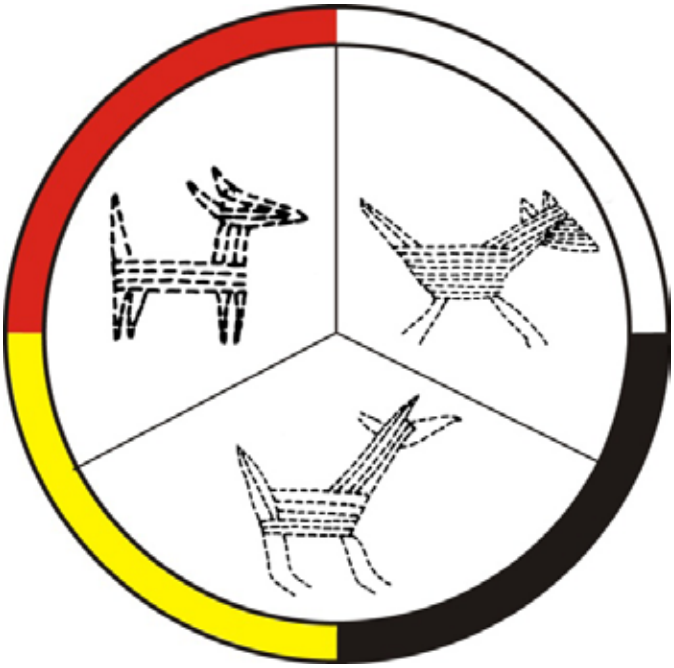
MARYLAND
COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Governor's Commission on Indian Affairs

Annual Report

2014



The Meaning of the Logo

The symbols of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs logo are representations of historical findings, cultural ideology and unity. Three ancient drawings found in Maryland, represent the first Indigenous Peoples of the State. The four colors represent the four directions (North, South, East and West) traditional to American Indians and the “circle” that connects us all.

Mission Statement

The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs works to serve as a statewide clearinghouse for information, to identify unmet social and economic needs in the native community, to support government education programs for American Indian youth, to provide support in the process of obtaining Recognition of State and Federal Indian Status, and to promote the awareness and understanding of historical and contemporary American Indian contributions in Maryland.

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Office of the Governor

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A MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present to you the 2014 Annual Report of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs (MCIA). This report highlights the accomplishments of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs over the past year.

We have continued to make progress for the American Indian community in Maryland this year by passing HB 40 which officially designates the month of November as American Indian Heritage Month in Maryland. We celebrated the official designation with a successful American Indian Heritage Month Kick-Off in the native home of the Piscataway in Southern Maryland. Maryland continues to be a state that believes that diversity is our greatest strength.

I commend each Commissioner for their leadership and our staff for the good work achieved in 2014. I wish the Commission and the American Indian community the best in 2015.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

The Governor's Office of Community Initiatives (GOCI) coordinates community and volunteer activities statewide and advises the Governor on policies to enhance and improve community programs. This Office also oversees the work of the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism, Volunteer Maryland and community outreach in cooperation with the Governor's Intergovernmental Affairs Office to serve the Executive Branch of Maryland government. In addition, GOCI coordinates outreach to ethnic communities across Maryland, overseeing the Governor's Office and Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, the Governor's Commission on Hispanic Affairs, the Governor's Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs, the Maryland Commission on African Affairs, the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, the Maryland Commission on New Americans and the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture.

I would like to congratulate the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs and each of the Commissioners who serve. Your work in 2014 has proven to be of great value with the passage of HB40 designating November as one of the commemorative months to be celebrated by law in Maryland.

With your devotion and leadership, I am certain the Commission will continue to propel the Native American community forward.

Thank you again for all that you do.

Israel C. "Izzy" Patoka,
Executive Director
Governor's Office of Community Initiatives

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Robert Killen
Pocomoke Indian Nation

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the 2014 Annual Report of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs. This report presents insight on the accomplishments, challenges and activities of the Commission during this past year.

The MCIA is fully committed to supporting American Indians residing in Maryland. We are persistent with our work with the Governor, State Agencies, and the American Indian groups in order to address the needs of the communities. This past year, we have focused on specific areas by concentrating on various committees. 2014 marked a year where commissioners reached out to individuals who have a passion in keys areas like education, archaeology, business and health, to serve as committee members. Each Commissioner serves as chair for each committee. In conjunction with the community's growing interest in Native American sites and education, the Commission maintains its support of educational initiatives with the intention of greater awareness of the rich history in Maryland.

The Commission has continued its work with the John Smith National Water Trail, and we sponsored Maryland Archaeology Month 2014 last April. With the help of the Maryland Historical Trust, MCIA's Working Group was able to serve as an example to those Japanese who are working to repatriate remains at an appropriate place of repose. Additionally, we sponsored a hugely successful symposium at the Nabb Center for DelMarVa History at Salisbury University.

This report serves as an overview of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs resources and how the activities have played a role in the positive changes in our communities. As such, the Commission wishes to express its gratitude to Governor Martin O'Malley and his administration for its support as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Killen
Chair, MCIA

Executive Summary

In 2014, the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs (MCIA) tackled tough issues and prevailed with the assistance from community members to elected official supporting legislation that generations will utilize. Below are key initiatives and achievements by the NMCIA administration and commissioners.

- **Working Group: "An Appropriate Place of Repose"** –In 2007, the Secretary of Planning began discussions for a work group to address the 181 Indigenous remains that were excavated from 20 sites in Maryland between 1930 and 1980. From 2008 to 2012, five members representing the Maryland Historical Trust and five members representing MCIA reached consensus to return Native Ancestors back to the earth with the help of the Department of Natural Resources. Through this process a new level of respect and trust was forged between American Indians and State Government.

- **Health Disparities** – The Commission assisted the MOTA program which allowed for greater out reach to the American Indian community. The annual health fair took place on December 13thand MCIA served as a resource for health providers, guest performers and speakers for the event.

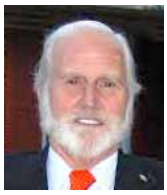
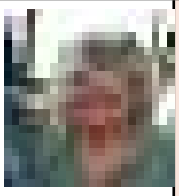
- **The MCIA Website** (www.americanindian.maryland.gov) – The 2014 website continues to be an important clearinghouse of resources and information for the community and service providers. In 2015, the website will be updated utilizing a new format which will allow for more information, while still retaining specific data that pertains to Maryland's American Indian population.

- **Cultural Competency Trainings (CCT)** – Forty-one events dealt directly with (CCT). The (CCT) allow insight of the traditions, ideology, spirituality and history of Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples. It is part of the statues and foundation of why MCIA exists. (CCT) occur in elemen tary schools, faith based organizations, health fields and military installations just to mention a few.

- **The MCIA Committees**- The MCIA has six committees that include the Advisory Committee, Public Education Committee, Archeology Committee, Economic and Social Welfare Committee, Health and Mental Health Committee and Sweat Lodge Committee, and Recognition Advisory Committee. Each committee is chaired by a commissioner and members are selected on their expertise and willingness to attend conference calls, meetings and events. Recommendations are forwarded to the Commission to discuss and vote.

- **New initiatives** - Initiatives can be created according to the issues facing American Indian com munities. MCIA strives to work with agencies like the Department of Natural Resources, Social Security Administration (SSA), Department of the Navy, The Carroll Park Foundation, Live and Learn Bethesda, Title VII- Indian Education and Department of Planning. MCIA will work on legislative initiatives to resolve historical issues of its Indigenous tribes and assist in updating current by-laws and procedures to allow MCIA to function in a higher capacity.

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

Commissioners		Tribal Affiliation/Heritage	County of Residence
Robert Killen, Chair		Pocomoke-Indian Tribe, Inc.	Howard County
Ashley Minner, Vice Chair		Lumbee Indian Tribe	Baltimore County
Virginia R. Busby Ph.D.		Historian/Archeologist	Harford County
Rico Newman		Piscataway Conoy Tribe	Prince George's County
Leanora Winters		Piscataway Indian Nation	Calvert County
Lisa Savoy		Piscataway Conoy Tribe	Prince George's County
Rebecca Johnson-Stone		Choctaw	Howard County
Patricia Carson		Accohannock Indian Tribe, Inc.	Somerset County

E. Keith Colston
Administrative Director

Agnes M. Smith
Project Coordinator,
Governor's Ethnic Commissions

Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs 2014 Meeting Schedule

Date	Location	County
February 3rd	Department of Natural Resources	Anne Arundel
June 3rd	Cryptologic Museum	Anne Arundel
August 4th	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	Baltimore City
October 6th	Accokeek Foundation Education Center	Prince George's
December 1st	Department Budget and Management	Anne Arundel

Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs Public Meetings

MCIA will meet six times a year to conduct business for the public to be witness to. During a time of 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, the meeting is called to order by the Chair of the Commission. Out of respect for cultural integrity, an elder is usually requested to give invocation. Minutes are accepted with any correction and then guests are asked to present various materials or information.

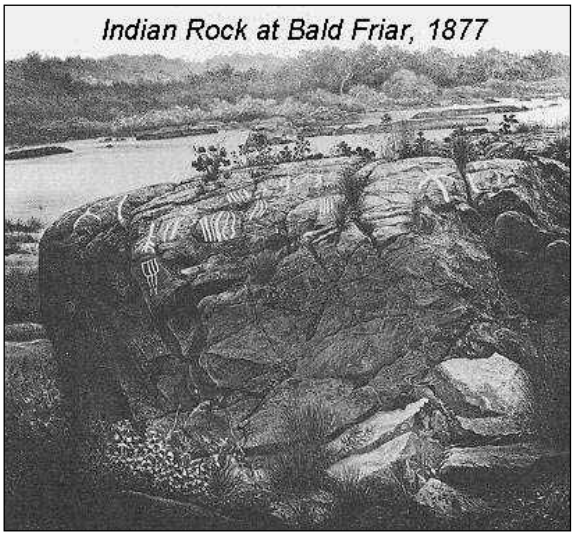
As the agenda is followed, committee reports are given by committee chairs which are seated commissions appointed by the Chair of MCIA.

Old business is discussed as well as new business. Public announcements are welcomed and then adjournment. Conversation and interaction is held minutes after the meeting has concluded that allows for unity amongst the communities.

MCIA Archaeology and the Environment Committee
Virginia R. Busby, PhD, Chair

Significant aspects of the MCIA mission include organizing and maintaining a database of Indian history and culture in Maryland; assisting in the protection of Native American burials and other culturally significant sites; and serving as a statewide clearinghouse for information. Accomplishing our mission means partnering well with local, state, federal and other conservation and preservation partners and aligning our interests and actions for the benefit of all.

Our Archaeology and Environment Committee has experienced reinvigoration with the service of Commissioners Leanora Winters, Rico Newman, Robert Killen, and Virginia Busby with Gina Hamlin also serving. Our focus on archaeology and the environment has been made explicit with our name. In addition to our engagement with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) regarding the curation and potential display of some of the Bald Friar petroglyphs of the lower Susquehanna River, we have been working to build on MCIA's relationship with MHT and the archaeological community overall to increase and enrich our common ground.



Over the past year, the MCIA made great strides in education and partnering for the identification, appreciation and protection of Maryland landscapes and sites important to indigenous people. In addition to on-going participation in the Advisory Council for the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail and the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership, MCIA has continued to work with tribes, the Maryland Historical Trust, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Maryland State Parks, the Maryland Environmental Trust, the Maryland State Arts Council, Preservation Maryland, the Maryland Heritage Council, universities, heritage areas, and national and local land trusts for meaningful planning and action.

Indigenous Landscape Initiative

The Indigenous Landscape Initiative, begun in 2012, works with tribes to identify, educate about, and to take measures for the protection of these places. These places include the entire history of the indigenous presence in Maryland and cover all areas of the state. One of the first accomplishments was the successful nomination of 12 endangered landscapes to Preservation Maryland's 2013 Most Endangered list. These initial landscapes include former Indian reservation lands in Southern Maryland and on the Eastern Shore. In addition to threats of destruc-

tion, this initial group was selected based on the need to educate about this facet of Maryland's Indian history (including the large expanses needed to sustain a community) and the opportunity to engage diverse audiences and protection partners. The listing succeeded in reaching broad audiences, promoting Maryland tribes as preservation and conservation partners, and providing a reference point for further engagement in addition to marshalling interest in preserving the natural and cultural aspects of these landscapes.

Building on this success, MCIA partnered with the Maryland Historical Trust, the Archeological Society of Maryland, the Council for Maryland Archeology, the Piscataway Conoy Tribe, the Maryland Indian Tourism Association, and others as full sponsors of Maryland Archeology Month 2014 with the theme being, "Exploring Maryland Indian Landscapes". Tribal members contributed articles to an associated publication. MCIA sponsored two significant events for the month including a session at the Maryland Environmental Trust conference during which Piscataway Tribal representatives, DNR, NPS, St. Mary's College of Maryland professors joined with MCIA to discuss Indian perspectives on land, studies about Indian lands, and partnership opportunities for protection. MCIA also sponsored a symposium with the Nabb Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University which included speakers from the Accohannock, Pocomoke, and Nause Waiwash of Maryland and the Lenape Tribe of Delaware in addition to archaeologists and ethnographers from Delaware, NPS, and from MCIA. Representatives from land trusts, heritage areas, archaeological societies and more attended for a great success.

Additional accomplishments in advancing site and landscape protection and tribal involvement in the protection included significant contributions to the Department of Natural Resources Land Protection and Recreation Plan 2014 – 2018. Contributions by MCIA Commissioner Virginia Busby as well as statements by Piscataway Conoy Tribal Chair Mervin Savoy and Nause Waiwash Chief Sewell Fitzhugh were included in the document. The productive partnering between DNR, MCIA, and Maryland tribes is evident in this inclusiveness.

Additional Accomplishments and Initiatives

MCIA conveyed certificates of appreciation to over 30 individuals and their organizations during our 2014 American Indian Heritage Month Kickoff to recognize their work of returning the remains of 130 American Indian individuals to the Earth through MCIA's partnership with MHT, the Maryland Park Service, and the greater archaeological community.

Building on our relationships, MCIA is continuing to work with the Maryland Park Service and tribes to investigate partnering in programming and interpretation.

MCIA and MHT via the Working Group served as an example for other Indigenous Peoples from around the world. The Center for Ainu & Indigenous Studies Hokkaido University of Japan met with members of the on August 4th. The meeting was a first of its kind for the Working Group. Charles Hall, MDP was point of contact for the historic meeting. Working group member Bob Gajdys presented his feelings as an elder and quoted:

”As a senior Native elder, I was honored and humbled to be asked to talk with and advise the Japanese group regarding the Ainu People, an ethnic minority of indigenous people in Northern Japan. Many aspects of the policy considerations under way are similar to those we faced in the reburial of Native American brothers and sisters in Maryland.

I found in my background research on the Ainu People that their cultural traditions and beliefs mirrored many indigenous tribal groups I have visited throughout the world from the Maori in New Zealand, to the Lapps in northern Norway and to the Incas in Peru. They also mirror many of the cultural traditions and beliefs of many Native American Tribes.

The Ainu are traditionally animists, believing that everything in nature has a “kamy” (Spirit or God) on the inside. This includes not only humans but all creatures, bird, fish, trees, plants, etc. They recognize the Gods of earth, water, sky and fire just like many Native American Tribes. They also believe their spirits are immortal and that their spirits will be rewarded hereafter by ascending to “kamkul mosir” (Land of the Gods).

I find it comforting to know that there are indigenous people throughout the world that I share beliefs with. Maybe we are all one big family!! In oneness,”

Bob Gajdys

Camden Yards – Trip for Native Youth

The Governor's Office of Community Initiatives assisted the MCIA with its outreach efforts to the youth of Baltimore. On April 16th, the Baltimore Orioles hosted the Tampa Bay Rays.
The Baltimore American Indian Center (BAIC) and Native Lifelines were asked to invite youth to attend the Friday night game.

The following youth from the Baltimore metropolitan area were invited to the Governor's Suite to enjoy game day: Karrien Johnson, Kiyia Johnson, Ebony Gray, India Jones, Asia Jones, Shanya Stalk, Te'Asia Porcher, Aniysha Barnes, Nehemiah Clansy, Malachi Clansy, Kristin Fields, Jazella Locklear, Charisma Hammonds, Erica Hammonds and Aaniyah Grebos.

Mr. Stan Thompson, Kerry Lessard, Jessica Clansy and Vice-Chair Ashley Minner served as chaperones for the youth. The day allowed an opportunity for the Baltimore American Indian Center and Native Lifelines youth to gather in one setting as a symbol of unity amongst its American Indian populations.

MCIA Education Committee Report
Committee Chair, Ashley Minner

The newly reformed MCIA Education Committee met for the first time on November 21, 2014. Committee Members include Ex-Officio Non-Voting MCIA Chair Robert Killen (Pocomoke), Education Committee Chair, Ashley Minner (Lumbee), Rebecca Johnson Stone (Chickasaw), Dennis Seymour (Eastern Band of Cherokee), Pat Carson (Accohannock), Wanda Lee (Lumbee) and Rico Newman (Piscataway). Additional committee members are currently being sought. The Committee will reconvene in January, 2015.

The Education Committee is currently working to address the following issues:

- Follow up on the three-year collaboration between the Maryland State Department of Education and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs
- Increased access for Maryland Native people to Maryland's community colleges
- A State scholarship fund for Maryland Native students to attend State colleges and universities, with dedicated funds to pay for application fees
- A Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs "Indian Education For All" document
- An increased number of Title VII Indian Education programs in the State of Maryland
- An environmental experience for students on Maryland's Water Trails that will help fulfill State environmental competency requirements

Administrative Director E. Keith Colston (Lumbee/Tuscarora) and Education Committee members assisted again this year with Baltimore City Public Schools' Title VII Indian Education Program Graduation Ceremony, held at the Baltimore American Indian Center on June 12, 2014. Education Committee Member Rebecca Johnson Stone was honored with an eagle feather for her academic accomplishment, a Bachelor of Science degree from University of Maryland University College.

The Baltimore American Indian Center (BAIC) functioned as the location for the "Class of 2014 Graduation Ceremony". Each year MCIA Vice-Chair Ashley Minner serves as the coordinator for all American Indian graduates, with a concentration on those within her Indian Education and After School programs.

Ashley Minner serves as the Coordinator for the Title VII Indian Education Program, which is a federally funded program for American Indian students. Baltimore City Public Schools Title VII Indian Education Program submitted Part I of their Indian Education Grant for School Year 2014/15. Baltimore City Indian Student count has increased. There are 158 Indian students enrolled in the program, 136 members of state recognized tribes, and 22 members of federally recognized tribes.

In order to apply for the 2014-15 Grant and be considered for funding, you must complete and certify Part I of the application through ESS no later than February 28, 2014. Part I relates to collecting student counts on the Indian and general student population. Ashley Minner has served as the coordinator for the past ten years.

List of Honorees

Headstart Graduates
Zaedon Dublin, Pre-K Graduates -Logan Locklear-Mitchell, Kindergarten Graduates - Jaylin Deal,

5th Grade Graduates
Dakota Knight Locklear Arnold/Ebony Gray/Kiyia Johnson/Roland Kent/Shanya Stalk/De'Andre Locklear/Te'Asia Porcher/ Tyler Huggins/Dominic Beattie, 8th Grade Graduates -Brandon Fisher/Jacob Ayers/Ronnie Huggins,

High School Graduates
William Nishchuk/Shane Dial/Jonathan Purgat/Jazmin Lynch/Lauren Ledwell/Terrance Turnage/Brannigan Dial/Travis Dial/Kristen Fields/Kachina Jones/Taylor Dudley/Tatiana Vargas/Darren Beattie

GED - Tiffany Locklear, Associates Degree - Zhandra Tabares-Raver, Bachelors Degree - Tiffany Cox/ Rebecca Johnson-Stone, Juris Doctorate - John Simermeyer

Native American After School Art Program (NAASAP) Participants
Karrien Johnson/Kiyia Johnson/India Jones/Asia Jones/Aniysha Barnes/Ebony Gray/Shanya Stalk

The BAIC was full of proud parents and supporting audience attending the awards ceremony.

Dr. Dennis E. Seymour. Dean, School of Justice. School of Justice served as the Keynote Speaker for the evening.

Mr. James “Jimmy” Kwak, Director of the Ethnic Commissions, GOCI presented the Native American After-School Program with a Governor’s Citation on the excellent work.

Duke University Visits Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians

The Duke Engage program sent 16 Duke University students to the DC area to intern with different organizations and to learn about the area through workshops and service. The program director, Bob Cook-Deegan, expressed interest in educating the students about American Indians in the area regarding history but also contemporary issues of recognition and scientific engagement, which lead to Jesse Bardill contacting Tribal Chair Natalie Proctor of the Cedarville Band of Piscataway in Waldorf, Maryland and Administrative Director Colston. For the training, Ms. Bardill envisioned a panel of speakers, to speak on genetics and the power of story.

Tribal Chair Proctor provided in-depth history of the Piscataway as well as the museum which served as the location for the student exchange. Mr. Colston followed up with a present day look at the MCIA as well as informative subject matter dealing with culture, tradition and cultural competency. Following the panel presentation, a question & answer session took place. Before embarking on a tour of the Piscataway lands, photo opportunity took place to capture the historic moment of Duke interacting with the Cedarville Band of Piscataway. The students returned to their meeting area for an activity simulating governance interactions. The event took place on July 11th for a 4 hour period.

Passage of House Bill 40 – American Indian Heritage Month

On May 15, 2014 Governor Martin O'Malley signed House Bill 40, which requires the Governor to annually proclaim November as American Indian Heritage Month in Maryland. Sponsored by State Delegate Peter F. Murphy, the bill also urges educational and cultural organizations to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. The new law went into effect on October 1, 2014.

"Maryland is blessed to have many Native Americans living within our borders, and thanks to this legislation sponsored by Delegate Murphy, we will continue to honor the First Americans and their ancestry each year with this month-long recognition, in addition to the official State holiday," said Governor O'Malley.

During the 2008 session, the Maryland General Assembly approved legislation making the fourth Friday of November a legal holiday recognizing the proud history and vital contributions of American Indians to the state. Governor O'Malley issued the state's first American Indian Heritage Day proclamation on November 28, 2008.

The American Indian Month designation aligns Maryland with the celebration of National American Indian Heritage Month. In November 1990 a joint resolution was approved by the President of the United States designating November as the official month for the celebration.

Member of the Baltimore Indian community supporting HB40 being signed into law.

MCIA, GOCI staff, Delegate Peter Murphy and Native youth pose for a moment for the historic signing of

Delegate Murphy took a moment to pose with Robert Killen, MCIA Chair and Ashley Minner, MCIA Vice-Chair. During house bill hearings, Commissioner Johnson-Stone testified in support of HB40.

MCIA Lecture at Frostburg State University

On August 7th, Administrative Director Colston travelled to the western part of Maryland to the Frostburg State University. Ms. Della James requested the lecture to give insight to the on the history, contributions and achievements of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs to the Religious Society of Friends Annapolis/ Quakers.

In 1799, seven Quaker Friends from the yearly Meeting of Friends for the Western Shore of Maryland, and the adjacent parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia made an extraordinary nine-week journey on horseback, on foot and via canoe on a visit to the Wyandot Indian nation, then residing at Upper Sandusky, Ohio Territory.

In 1798, a message was received from Tarhie (the Crane), and three other chiefs on behalf of the Wyandot and Delaware nations. The letter talked of the past friendship between the Quakers and the Indians and indicated that if they wanted to undertake a visit to the Wyandot and "the grand council of our great Sasterestsy (king) where all good things are transacted and where nothing bad is permitted to appear, they would indeed be welcome. The letter concluded:

"Brethren! May the Great Spirit! The master of light and life, so dispose the hearts and minds of all our nations and people, that the Calamities of War may never more be known or felt by them."

MCIA and the present day Quakers honor the positive connections made. During the lecture, information was provided that proved unknown to the visiting audience. The insight concerning the various tribal groups that are Indigenous to Maryland and the sharing of cultural values of tribes that have migrated to the State was well received.

Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance (MOTA) Program
2014 American Indian Heritage Powwow and Health Fair

On December 13th, The Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance (MOTA) partnered with Holy Cross Hospital for their annual Powwow and Health Fair to continue its mission to host its annual health fair to decrease health disparities of American Indians.

Members from the American Indian community volunteered for the event. Indigenous tribal members such as Maurice Proctor of the Cedarville Band of Piscataway participated as the arena director for the event, while individuals like Elyse Sparks Jackson (Lakota), served as register of the event.

Native culture was used as a way to convey the importance of decreasing health disparities and promoting healthy and holistic living. Duncan Munson a notable dancer in the community, performed his hoop dance which represents the connections between all things in life. Out of the 15 major health disparities, American Indian ranks the highest in 10 of those categories nationally. American Indians are finding ways to return to a cultural way of living that are used as preventive measures to healthier lifestyles

The Maryland Indian Tourism Association (MITA) became a partner with Holy Cross Hospital and the MOTA program, which is a State-wide program funded by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The MOTA program along with the American Heritage Day Powwow and Health Fair provides health education and services through cultural competency for Native Americans. Included at the Health Fair are free health screenings, health providers, and healthy alternatives to American Indian cuisine. The mission of MOTA is to engage community and faith leaders, ethnic health promoters and community activists to determine ways in which health disparities should be addressed.

MCIA Supporting Health Fairs throughout the State

On October 18th, MCIA presented Governor Citations to Frederick County for the Frederick Community Health Fair. Elizabeth Chung, Commissioner for the Asia Pacific Commission served host to the event. Administrative Director Colston represents the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives by sharing brief comments and presenting the Governor's Citation. In 2014, MCIA continued to support partner with other ethnic commissioners such as the Joint Chairs on July 7th meeting and March on Frederick on September 26th.
Supporting the health fair served as another example of cross-pollination amongst Maryland's ethnic commissions.

Administrative Director, E. Keith Colston

Commissioner Elizabeth Chung

Health Disparities Initiatives Director, Christine Wiggins

BAIC Multicultural Health Fair March 29th, Baltimore, MD

The Baltimore Indian community hosted a health fair that allowed community members to attain helpful information on family health. The health fair was funded by the Minority Outreach Technical Assistance Program (MOTA). In particular, the fair focused on equipping women from the community with important healthcare information. It is a historical fact that the women took care of the elders and the children in native communities. Today this is still true as many Native women are the caretakers of the family supervising medication and nutrition for the family.

William Jones, singer and drummer

Jason Warwick, singer and drummer

American Indian Heritage Month Kickoff

On November 3rd, the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs travelled to the Piscataway Conoy Tribe's territorial homeland to host the American Indian Heritage Month Celebration Kick-off (AIHM). The event would mark the eighth year that the commission has celebrated the rich history, contributions and achievements of American Indians in Maryland and throughout the country.

The kick-off serves as a time to highlight the Indigenous communities, organizations that provide services for American Indian Communities, partnerships with entities during the year and promote the efforts of the Commission.

The event was held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church located at 4590 St. Joseph Way in Pomfret, Maryland. Historically, St. Joseph's has served as a place where many Piscataway have gathered for religious purposes. In present times, it has been a location of celebration. In 2012, it was utilized to commemorate the Piscataway Conoy Tribe receiving Maryland Indian Status via Executive Order by Governor Martin O'Malley. The event provided an opportunity for past and present MCIA commissioners to gather and reflect on the accomplishments in 2014 and to honor those for their support.

The kickoff celebrated the historic passage of HB40 by the General Assembly that officially established November as American Indian Heritage Month in Maryland as one of its commemorative months. Maryland is home to more than 58,000 people who identify as having American Indian ancestry. There are eight communities that make up a large part of the American Indian population. In previous years, celebrating the history and success of American Indians in the state was done as a courtesy and followed many other states in doing so. The passage of this particular legislation would guarantee that future generations continue to celebrate.
The day would prove to show appreciation and gratitude for the many partnerships that were created and continued throughout the year.

The day began with Administrative Director Colston with a call to order. A “Piscataway Welcome” by Tribal Chair, Mervin Savoy created a sense of kindred spirit.

MCIA Chair Robert Killen provided remarks on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Rico Newman gave an invocation and moment of silence for the passing of Chief Sewell “Winter Hawk” Fitzhugh of the Nause-Waiwash.

Mr. Jody Cummings with the US Department of the Interior served as the “Keynote Speaker” and reflected on his past experiences being American Indian and the trials and tribulations personally and professionally. The message was one that many could relate to and the outcome that American Indians can achieve anything when given the opportunity.

MCIA was honored have Mr. Cummings as the keynote speaker and one was one the honorees during the celebration.

The MCIA has worked heavily with the Maryland Historical Society and the Department of Natural Resources concerning the Working Group: For Appropriate Places of Repose. Busby identified recipients and wrote text for 33 individual certificates of appreciation for distribution during the event.

Secretary Edward Chow with the Department of Veteran Affairs concluded with his remarks and reading of the Proclamation for American Indian Heritage Month in Maryland. Secretary Chow recognized the contributions of American Indians in the military and our American Indian veterans in the various communities.

Senator Mac Middleton provided positive comments on the accomplishments of the Piscataway and American Indians in Maryland.

Delegate Peter Murphy spoke on the importance of passing HB40 concerning American Indian Heritage Month and contributions of the Indigenous People of the State.

Frieda Minner representing the BAIC, PCT Tribal Chair Mervin Savoy, Secretary Edward Chow, Commissioner Rico Newman- Choptico Band of Piscataway, Commissioner Leanora Winters representing Chief Billy Tayac- PIN and Pocomoke Chief Norris Howard, Sr., received proclamations for their volunteerism and work.

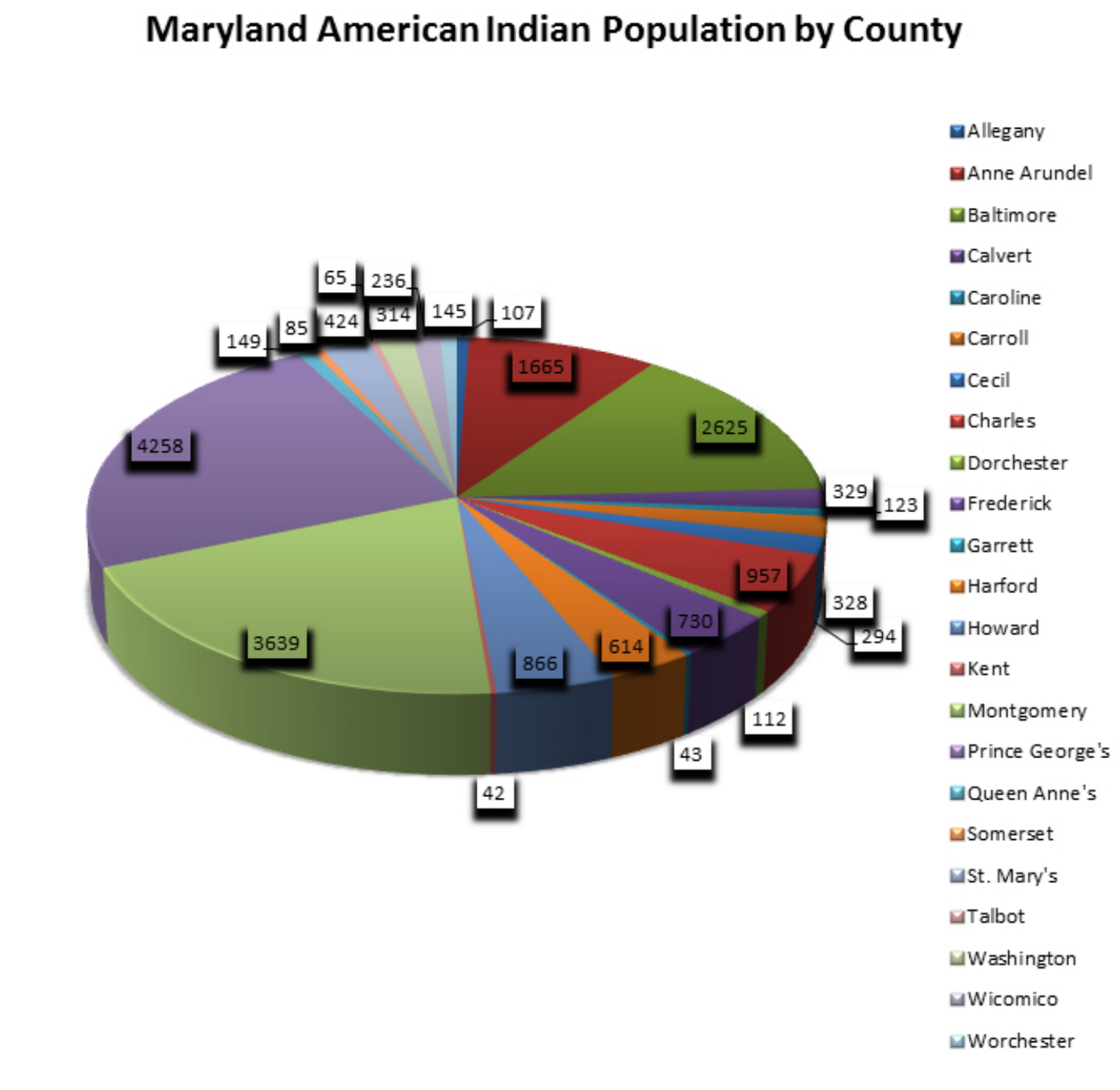
Photos tell the story of a day filled with excitement and celebration. The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs would like to thank everyone who supported the American Indian Heritage Month Celebration Kick-off and the work of the Commission in 2014. The Commission will continue to be a resource to the Indigenous communities as well as to all as we move forward in 2015.

Our appreciation to the dancers who shared their special talents during the MCIA Kick-off.

Table 17. American Indian or Alaska Native Alone or In Combination with One or More Other Races in Maryland by Jurisdiction, 2010

	All races	American Indian	% of jurisdiction that is Am-Indian	% of Maryland Am-Indian Pop that lives in the Jurisdiction
MARYLAND	5,773,552	58,657	1.02%	100.00%
NORTHWEST AREA	**485,999**	**3,681**	**0.76%**	**6.28%**
GARRETT	30,097	141	0.47%	0.24%
ALLEGANY	75,087	406	0.54%	0.69%
WASHINGTON	147,430	1,120	0.76%	1.91%
FREDERICK	233,385	2,014	0.86%	3.43%
BALTIMORE METRO AREA	**2,662,691**	**25,131**	**0.94%**	**42.84%**
BALTIMORE CITY	620,961	6,441	1.04%	10.98%
BALTIMORE	805,029	7,395	0.92%	12.61%
ANNE ARUNDEL	537,656	5,347	0.99%	9.12%
CARROLL	167,134	973	0.58%	1.66%
HOWARD	287,085	2,887	1.01%	4.92%
HARFORD	244,826	2,088	0.85%	3.56%
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA	**1,835,197**	**21,175**	**1.15%**	**36.10%**
MONTGOMERY	971,777	9,613	0.99%	16.39%
PRINCE GEORGE'S	863,420	11,562	1.34%	19.71%
SOUTHERN AREA	**340,439**	**4,982**	**1.46%**	**8.49%**
CALVERT	88,737	1,068	1.20%	1.82%
CHARLES	146,551	2,683	1.83%	4.57%
ST MARY'S	105,151	1,231	1.17%	2.10%
EASTERN SHORE AREA	**449,226**	**3,688**	**0.82%**	**6.29%**
CECIL	101,108	936	0.93%	1.60%
KENT	20,197	136	0.67%	0.23%
QUEEN ANNE'S	47,798	350	0.73%	0.60%
CAROLINE	33,066	330	1.00%	0.56%
TALBOT	37,782	213	0.56%	0.36%
DORCHESTER	32,618	315	0.97%	0.54%
WICOMICO	98,733	761	0.77%	1.30%
SOMERSET	26,470	240	0.91%	0.41%
WORCESTER	51,454	407	0.79%	0.69%

Source: 2010 Census Demographic Profiles, Department of Planning, Projections and Data Analysis/State Data Center, May 2011[1]


Maryland American Indian Population by County
Allegany
Anne Arundel
Baltimore
Calvert
Caroline
Carroll
Cecil
Charles
Dorchester
Frederick
Garrett
Harford
Howard
Kent
Montgomery
Prince George's
Queen Anne's
Somerset
St. Mary's
Talbot
Washington
Wicomico
Worchester
107
1665
2625
329
123
957
328
294
730
614
866
112
43
42
3639
4258
149
85
424
65
236
314
145

- Piscataway Conoy Tribe (MARYLAND INDIAN STATUS –Enrolled members of the Piscataway-Conoy Tribe (PCT))
  Tribal Chair Mervin Savoy
  P.O. Box 1484
  LaPlata, Maryland 20646
  Msavoy9836@aol.com

- Piscataway Indian Nation (MARYLAND INDIAN STATUS – Enrolled members of the Piscataway Indian Nation (PIN))
  Chief Billy "Red Wing" Tayac
  P.O. Box 312
  Port Tobacco, Maryland 20677
  301-932-0808
  www.piscatawaynation.org

American Indian Organizations

- Maryland Indian Tourism Association (MITA)
  Appointed Speaker Rico Newman – Choptico Band of Piscataway (Maryland Indian Status) Enrolled member of the Piscataway Conoy Tribe
  3953 Pine Cone Circle
  Waldorf, Maryland 20602
  301-744-9553

- Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indian, Inc.
  Tribal Chairwoman Natalie Standingontherock Proctor (Maryland Indian Status) Enrolled member of the Piscataway Conoy Tribe
  American Indian Cultural Center
  16816 Country Lane
  Waldorf, Maryland 20601
  240-640-7213
  www.piscatawayindians.org
  piscatawayindians@gmail.com

- Baltimore American Indian Center – State Recognized Tribe (North Carolina)
  Board Chair – Linda Cox
  113 South Broadway
  Baltimore, Maryland 21231
  410-675-3535
  BAIC.org

- Native American Lifelines Baltimore
  Chairman – Robert L. Locklear
  106 West Clay Street
  Baltimore, MD 21201
  410-837-2258
  410-837-2692 fax
  help@nativelifelines.org

- Accohannock Indian Tribe, Inc
  Chief Rudy “Laughing Otter” Hall
  P.O. Box 404
  Marion, Maryland 21838
  410-623-2660
  Accohannock@verizon.net

- Assateague Peoples Tribe
  Chief Quite Bear Morbito
  P.O. Box 63
  Frankford, Delaware 19945
  Mancat732@aol.com

- Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians, Inc.
  Chief Donna Abbott
  2363 Elliott Island Road
  Vienna, Maryland 21869
  410-376-3889
  wkdwrknmom@aol.com

- Pocomoke Indian Tribe, Inc
  Paramount Chief Norris Howard, Sr.
  3355 Allen Road
  Eden, Maryland 21822
  quindocqua@aol.com

- Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee Indians, Inc.
  Chief Joseph Neale
  6110 Melvern Drive
  Bethesda, Maryland 20817
  301-530-5281

Visit our website at:
http://americanindian.maryland.gov/

Annual Report

2014

Governor's Commission on Indian Affairs

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Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
Israel C. "Izzy" Patoka, Executive Director,
Governor's Office of Community Initiatives