

**ANITA FINEDAY, JD, MPA**

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**Managing Director, Indian Child Welfare Program, Casey Family Programs, Seattle, WA**  
2011 to present

Dynamic leadership transformed the work of the Indian Child Welfare Program with a bold vision, creative energy, powerful impact, deep partnerships and transformation of the way that Casey works with Tribal Nations. Casey is a national direct-services multi-billion dollar foundation with its headquarters in Seattle, WA. Selected Achievements:

- Developed agreements with 16 Tribal Nations that indicate five year commitments by the Foundation to improve the well-being of the Tribe's children
- Created strategic partnerships with national foundations and federal and state governments to increase awareness and access to resources for Tribal communities
- Transformed the perspective of Casey Family Programs towards work with Tribal Nations with resulting five year commitments of support for improving the well-being of tribal children
- Dramatically enhanced the visibility of the importance of the well-being of tribal children at the national, state and tribal levels through data and advocacy
- Led expansion of Casey resources and staff dedicated to the work with Tribal Nations recruited a passionate, driven team with proven track records of success
- Practiced the principles of a learning organization and team, constantly evaluating our work and refining our approach

**Attorney General's Advisory Committee on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence**

Appointed by President Obama to serve as a member of this Advisory Committee in 2012. The Advisory Committee held hearings across the country in 2013 through 2014. The final report was issued in November 2014. The final report can be found here:

[www.justice.gov/archives/defendingchildhood](http://www.justice.gov/archives/defendingchildhood)

- Joined nationally recognized experts on Commission to address issues relating to the well-being of Native children, national committee held hearings and made recommendations by way of a national report
- Developed panels of experts to provide testimony on relevant topics
- Worked with team of national experts as collegial solutions focused team

**Bi-Partisan 11 Member Commission on Native Children created by Congress and signed by President Obama on October 14, 2016.**

- Appointed by President Obama in 2016 to serve on National Commission which awaits appointees by current administration
- Will join team of national experts to hold hearings, draft findings and issue report
- Press release can be found here: <https://www.heitkamp.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=4F49A934-59AB-48BA-864E-E36B38300171>

### **Chief Judge, White Earth Tribal Nation**

1997-2011

- Built a fully functioning court system where none previously existed including drafting legislation, court rules and creating internal management systems
- Led reform within tribal government that focused on accountability, transparency and fairness in all court proceedings
- Developed relationships with state and federal judiciary to facilitate the handling of cases pending in two or more systems
- Advocated for resources for protection of justice within the tribal government
- Supported constitutional reform to create independent judiciary through community meetings, advocacy at community and tribal leadership level and media campaign
- Heard over 1000 cases per year, focused on creative solutions for communities struggling with poverty, substance abuse, domestic violence and poor outcomes for children

### **Recent Awards**

- Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, University of MN, Child Welfare Leadership Award for Outstanding Contributions to Child Welfare Practice in MN 2012
- Jim Casey Leadership Award 2014
- National American Indian Court Judges Association Lifetime Achievement Award 2016-2017
- 2017 Champion for Change Honorary Award for Commitment to Supporting Native Youth

### **Education**

MPA, Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government

JD, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO

BA, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

- Enrolled Member of White Earth Tribal Nation
- Recipient of Bush Leadership Fellowship
- Former Chair, Board of Directors, Regional Native Public Defense Corporation
- Former Member, Board of Directors, Anishinabe Legal Services
- Former Member, ICWA Subcommittee-Minnesota Juvenile Protection Rules Committee
- Former Member, Minnesota Judicial Branch, Drug Court Initiative Advisory Committee
- Former Member, Minnesota Supreme Court Racial Bias Task Force-Implementation Committee
- Former Chair, Minnesota American Indian Bar Association