Indians training at University of Montana to aid own reservations

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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Missoula, Mont.—Eight Indians representing reservations in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming are receiving training in the Indian Consortium Program at the University of Montana (UM), Missoula, to enable them to serve their respective tribes and reservations more effectively.

Two trainees are participating in a similar program at Eastern Montana College, Billings.

The program is a part of the Indian Community Action Program (ICAP), Office of Economic Opportunity, with the University in Missoula acting as the grantee agency, according to Dr. James F. Hall, coordinator of Indian services and of extension and continuing education at UM.

Dr. Hall said the program is funded in the areas of technical assistance, services and training, and Head Start.

Trainees enrolled at UM are taking college courses, working in an employe development program, and are providing technical-assistance services to reservation residents in their areas of specialization.

George W. Thompson Jr., Wolf Point, Mont., one of the UM trainees, said the consortium goal is "to coordinate, expand and improve services to Indians through tribal governments and Community Action Agencies (CAA).

The ICAP at the University in Missoula provides technical assistance to the Indian populations of the tri-state area. Ten reservations are represented in the overall program at this time.
Training sessions provide technical assistance and training services to enable Indian tribes to take advantage of opportunities—including federal and state programs—to reach their respective social, economic and cultural objectives. Sessions provide continued educational opportunities for ICAP personnel in reaching these goals.

Areas of interest and Indian representatives participating in the program include:

Community Action Project (CAP) Management—King Kuka, Blackfeet Tribe, Blackfeet Reservation, Browning, Mont.; Roy Small, Cree Tribe, Rocky Boy’s Reservation, Box Elder, Mont.

Industrial Development—George W. Thompson Jr., Sioux Tribe, Fort Peck Reservation, Wolf Point, Mont.; Thomas M. Plouffe, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, St. Ignatius, Mont.


Housing-Manpower-Agriculture—Robert Howe, Crow Tribe, Crow Reservation, Lodge Grass, Mont.

Bookkeeper—General Office Training—J. Herman Reuben, Nez Perce Tribe, Nez Perce Reservation, Lapwai, Idaho.

Trainees participating in a similar program at EMC are Miss Kay Braach, Gros Ventre Tribe, Fort Belknap Reservation, Harlem, Mont., who is specializing in CAP Management, and Winslow White Crane, Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Northern Cheyenne Reservation, Lame Deer, Mont., who is concentrating on the housing-manpower-agriculture aspects of the program.

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