Appendix B

Email to Tribal TANF Programs Requesting Study Approval Information

Subject: Seeking Tribal Approval for the Next Steps for Tribal TANF Research and Data Study

Dear **[Name]**,

My name is Tyler LaPlaunt. I am Vice Chairman at Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and Tribal Relations Advisor for Kauffman and Associates (KAI), a Native-woman owned consulting company. KAI works closely with diverse communities, combining stories of lived experiences with data-driven insights to drive positive change across Indian Country. We were hired as consultants along with MEF Associates to conduct the *Next Steps for Tribal TANF Research and Data* project on behalf of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). The purpose of the project is to hear directly from Tribal communities about their experiences with Tribal TANF, including their challenges and successes, and their recommendations for future directions for Tribal TANF.

This study is not an evaluation of Tribal TANF; rather it is an opportunity for Tribal TANF communities to share their wisdom and perspectives. It is hoped that this will lead to strategies and next steps to improve the Tribal TANF program for future generations of AIAN families.

The study team will seek tribal approval for all activities and data collection will not begin without Tribal approval. We hope to gain approval for Tribal leaders, Tribal TANF program staff, and Tribal TANF participants who are part of your community to share their knowledge as part of this study.

I am asking you to respond to a few brief questions so that we can begin to learn about the process for gaining approval for involving your Tribal TANF program in this study. Please use [this link] to respond to a few brief questions, or respond directly to this email with any information you can share about the research approval process for your Tribe. We may follow up with you individually, based on the information that you share.

If you have any additional questions, comments, or concerns, please, feel free to connect with us directly.

Miigwetch,

Tyler LaPlaunt