

## Tribal IV-D Directors Receive Federal Recognition



By: Tami Lorbecke/NTCSA Secretary

Tribal IV-D programs have been around since 1998 and have made significant strides in providing quality, culturally sensitive services to Tribal members in their communities. However it wasn't until October 2008 that two Tribal IV-D Directors were recognized for their hard work and dedication.

The Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) hosts a training conference each year that includes an awards ceremony to recognize distinguished individuals in the child support community. This year we were all pleased to watch two of our own walk up on stage and accept an award for the important work they do.



Above: Jacquelyn Pische accepts award from OCSE Commission Margot Bean.

The *Commissioner's Award for High Performance* was presented to Jacquelyn Pische, IV-D Director for the Forest County Potawatomi Community. Although Jackie's program is relatively small in case load, it is huge in its performance. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 her program boasted a 100% paternity establishment rate and a 98% child support establishment rate. Jackie and her dedicated staff worked hard to ensure the children they provide services to received their entitled child support, collecting \$2.3 million dollars in FY 2007!

Jackie attributes their success to always putting children first and striving to assure that parents meet their financial and emotional obligations to their children. Jackie said she and her staff have always been proactive in their community. They work hard to make sure appropriate orders are being established and that the parents in their caseloads always know what's going on with their case.



Above: Greg Kidder accepts award from OCSE Commission Margot Bean.

The *Commissioner's Award for Innovative Technology* was presented to Greg Kidder, IV-D Director of the Osage Nation's child support program. Currently Tribal child support programs do not have access to automated child support systems unless they contract with and use their state's system. Greg did not want to use the state's system and yet needed a way to successfully manage the program's caseload. To ensure the success of his program, he developed an Access database to do his program's case management. Although Access alone is not innovative technology, what Greg Kidder did with the Access program is.

Greg built an easy-to-use database in Access which enabled his staff to do case management tasks while enabling him to draw reporting information from it as well. The case management database allows his staff to work more efficiently thus improving program performance and child support collections.

If that didn't make him worthy enough for the award, his generosity did. Greg's dedication to the tribal child support program prompted

him to share his database with numerous other new and existing Tribal child support programs...free of charge!

Greg's dedication and generosity means that more children are receiving improved services in many communities because several Tribes are now using his database as a solution to ease case management woes.

Both Jackie and Greg work hard to serve the children of their communities yet they always have time and energy left to help others as well. Their dedication and passion to Tribal child support has impacted more families and children than either of them will ever realize and is the reason they are both deserving of such prestigious federal and national recognition.

Congratulations Jackie Pische and Greg Kidder! Keep up the great work!