NAME OF AGENCY: Tribal Defenders, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
STREET ADDRESS: Tribal Complex, Highway 93, Pablo MT 59855
MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 278, Pablo MT 59855
CONTACT PERSON: Ann Sherwood, Managing Attorney
PHONE: 406 675-2700 ext 1125
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AGENCY WEBSITE: cskt.org
STUDENT PREFERENCE: BSW student ☐  MSW student ☒  Either BSW or MSW ☐

A. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF AGENCY SETTING
The Tribal Defenders Office is a combined legal services/public defender office providing representation and legal assistance to persons who qualify financially and who meet other guidelines set by the Tribal Council. The office also serves as a walk-in legal clinic, providing assistance to individuals with legal questions on a wide variety of issues. (See also the attached memorandum)

B. DESCRIPTION OF CLIENT GROUP
Indigent Tribal members who are facing legal issues related to poverty and the criminally accused.

C. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
The student would assist case managers, attorneys, and advocates to provide services to clients of the Tribal Defenders Office in order to reduce recidivism and face collateral issues connected to being charged with a crime. This is an opportunity to be innovative and be on the ground floor of social work services in a public defender setting. Students will find that work on the reservation is rich with culture and community.

D. EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS
Of primary importance is the students’ commitment to civil rights and willingness to work with persons accused of criminal offenses. The student must be interested in working with Tribal members, the reservation community and be sensitive to cultural needs and issues of poverty, chemical dependency and mental illness.
A sense of humor goes a long way.