

2019 National Tribal Symposium

Thank you for participating in this year's National Tribal Symposium. Please use the following form to provide your biography, a brief description of your presentation and your presentation material. Please contact Leslie Crabbs at leslie.crabbs@thinktbg.com if you have any questions or concerns.

- Name: **Michia Casebier**
- Title: **President**
- Organization: **M.G. Tech-Writing, LLC**
- Presentation *Topics*: **Putting Funding to Work & Alternatives to Grant Funding**
- Presentation Date: **Wednesday, May 15, 2019**
- Presentation *Times*: **1:30–3:00 pm**
- Symposium Arrival Date: **Monday, May 13, 2019**
- Symposium Departure Date: **Wednesday, May 15, 2019**
- Email: **mgtecwtg@gmail.com**
- Work Phone Number: **928.369.8241**
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- Speaker Biography:

President of M.G. Tech-Writing, LLC (MGT), a multimodal planning and grant writing firm, Michia Casebier has funded nearly \$20 million in grants for tribal and municipal governments, non-profits, and schools; including Tribal Transit Program, Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds, Transportation Enhancement, Safe Routes to School, ICWA, and Administration for Native Americans grants to name a few. Steadfastly committed to livable community development and design, Michia has extensive experience completing safety and built-environment site visit assessments for bicycle/pedestrian access, SRTS School Route/Travel Plans, and Tribal Safety Plans. Casebier facilitated more than 50 Safe Routes to School trainings, grant writing workshops, and community meetings in 28 Arizona, six Alaska, and two Colorado communities. In November 2018, Michia was subcontracted by the KFH Group as a team member on the Rural Transit Manager's Toolkit Update, published by the National Rural Transit Assistance Program in early May 2019. Casebier co-authored the "Engaging with Tribes" article, which now appears on the RTAPs website under the "Tribal Transit" tab. In 2014, Michia was a Grant Review Panelist for the Northern Arizona Council of Governments on the Arizona Department of Transportation's Section 5310 grant round, and funded a FY14 Tribal Transit Program capital grant for the Craig Tribal Association.

- **Presentation Description:**

Despite Congress' efforts to reduce deficit spending on the backs of those most needing the services they seek to eliminate, tribes are having increasing success at implementing their transit plans without reliance on FTA dollars. And, it is becoming ever more critical that tribes continue to approach transit program development and sustainability in unique ways. This interactive presentation will explore how various successful tribal transit programs have employed innovative local funding, partnership funding, and an assortment of grant matching sources to sustain their service operations above and beyond traditional FTA Tribal Transit Program or FTA pass-through grants from State DOTs. The session also will detail techniques for writing competitive transit grants despite diminishing funds and limited access to FTA grant support staff and information. Attendees will do a short writing exercise to rough out a basic transit grant project abstract. Further, workshop participants will walk away with vital transit grant development handouts, resources, contacts, links to essential transit grant regulation information, and an understanding of the most important elements to address in their tribal transit plans.