

Family Services Programs

Minneapolis
American Indian
Center





The Minneapolis American Indian Center

Founded in 1975, the Minneapolis American Indian Center has a rich history as one of the first urban American Indian Centers in the country, providing services otherwise often unavailable for urban American Indians. The Minneapolis American Indian Center was initially formed by community members, and continues its roots today with majority American Indian leadership and staffing.

The Minneapolis American Indian Center, is focused on serving a large and tribally diverse urban American Indian population, numbering well over 35,000 in the eleven-county Minneapolis-St. Paul metro areas.





MINNEAPOLIS AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER FAMILY SERVICES

ICWA SERVICES

Early Intervention SERVICES

IWLN PROGRAM

ICWA Court Monitor Program

The Court Monitor attends court hearings to observe and monitor for ICWA law violations. They also provide training to Judges, Attorneys, and Social Workers on the Indian Child Welfare Act. The goal of the program is to increase ICWA compliance. The project provides a widely distributed ICWA Court Monitor Newsletter to state and national stakeholders.

Tribal Liaison Program

This project is unique as it's the only program in the country providing services to out-of-state tribes and acting on behalf of tribes in court with their authorization. Tribal Liaisons gather information from all court parties and share it with the tribe so that the tribe can make informed recommendations. The goal is to increase tribal participation and promote family preservation, cultural connections, and reunification. The project has long-standing relationships with tribes throughout the United States.

Early Intervention Program

The Early Intervention Program (EI) provides financial support and referrals to American Indian families in the metro area. To be eligible for EI clients must have children 18 or younger living in the home and can NOT currently have an open child protection case. Clients are referred to EI by community partners, MAIC staff, and county workers. Financial assistance can be provided for back due rent, a deposit, past due bills, children's clothing, and cultural activities.

Family Stability

The goal of Family Stability is to prevent families experiencing crises from entering the child protection system. The project can provide case management, connection to resources, completing referrals, and assisting with limited emergency financial needs. Families and Individuals interested in the program need to be residing in Hennepin County.

Special Focus

The Special Focus Program works with families experiencing crises and provides case management, connection to resources, completes referrals, and assists with limited emergency financial needs. Special focus works to prevent families from entering the child protection system as well as working with families who are already involved in the child protection system.

Bright Beginnings

The Bright Beginnings (BB) program works with Native American Women who are or are at risk of abusing substances, and are currently pregnant or have recently delivered. Offering intensive case management services and weekly group meetings that provide parenting and cultural education to help women in their sobriety. BB has also launched a pilot program with Hennepin County to work with Child Protection and intervene in cases earlier with the goal of keeping babies with their mothers.

IWLN Case Management

Assists Native American women who have experienced sexual assault with cultural support group, emergency financial support, assistance with housing (finding shelter), transportation to appointments, and accompanying women to hospital exams and/or criminal proceedings.

Domestic Violence Housing Project

The goal of the project is to assist Native American women facing domestic violence in obtaining shelter, emergency services and housing.

Tribal Liaison Program

This project is unique as it's the only program in the country providing services to out-of-state tribes and acting on behalf of tribes in court with their authorization. Tribal Liaisons gather information from all court parties and share it with the tribe so that the tribe can make informed recommendations. The goal is to increase tribal participation and promote family preservation, cultural connections, and reunification. The project has long-standing relationships with tribes throughout the United States.

Services Provided

- The Tribal Liaisons currently work directly with ICWA services for the following tribes, Oglala Sioux Tribe, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, Yankton Sioux Tribe, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Three Affiliated Tribes, Spirit Lake, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, Northern Cheyenne, Rocky Boy, Blackfeet Nation, Cherokee Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee, T'hono Odom Tribe, San Carlos Apache, Navajo Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe, Bad River Ojibwe, Hannahville, Sault Ste Marie, Iowa Tribe of Kansas, and others.



ICWA Court Monitor Program

The Court Monitor attends court hearings to observe and monitor for ICWA law violations. They also provide training to Judges, Attorneys, and Social Workers on the Indian Child Welfare Act. The goal of the program is to increase ICWA compliance. The project provides a widely distributed ICWA Court Monitor Newsletter to state and national stakeholders.

Services Provided



- Attending and monitoring ICWA Child Protection cases in Hennepin County
- Keeping data on ICWA court cases
- Producing a quarterly newsletter to share data and learnings from monitoring the court with state and national stakeholders
- Assisting in creating ICWA trainings



Early Intervention Program



The Early Intervention Program (EI) provides financial support and program referrals to American Indian families in Minnesota's metro area. To be eligible for EI clients must have children 18 or younger living in the home and can NOT currently have an open child protection case. Clients are referred to EI by community partners, MAIC staff, and county workers. Financial assistance can be provided for back due rent, a deposit, past due bills, children's clothing, and cultural activities. The goal of EI is to prevent families from becoming involved in the child protection system by intervening early.

Financial Services Provided

Housing

*Current or backpaid rent
Rent/Mortgage
Deposit Assistance
Housing Repair Bills
Rental Application Fees*



Connecting to Culture

*Regalia Making
Naming Ceremonies*



Education

*Clothing for school
Technology for distance
learning such as wifi,
hotspot, a tablet, etc.*



Other costs

*Cell Phone Bills
Beds
Coats
Utilities*



**All Requests accepted and
amount of funds distributed
are at the discretion of the
Early Intervention Coordinator**



Bright Beginnings Program

The MAIC Bright Beginnings Recovery Support Program helps American Indian women who are pregnant or have recently delivered their baby, who have a history of substance use disorder, and child protection issues to achieve and maintain recovery in order to preserve the family. The program utilizes intensive case management and cultural teachings to engage families in supportive weekly groups and family activities.

Services Provided



- Case Managers/advocates
- Cultural Support & Activities for mothers & Babies
- Collaboration and Networking with other Service providers including Child Protection
- Weekly Support Group
- Home Visits
- Transportation to Clinic's & appointments
- Chemical Health Referrals & Information
- Mindfulness, stress reduction, and self care techniques for mothers and children
- weekly group for all participants focusing on culture, parenting, and sobriety

Family Stability Program

As one of the longstanding programs in Family Services, the goal of Family Stability is to prevent families experiencing crises from entering the child protection system. The project can provide case management, connection to resources, completing referrals, and assisting with limited emergency financial needs. Families and Individuals interested in the program need to be residing in Hennepin County.

Services Provided

- Case Managers/advocates
- Short-term intensive case management (3 - 6 month) with the goal of increasing the family's stability and avoiding interaction with Child Protection
- Refers and connects clients with other support programs
- Assisting with limited emergency financial needs
- Assists with transportation
- Accepts referrals from the county, community workers, or self-referral



Special Focus Program

The Special Focus Program works with families experiencing crises and provides case management, connection to resources, completes referrals, and assists with limited emergency financial needs. Special focus works to prevent families from entering the child protection system as well as working with families who are already involved in the child protection system.

Services Provided



- Case Managers/advocates
- Can work with families who are currently in Child Protection, or work with families to increase stability and avoid child protection
- Refers and connects clients with other support programs
- Assists with transportation
- Assisting with limited emergency financial needs
- Accepts referrals from the county, community workers, or self-referral

IWLN Case Management

Assists Native American women who have experienced sexual assault with cultural support group, emergency financial support, assistance with housing (finding shelter), transportation to appointments, and accompanying women to hospital exams and/or criminal proceedings to empower clients and assist with their wellbeing, self-sufficiency, and healing.

Services Provided



- Case Managers/advocates
- Refers and connects clients with other support programs
- Court accompaniment
- Assistance with online applications
- Holds a bi-weekly support group for program participants focused on culture and healing
- Assists with transportation
- Accepts referrals from the county, community workers, or self-referral

Domestic Violence Housing Program

This program assists Native American women facing domestic violence and helps them obtain shelter, emergency services, and housing. We can also assist with technology to complete applications online. Referrals to the program can be through self-referral, shelter workers, a social worker, a school professional, a county worker, or a community agency.

Family Services other services



Participating in monthly Family Nights held at MAIC



Partnering with MISWAC to hold a yearly MMIR march



Holding celebrations for families



Helping host MAIC's yearly open house & Powwows



Organizing MAIC's Toy Drive each December



Presenting, tabling, and participating in local, state, and National events

Thank you!
Questions?

