

**NATIVE AMERICAN TRAINING INSTITUTE
Medicine Moon Initiative (MMI)**

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Child Welfare Services & Supports			
STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE	THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES (Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation)	SPIRIT LAKE TRIBE	TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day camp idea: bring in people who will inspire others, know who is in community to go out and invite them in, make it something they would learn and benefit from. • People helping people, volunteering and seeking volunteers to offer assistance. • Provide training for all of the community level: (i.e. parenting, abuse, neglect, drugs, gangs, FAS/FAE) by working with people within the community as resources. • Technology – keeping up-to-date • Maintaining fast, secure and reliable communications within our programs cooperatively. • Volunteers support in each community to be given roles in helping any child who has a need to succeed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better coordination of services; less “territorialism” • More foster homes • More families who are willing to foster or adopt children • Educational assistance other than school. • Know cultural events, places and times, education for youth • More money • New director • New staff workers • For social service to be like the Casey Family was; more involvement • Adoptive family counseling and support; children anger, blaming, etc. • Subsidized adoptive assistance that increases and doesn’t decrease throughout high school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need additional staff • Need for another case manager • A community network for just foster parents with teenagers – Someone to turn to ASAP • A center where birth families are court ordered to help themselves and their children • Training for foster parents on a foster child’s needs when brought into homes • Training on PATH, so foster parents can be able to care for children with special needs • Training for welfare board • Native American PATH homes • Recruiting for foster homes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinship care • Nurturing, parenting programs • Need more staff & volunteers to help out • More Case workers • More workers (mentioned 2 times) • More financial assistance for more staff and families • More case managers and mentors • Better foster homes & parents • Respite Care providers • More Female mentors (mentioned 4 times) • More (community) training on kids/teenagers on drug & alcohol, teenage pregnancies & protection • Lack of funds for services & employees • More mentors, there are not enough

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dormitory for children ages 10 years or older. Because of the environment at home, this child needs a good start in life. • Group home • Youth center • Talking circle • Cultural ways and language • Young lady societies • Young men societies • Adopt grandparents; teach relative names, Lakota • Clubs for arts – beading, quilting, quill work, dance outfits • Center = family and youth, educate = schooling in Lakota language, economics, culture = language • Encouraging using resources natural in communities and families • Teach programs and communities how to follow up and continue funding by fundraising events and grant writing • Use public radio re, relations, newspapers, ongoing re: wraparound with natural support • All SRST programs learn and practice systems of care “wraparound process” • Family gatherings, community gathering. • Balance, depend on family and codependency • Tiospaye – great asset, male image is gone, fatherhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services coordinated/collaborated for families, a valuable resource (laws, program policies, etc.) office/person. • More confidentiality between social worker and people that tell you what’s the problem • Colleges recruiting for people to join the help field. • Better (or an) services for mentally ill adults • Staff in each district on a daily basis • A pamphlet with a list of services • Eliminating the fear of reporting situations due to retaliation • Bullying in community and schools • Rebuilding a healthy, positive, productive community • Earlier access to social services in each community • Staff really dedicated to the work and supported by leadership • More funding to improve resources that won’t be used for something else • Building that are earmarked for social services • Better communication between social services and community • More money to improve the quality of services • TAT providing outreach workers for our communities 		
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of Lakota history and treaties • Create activities for the youth. Have a choice of activities they want to do and have activities that include traditional values. • How about a Big Brother or Big Sister program? What about going to get an ice cream cone or helping with homework or going to a game or someone they can turn to when they need to talk? • Have counselors in schools take report cards to homes and visit. • Getting students to learn to trust. • All children's program workers visit districts in events • Involve kids in meetings and to listen as long as they can – attention span. • Children's focus groups or interviews to involve them in strategic planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More foster parents for our Indian children • Adequate funding for student development 		
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Foster Parent & Parent Needs

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having one night a week for the kids to come and spend an evening doing an activity or plan on helping someone who needs help, or etc. • To be an outlet for those who are overwhelmed from parenting have a place for them to learn a hobby or a class. • Parenting skills • Parents/teachers involvement with schools, sporting events, academics, kindness, understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More training for foster parents • More community education and awareness re: child abuse and neglect • Access to mental health services for families in each district • Children have a lot of wants that are hard to fulfill with no income or one-income families • Funding for training and funding to fulfill the child's needs – the child I get comes with the clothes on their back. • Have foster parents more involved in social services. Only involved when called on for foster care, then when we get the child, we are forgotten about. Or fully staffed or more staff. • More training on “How do I know if my child is on drugs?” • Motivation in education, careers for adoptive families • More social services help • Giving the foster parent more money for caring for child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and post more foster care homes and emergency care • Having the natural parent get involved in the child's life before they get into adulthood • We need a support group so we can express our joys, our situation with the kids or concerns • Have a person come into my home and just help out or watch the kids so I can get some piece of mind for awhile. • Training for drugs & alcohol for the foster parents • Support groups for foster parents • Need training for foster home parents • Need for money for foster parents for children that are graduating • Need for a support group for foster parents • Baby sitting for after hours • As a parent more activities for children keep them out of trouble and smoking • As a foster parent support group for foster parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairness in the child welfare system • Foster parents need more training • More income for the child care • Someone on call 24 hrs. at all times • Money for services for parents and children • More courteous workers • Bring in more food for families • The way they work with things, more home visits • Have more involvement with the program • More like parent services to people that don't drive. • Improve child welfare system: Have home visits • Mentors pick up children when they say they are going to. • More accountability from Child welfare workers • Involve parents in more training programs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having foster parents meet (maybe offer money to come) and share ideas. • Money available to enhance foster homes, respite homes and specialized foster care • Child/family develop to focus on providing or arranging training for families, children and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need support group for foster parents • Baby sitting after hours • Higher pay for foster payments • More training on foster parenting---parent pay • A community network for just foster parents with teenagers – Someone to turn to ASAP • A center where birth families are court ordered to help themselves and their children • Training for foster parents on a foster child's needs when brought into homes • Higher foster payments • More training for parents • Specialized training for foster parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More funding to help needy families • Help with clothing orders • Training for children for drugs • To get help for children when you see a problem • Child care after adoption • Need more financial income
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Staff Development, Morale & Team Building

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More training • Training on drugs and other things • More caseworkers • More training for committee • Training for parents with children's behavior problems <p>Weekly staffings regarding application of wraparound services to child welfare clients; workers trained but not applying</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More local training excluding Las Vegas • More training for all child care workers • More training for the case managers • Training on FAS/FAE, ADHD, emotional needs, meth, alcohol, marijuana, cigarettes, mental retardation • Certification for child welfare workers – group homes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retreats for Child Welfare Staff • More staff training on drugs and alcohol, especially Meth • More training • Staff needs to communicate with each other more • People that have the right education for the job • Get paid for what you do and praised for it. • More mileage • More training on Meth (mentioned 2 times) • Higher wages (mentioned 3 times) • More training • 24 hrs., why do we work for no wages? • Better hours • Child welfare needs more staff that will work together • Better leadership • More training for staff

Policies, Procedures & Regulations

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although not specifically stated, there was discussion about how programs come and go, i.e. Sacred Child Project, etc. and then when the funds are gone, then the district members are left without services. This appears to be related to being in two states with different policies & procedures. Standing Rock families on the SD side receive different services & supports than ND side. Also the state Medicaid plan is different. Relationship between Tribal Child Protection Services in ND appears to be good, but is almost non-existent between SD & SRST Child Protection. A good deal of the sustainability challenge is a result of the geographic location of the reservation in two states. How can this be overcome? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tribal code updated, formal policies and procedures for child welfare services including evaluation of services by parents and grievance policy. New policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need to revise the juvenile justice code to include more involvement of birth parents There was a discussion about financing tribal child welfare agencies. (Three Affiliated Tribes is receiving technical assistance by Don Schmid, paid for by the Casey Family program) Chairman of the SL Welfare Board wondered about when the last Medicaid reimbursement or IV-E billing had been submitted by SL Social Services. (Mentioned at an earlier meeting, Tom Pomonis from the state Medicaid office gave an update on all of the tribe's submission and that SL had not submitted for awhile. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change the discriminating policy against grandparents and family members who care for children with no financial help. Need to address a policy handbook specifically for child welfare