INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

What the NCTSN is Doing

Indigenous Peoples Day honors the past, present, and future of Indigenous peoples throughout the United States. It celebrates the cultures, histories, and traditions of people who identify as American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian. Indigenous Peoples’ Day acknowledges and recognizes America’s first inhabitants that continue to thrive today. Indigenous Peoples’ Day reimagines Columbus Day and provides an opportunity to discuss colonialism, genocide and the systemic exclusion of Indigenous peoples in the United States. The inaccurate teachings of the discovery of the Americas discredit and erase the Indigenous peoples, their histories, accomplishments, and cultures.

The National American Indian and Alaska Native Childhood Trauma TSA, Category II, Center has provided two webinars (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Prevention 101 and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Prevention 101: Survivor Story), a Human Traficking Awareness and Prevention Fact sheet, and a National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Podcast in the past year. Our webinars reached 250 individuals. Our goal is to support the voices of survivors and advocates to provide education and tools for the community to be an ally in the MMIP movement.

The National Native Children’s Trauma Center (NNCTC) at the University of Montana (Category II Center) is working in partnership with the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Office of Native Education/Student Engagement and Support, to support recently passed House Bill 1426 specifying minimum continuing education requirements for administrator and teacher certification renewals that focus on equity-based school and classroom practices. NNCTC has been providing presentations on colonizing eras of US government relationships and historical trauma impacts to ensure those seeking continuation credits are receiving this foundational knowledge.

T.R.I.B.E.S (Trauma-informed to build Resilient, Indigenous, Balanced communities Enhanced with Strength), facilitated trainings for Transcending Historical Trauma in Parenting in New Mexico (July 2023) and Arizona (September 2023). Fourteen tribal organizations from California, Montana, Arizona, and New Mexico attended the trainings and will be supported by monthly Learning Collaboratives for implementation.

Fairbanks Native Association’s Healing the Hurts program offers trauma and grief therapy by licensed clinicians for children and youth ages 0-17 and their families. The trauma treatment addresses adverse childhood experiences. Services are offered in the office, in the home and community to make services accessible to our families. FNA recognizes both historical trauma and intergenerational trauma experienced by Alaska Native people and American Indians in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. We collaborate with Tanana Chiefs Conference and the Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center (Indian Health Services) to make our services available with a robust referral process. We partner with Effie Kokrine Charter School, 86% of the students are Alaska Native, one clinician provides biweekly outreach with 7-12 graders in a Morning Meditation before classes begin. Clinicians respond to crisis situations and provide in school treatment.

Santee Sioux Nation Society of Care provided the Grow Our Own multi-day behavioral health career exposure camp for high school students to develop and retain quality students/professionals invested in their communities. Participants demonstrated an average of 61.83% knowledge increase and an average 18.23% decrease for stigma associated with mental illness.

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) is a network of centers dedicated to improving treatment and services for children affected by traumatic events. NCTSN provides resources and support to professionals and communities working with children and youth who have experienced trauma.