



NACS NEWS

*A Tradition
of Caring*

June 2024
Volume 25, Issue 6

Native American Community Services of Erie & Niagara Counties, Inc.

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June is Children's Awareness Month

By Anne-Lise Vray, Juvenile Justice Fellow

June is Children's Awareness Month. One would typically think of a child as a 10-year-old in the prime of his/her life, happily going to school, swinging on the playground with friends, helping parents around the house, growing and learning more every day. Unfortunately, for many American children this is not the reality. In 22 states and the District of Columbia, children as young as 7 can be prosecuted as adults. In fact, fourteen states have no minimum age for trying children as adults. Some states set the minimum age at 10, 12, or 13, which is still way too young. As the U.S. Supreme Court has found 5 times in the past decade, children are not the same as adults, and Courts need to ensure they are considering the

age, maturity, and brain development before issuing adult punishments.

Children's Awareness Month is a great occasion to remember these too often forgotten children, and to act on their behalves* in order to end the harmful practice of trying, sentencing and incarcerating youth as adults. Instead, we should invest in age-appropriate approaches that work and tend to the underlying trauma that so many of these youth are exposed to before they ever come in contact with the law. This failed policy of treating children like adults is contradicted by neuroscience leads to poor outcomes for public safety, since youth prosecut-

ed as adults are 34% more likely to recidivate than those handled by the juvenile justice system.

All children deserve to be children, and provided the opportunity to correct bad decisions and afforded second chances.

(*Yes, "behalves" is a grammatically correct plural form for "behalf". Though it's not an incredibly common word, as most people just use the singular "behalf" for large groups anyway, "behalves" is a correct word to use to talk about the plural of "behalf". It's a very old-fashioned term.)

Resource:

[Campaign For Youth Justice](#)

Children's Awareness Month

submitted by George T. Ghosen, Editor

June is a special month that focuses on a generation of leaders who will pave the way for our future. Did you know that the word 'June' relates to 'children?' It is derived from the Latin word 'Ju-Ven-Is' which translates to 'youth.' This is why the month of June is annually set aside to celebrate and focus on children.

History of Children's Awareness Month

Children reflect our greatest hope as a nation, and childhood is a critical time for all. It is the stage in our lives that would set the course for our overall social, emotional, and physical health as well as economic circumstances. In fact, young children at the

beginning of their learning stage, who receive a high-quality education, see tremendous dividends for the rest of their lives. This includes higher academic performance in later stages, increased chances of attending college, higher lifetime earnings, and reduced likelihood of being involved in crimes.

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MOVING/CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If you are planning on moving or changing your address, please contact NACS so we may update our mailing list. Send an email to Newsletter Editor:

gghosen@nacswny.org

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Children's Awareness Month was initially founded in the loving memory of all the children who have died violent deaths in America. It has evolved into something bigger. Children's Awareness Month has become a time to spend nurturing and cultivating the joys and treasures of childhood. This month aims to encourage, support, and educate children while prioritizing their health and well-being.

Every child deserves to be valued and cherished. As parents and well-wishers, we have no greater responsibility than to instill the hope of a better tomorrow for our younger generation. On this Children Awareness Month, let us unite and take a stand to promise that we will work with our children to instill a spirit of confidence, pride, and self-esteem in them. Always remember that every child deserves a chance to succeed.

Children's Awareness Month FAQs

What is self-awareness in a child?

Self-awareness in children is considered a thinking skill. It is their ability to judge their own performance and behavior correctly and tune their feelings.

Can you give a future to a kid?

Yes, by contributing and working towards the welfare of children in need, you are potentially paving the way to a brighter future for these kids.

Is empowering kids to participate in speech and debate good for college?

Speech and debate skills can help with several aspects of transitioning to college, including getting admission. Debate participation promotes problem-solving and innovative thinking skills.

5 Facts About Young Children Everybody Needs To Know

1. Children and domestic violence
About 15.5 million U.S. children have witnessed domestic violence.
2. Poverty is the culprit
Globally, children are more likely to end up in orphanages because of poverty than parent loss.
3. Empowering children is crucial
Child empowerment has been proven to spark creativity and make kids healthier.
4. Abuse and neglect
In 2019, an estimated 1,840 children died as a result of abuse and neglect
5. Orphanages and developmental delays
Children who stay in orphanages for a longer period may experience social developmental delays.

Why Children's Awareness Month is Important

A. Empowering children is noble

Empowering children to be aware and grow to greater heights boosts their confidence and self-esteem, and makes them happy and comfortable. Child empowerment is a worthy and ethical cause.

B. It fosters better learners

Children's Awareness Month is a positive holiday that helps children understand that they are powerful creators in their own world. It also boosts their learning skills and makes them effective learners.

C. Psychological development is important

Psychological development is as important as physical and mental development. It forms a crucial basis for decision making, forming ideologies, and enhancing personal abilities.

Resources:

[National Today](#)
[Holiday Smart](#)

Kashmir Bowser - Strengthening the Rising Generation of Indigenous Girls and 2SLGBTQ+ People

submitted by Hillary Beaudouin, Youth Clubhouse Manager - Erie County

New York City (15 April 2024) - The Indigenous Justice Circle (IJC) - a nonprofit led by enrolled Cherokee Nation citizen, Dr. Kelly Hallman (she/her) — co-hosted an event titled “Indigenous Girls’ Movements: Strengthening Indigenous Systems & Self-Determination” on the sidelines of the 2024 United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). The event was a collaboration between IJC and the Population Council’s GIRL Center, highlighting the work of the organizations’ projects Indigenous Adolescent Girls’ Empowerment Network (IMAGEN) and Abriendo Oportunidades respectively.

Co-Presenter **Kashmir Bowser** (Upper Cayuga Turtle Clan, she/her), is the Niagara County Clubhouse Manager at [Native American Community Services](#) (NACS). NACS is one of IJC’s partners, working together to establish and run [Native Girl Societies](#) across Indian

Country. Bowser started by talking about Haudenosaunee cosmology and the matrilineal and matrifocal structure they had before colonization.



Kashmir Bowser shares the legacy of intergenerational matrilineal practices. (Photo courtesy of Howard Jay)

Her presentation touched on the impact of residential schools and the intentional targeting of Native girls to weaken their traditional roles in their culture. “Our communities are still dealing with and healing from the trauma of residential schools,” Bowser said. Through the NACS Girl Society, they offer girls “a safe space to explore

what it means to be Haudenosaunee and to build community with each other. In this space, we are helping these girls to be proud.”

The Indigenous Justice Circle proudly funds our clubhouse to kickstart our new Girl’s Society for Clubhouse. Our new girl’s society is called RAAP – Rising Above and Achieving Our Potential. The IJC invited Kashmir to speak on a panel where she discussed matrilineal society and their importance on young native women.

The video of Kashmir’s presentation can be found on the Population Council YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2EnLKMWJk> and her presentation begins around 34:45.

You can read the full article here: [Indigenous Justice Circle](#)

LGBTQ+ Pride Month

submitted by George T. Ghosen, Editor

Pride Month is an annual celebration of the many contributions made by the LGBTQ+ community to history, society and cultures worldwide. In most places, Pride is celebrated throughout the month of June each year in commemoration of its roots in the Stonewall Riots of June 1969. However, in some areas - especially in the Southern Hemisphere - pride events occur at other times of the year.

Origins of Pride Month

The roots of the gay rights movement go back to the early 1900s, when a handful of individuals in North America and Europe created gay and lesbian organizations such as the the Society for Human Rights, founded by Henry Gerber in Chicago in the 1920s.

Following World War II, a small number of groups like

the Mattachine Society and the Daughters of Bilitis published gay- and lesbian-positive newsletters and grew more vocal in demanding recognition for, and protesting discrimination against, gays and lesbians. In 1966, for example, members of the Mattachine Society held a [“sip-in” protest at Julius](#), a bar in New York City, where they demanded drinks after announc-

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ing that they were gay, in violation of local laws against serving alcohol to gays and lesbians.

Despite some progress in the postwar era, basic civil rights were largely denied to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people - until one night in June, 1969, when the gay rights movement took a furious step forward with a series of violent riots in New York City.

Stonewall Riots

As was common practice in many cities, the New York Police Department would occasionally raid bars and restaurants where gays and lesbians were known to gather. This occurred on June 28, 1969, when the NYPD [raided the Stonewall Inn](#), a bar in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan.

[Watch: How The Stonewall Riots Sparked A Movement](#)

When the police aggressively dragged patrons and employees out of the bar, several people fought back against the NYPD, and a growing crowd of angry locals gathered in the streets. The confrontations quickly escalated and sparked six days of protests and violent clashes with the NYPD outside the Stonewall Inn on Christopher Street and throughout the neighborhood.

By the time the [Stonewall Riots](#) ended on July 2, 1969, the [gay rights movement](#) went from being a fringe issue largely ignored by politicians and the media to front-page news worldwide.

First Gay Pride Parade

One year later, during the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, activists in New York City marched through the streets of Manhattan in commemoration of the uprising. The march, organized by the Eastern Regional Conference of Homophile Organizations (ERCHO) and the Christopher Street Liberation Day Umbrella Committee, was named the Christopher Street Liberation Day March.

In time, that celebration came to be simply known as the Gay Pride Parade. According to activist Craig Schoonmaker, "I authored the word 'pride' for gay pride ... [my] first thought was 'Gay Power.' I didn't like that, so proposed gay pride. There's very little chance for people in the world to have power. People did not have power then; even now, we only have some. But anyone can have pride in themselves, and that would make them happier as people, and produce the movement likely to produce change."

The march, which took place on June 28, 1970, is now considered the country's first gay pride parade. By all accounts, the New York City event was a stunning success, with an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 participants in the march, which stretched 51 blocks from Greenwich Village to Central Park. Marches and parades also took place that June in Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Gay Pride Month

Over the years, gay pride

events have spread from large cities to smaller towns and villages worldwide - even in places where repression and violence against gays and lesbians are commonplace. The atmosphere at these events can range from raucous, carnivalesque celebrations to strident political protest to solemn memorials for those lost to AIDS or homophobic violence.

In June 2000, President Bill Clinton officially designated June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, in recognition of the Stonewall Riots and gay activism throughout the years. A more-inclusive name was chosen in 2009 by President Barack Obama: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month.

The origins of Gay Pride Month were also honored by Obama when, in 2016, he created the [Stonewall National Monument](#), a 7.7-acre around the Stonewall Inn where the modern gay rights movement began.

What Does LGBTQ+ Stand For?

According to the Human Rights Campaign, LGBTQ+ is an acronym that stands for "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (or "questioning"), with a "+" sign to recognize limitless sexual orientations and gender identities.

Pride Celebrations Around the World

Today, Gay Pride parades in many cities are enormous celebrations: The events in Sao Paulo, Sydney, New York City,

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Madrid, Taipei and Toronto routinely attract up to 5 million attendees.

The following U.S. Pride events are planned for 2024:

- ♦ Washington, D.C. - June 8 (Parade), June 9 (Festival). Theme: "[Totally Radical](#)"
- ♦ Los Angeles - June 8 (Festival) - June 9 (Parade). Theme: "[Power in Pride](#)"
- ♦ NYC Pride March - June 25. Theme: "[Reflect. Empower. Unite](#)"
- ♦ Chicago - June 30 (Parade), June 22-23 (Pride Fest).

Theme: "[Pride is Power](#)"

- ♦ San Francisco: June 29-30 (Parade). Theme: "[Beacon of Love](#)"

As Pride Month has grown in popularity across the globe, criticism of the events has grown, too. Some early organizers now decry the commercial influence and corporate nature of Pride parades - especially when those corporations make donations to politicians who vote against gay, lesbian and transgender rights.

Gay Pride events are nonetheless seen as vital protests against repression and isolation in places such as Serbia, Turkey and Russia, where Pride parades have been met with antigay violence. Even in the United States, a rise in bloodshed, killings and threats at Pride and other gay events and gatherings highlights the oppression the LGBTQ+ community still faces.

Resources:
[History.com](#)

Rediscovering Our Onkwehón:we Traditions

submitted by Colleen Casali – Community and Cultural Services Director

We are proud to announce one of NACS' new community programs. Rediscovering Our Onkwehón:we Traditions or **ROOTs**, as we like to call it, is a program funded through the Department of Health and Human Services – Administration for Children and Families - Administration for Native Americans.

ROOTs is a three-year grant that will include several cultural opportunities for community members to attend. There will be arts and cooking classes, cultural speaker events, youth, and elder interaction events, singing and dancing classes, and community socials. These events will showcase the talents of local community members as instructors, speakers, and facilitators.

We will also be conducting a community needs survey which will allow the Native American community living within our services areas to make their views and ideas matter.

Our service areas include 17 counties in New York State. Our primary focus areas for this grant will be Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Rochester, and Syracuse. Since NACS is fairly new to the Rochester and Syracuse areas, we will be looking to community members to help find appropriate locations to hold some of these events.

We are extremely excited to offer these events and planning is underway. We have actually held our first arts and cooking module in Buffalo and Niagara Falls. It was titled White Corn Teachings. Community members learned how to remove dried corn from the cob, ash it, dry it, grind it, make corn bread, make mush and how to pressure can the ashed corn.

The ROOTs team consists of Colleen Casali – Community and Cultural Services Director, Arriana Smith – ROOTs Project Specialist, and Dakota Jonathan – ROOTs Project Specialist. We also have a dedicated volunteer named Brenda LaForme who works through a program called Senior Supportive Services.

If you would like more information about the ROOTs Project, have questions or want to suggest locations for events, please feel free to call us at 716-874-2797 x 334 or email Colleen at cacasali@nacswny.org, Arriana at asmith@nacswny.org, or Dakota at djonathan@nacswny.org.

If you have Facebook, check out <https://www.facebook.com/NACSWorkforceDevo/> to find flyers for upcoming events in your area.





Howard Yackus Memorial Scholarship

Nominated by the
Native American Community Services of Erie & Niagra Counties

Audrey Shenandoah



As far back as I can remember, I have always wanted to become a teacher. My dream is to return to the Onondaga Nation and become a teacher at the Onondaga Nation School. I have worked very hard during my college years. I am preparing to walk the stage in May and I will finish up my undergrad degree with student teaching in the fall. I will receive my bachelor's degree in January 2025. I plan on continuing my education in the Fall of 2025 to complete my master's degree, specializing in special education.

Without the help from the Native American Services WIOA 166 program, I don't believe my college experiences would be as great as it has been.



SEEKING PARENTS OR GUARDIANS

PARENTING & HEALTH RESEARCH STUDY

ELIGIBILITY

- Self-identify as Native American & live in urban area
- Primary caregiver of Native American youth age 12-17

JOIN NOW

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- HEALTHY FOOD PROVIDED
- CHILDCARE ACTIVITIES with TAKEAWAY ITEMS and YOUTH CLUBHOUSE PROGRAMMING
- TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE AS NEEDED
- 10 WEEKLY CLASSES

FAMILIES COULD BE ELIGIBLE
FOR GIFT CARDS UP TO
\$200.00

**TUESDAYS | SPRING
6PM | 2024**

NACS Buffalo Main Office
1005 Grant St Buffalo, 14207



FOR MORE INFORMATION

**716-339-1831/
716-874-4460**

pjacobs@nacswny.org

FAMILY STRENGTHENING



Who Can Foster

- Singled/Married
- Working/Retired/Stay at home parent
- 21 and Over
- Rent/Own
- Adequate Income
- Stable Home
- Reside in Erie/Niagara County

Greatest Needs

- Racially & Ethnically Diverse Children
- Sibling Groups
- Various Age Groups Birth -18 Years Old
- LGBTQ+ Youth

**BE THE DIFFERENCE, BE A FOSTER PARENT
TAKE THE FIRST STEP AND CONTACT US AT**

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NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

RAISE HOPE & FOSTER DREAMS

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**Scan the QR code to
start your application
TODAY!**

**Native American Community Services
of Erie and Niagara Counties
More information call 716-574-8940**



Families Together in New York State (FTNYS) in partnership with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is seeking to employ Policy Family Advisors at the state level to assist OCFS in developing policies and procedures that promote the voice of parents throughout the child welfare system.

Family Policy Advisors are parents with personal experience in navigating the child welfare system

Family Policy Advisors will:

- Assist with case reviews
- Review constituent complaint
- Organize town hall meetings
- Participate in learning collaboratives
- Support development of a Family Peer Support Services program
- Support the development of the Family Peer Advocate workforce

LOCATION/AFFILIATE:

Buffalo

New York City

Albany

Long Island - part time

Native American Services Buffalo or Long Island

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT

ftnys.org/employment

Position Title: Family Policy Advisor STATUS: Full-time (35 hours) salaried		
Location/Affiliate:		
Region 1- Buffalo NY	Region 4 - Albany NY	Region 7-Long Island part time
Region 3- Syracuse NY	Region 6 - New York City	Region 8-Native American -
		(LI or Buffalo)
Purpose: Families Together in New York State (FTNYS) in partnership with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is seeking to employ Policy Family Advisors at the state level to assist OCFS in developing policies and procedures that promote the voice of parents throughout the child welfare system.		

Qualifications: Policy Advisors are parents that have navigated the child welfare system

- Must have experience accessing and using services in the child welfare system
- Prefer current credentialed advocate or meet criteria to become a credentialed
- Must be able to travel throughout state/region; some overnight travel required
- Develop and provide presentations
- Ability to work in- person at the regional office
- Facilitate focus groups, meetings, and conferences; virtually and in- person
- Partner with Local Department of Social services (LDSS) to support the Family Peer Advocate workforce

Family Policy Advisors will:

- Assist with case reviews and constituent complaint investigations
- Participate in learning collaboratives to solicit feedback to shape the OCFS's policy agenda

Essential Job Functions:

The major duties of the job constitute the fundamental tasks and/or responsibilities of the position. Employees must be able to perform the following essential functions:

- Advise & advocate in matters of policy, and education to all family, child/ youth service systems
- Increase parent/caregiver involvement across the child welfare system
- Provide agency technical assistance
- Partner with regional Policy Advisors from other child serving agencies
- Engage in training, development, and empowerment of future family leader

Knowledge/Skills/Experience:

- Independently motivated; excellent project coordination and organization skills;
- Experience with advocacy & excellent written, verbal, and communication skills
- Ability to engage with small and large diverse groups of people
- Experience with various software packages: Microsoft Office Suite, meeting software

Salary Range 55,000 - 63,000

Application Instructions: Applicants should send a resume and detailed cover letter to employment@ftnys.org



Native American Community Services

SAGE Program

Supporting Assets, Growth and Economics

DAY

Thursdays

TIME

12:00pm - 2:00pm

PLACE

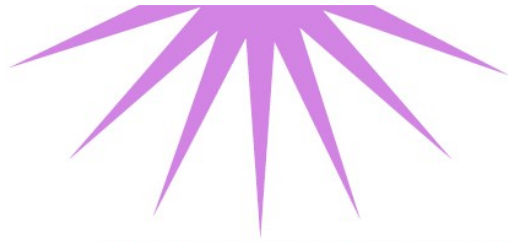
1005 Grant St., Buffalo, NY 14207

For Native American community
members aged 50 and over.

The program will feature craft classes,
guest speakers, estate planning,
expert presenters, and community choice.

Contact Colleen Casali for more information @ 716-548-1348

Funded by Niagara County Office for the Aging, Five Star Bank and LifeSpan



SAVE THE DATE!

NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES PRESENTS

SUMMER KIDS CAMP



JULY 8-AUGUST 16, 2024



ACTIVITIES:

- HAUDENOSAUNEE LANGUAGE LEARNING
- ARTS AND CRAFTS
- GAMES
- FIELD TRIPS



AGES 5-13

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT SARAJANE GOMLAK-GREEN

SGOMLAKGREEN@NACSWNY.ORG

716-874-4460 EX. 341



Native American Community Services Program Offerings through the Stages of Life Empowerment (SOLE) Program



The following programs can be conducted throughout a variety of venues in **Erie and Niagara Counties** for FREE, including but not limited to schools, youth programs, family nights, parent events, etc. Please contact **SOLE Program Director Simone Alston** at **716-983-2564** or sshuster@nacswny.org for more information or to book programming.

All programs can be adapted to meet your group's specific needs, and programs can be created on other topics by request

Adult workshops available upon request, please contact for more information

Target Population	Program Name	Program Description	Implementation Guidelines
EVIDENCE-BASED CURRICULA FOR YOUTH			
<i>*These curricula have undergone rigorous scientific evaluations that have shown their effectiveness*</i>			
<i>*Ask about our other Evidence Based Programs*</i>			
Youth, Ages 13-18	<i>Be Proud! Be Responsible!</i>	Evidence-Based Curriculum that provides youth with a comprehensive approach to gain the knowledge, motivation and skills necessary to change their behaviors in ways that will reduce their risk of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV and pregnancy.	-Seven 50 minute sessions
YOUTH WORKSHOPS			
<i>*Other Workshops available: Unhealthy Relationships, Barrier Demonstrations, etc.*</i>			
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>A Youth's Guide to Adolescent Development</i>	Helps youth understand the changes they undergo during adolescence, and pays special attention to understanding changes, anatomy, and encourages respect for sexual orientation and gender diversity. <i>*Recommended workshop prior to Evidence-Based Curricula*</i>	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>Female Puberty: We All Go Through It!</i>	Walks young females through the biological changes they will encounter during puberty with special attention to anatomy, hygiene, menstruation, and developing coping strategies.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>Male Puberty: What to Expect</i>	Walks young males through the biological changes they will encounter during puberty with special attention to anatomy, hygiene, and developing coping strategies.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>A Youth's Guide to Puberty & Hygiene</i>	Walks young people of all genders through the biological changes they will encounter during puberty with special attention to hygiene and developing coping strategies.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>A Youth's Guide to Healthy Relationships</i>	Allows youth to explore the basics of healthy relationships (romantic and platonic) and provides insight to keep their current relationships healthy.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>Safer Sex: Online Safety, Privacy, and Digital Intimacy</i>	Offers youth helpful tips about safe internet use as they begin to use social media more frequently, highlighting the consequences of sexting, sexual harassment, and cyber bullying.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>Skills for a Healthy Life</i>	Focuses on the importance of healthy life skills, as they are the building blocks for overall health and wellness. Special attention is paid to stress management, time management, and goal-setting.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>You Have Rights: Minors' Rights to Reproductive Health Care</i>	Provides an overview of minors' rights in accessing sexual and reproductive health care services in New York State. Many youth are unaware that they do not need parental consent to receive these services.	-Approximately one 45 minute session

Funded by: NYS Department of Health/Bureau of Child & Adolescent Health and Cicatelli Associates Incorporated; as well as businesses, foundations, and caring individuals.

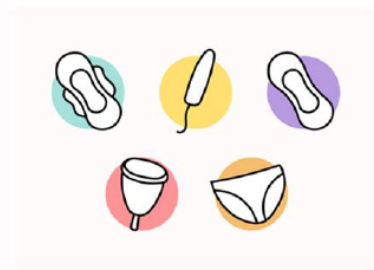
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Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>A Youth's Guide to Consent</i>	Walks youth through the elements of consent, allows them to practice strategies for giving and receiving consent, and identifying its presence or absence.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>A Youth's Guide to Effective Communication</i>	Compares different strategies of communication, allowing youth to identify the most effective strategies, practice them, and identify them.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>A Youth's Guide to Boundaries</i>	Offers youth the helpful tools to establish consent and create and enforce boundaries in all relationships.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>A Youth's Guide to Anti-Bullying</i>	Allows youth to explore types of bullying, develop skills to prevent bullying, and provides insight into its consequences.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>Period Care</i>	Offers insight to what to expect throughout menstruation, as well as information on menstrual products and personal hygiene.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>Budgeting</i>	Allows youth to brainstorm ways to reduce spending and discuss the purpose of saving.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>LGBTQ+ 101</i>	Introduces youth to common terminology and concepts of LGBTQ+ communities, exploring inclusive ways to talk about and understand sex, gender, and sexual orientation.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>All About Abortion Access</i>	Introduces youth to the concept of abortion and abortion options, discusses who has abortions and why, compares myths and facts about abortion, and details abortion access and laws in New York State.	-Approximately one 45 minute session
Youth, Ages 10-18	<i>Clinic Tours</i>	This is an opportunity for youth to receive free scheduled tours and education about their local reproductive health clinics and facilities to reduce any associated stigma with receiving services. We pick you and your youth group up and drop you off!	-Groups of 5 or more -Approximately one-two hours -By request only -Call for Info -In clinic setting
	<i>Clinic Transportation</i>	We offer (youth) groups transportation to and from clinics and health care facilities for appointments to eliminate obstacles that prevent youth from accessing care.	



Condom Availability Program

*Free condoms and other barrier methods are available for you or your organization, provided via pick up or drop off.
Contact Simone Alston or contact us on our social media for availability.*



Period Pouch Program

*Free Period Starter Pouches are available for you or your organization, provided via pick up or drop off.
Contact Simone Alston or contact us on our social media for availability.*

Social Media



NACS HEALTH AND WELLNESS



@NACS_SOLE



NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

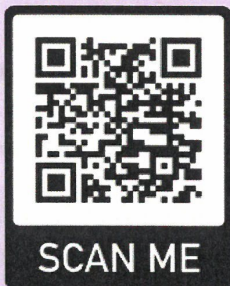
Funded by: NYS Department of Health/Bureau of Child & Adolescent Health and Ciatelli Associates Incorporated; as well as businesses, foundations, and caring individuals.



ABOUT NACS CLUBHOUSE:

NACS Youth Clubhouses are an alcohol and drug free space for Native youth ages 12-17.

Native youth are welcome to join our drop-in days. The clubhouses are open in the evenings during the school year. Snacks and dinners are provided for youth!



SCAN ME

FOR UPDATES ON EVENTS,
UPDATED SCHEDULES, AND
CURRENT SCHEDULES SCAN
OUR QR CODE OR FOLLOW
OUR INSTAGRAM!
@NACS_CLUBHOUSE

ERIE AND NIAGARA YOUTH CLUBHOUSES

Clubhouse Locations (select days):

Erie County: 1005 Grant Street, Buffalo, NY 14207

Niagara County: 1522 Main Street, Niagara Falls, 14305



POSITIVE OUTLETS

- MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD
- ONE ON ONE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE
- SAFE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT
- LEARN FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY WITH CLUB BUCKS!

CLUBHOUSE PERKS

YOUTH HANGOUTS

ALL NACS CLUBHOUSE LOCATION PROVIDES:

- POOL TABLE
- DARTS
- MOVIE/GAME NIGHTS
- GUEST SPEAKERS
- FIELD TRIPS
- DINNER/SNACKS
- TRANSPORTATION



CULTURAL IMPACTS

- LANGUAGE PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES
- SOCIAL DANCES / HISTORY OF SOCIAL DANCING
- CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

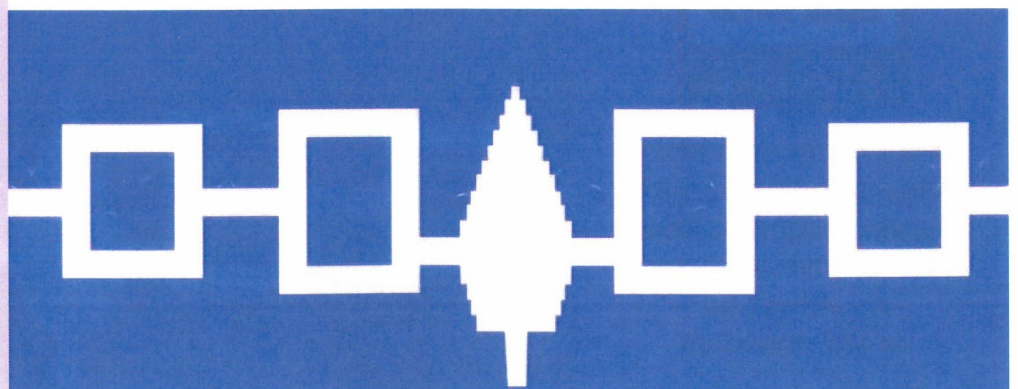


For more information, please contact:

Hillary Beaudouin, Erie County Clubhouse Manager: (716) 449-6472

Kashmir Bowser, Niagara County Clubhouse Manager: (716) 449-6405

Funded By: The Office of Addiction Services and Supports, foundations, businesses, and caring individuals





CLUBHOUSE CORNER

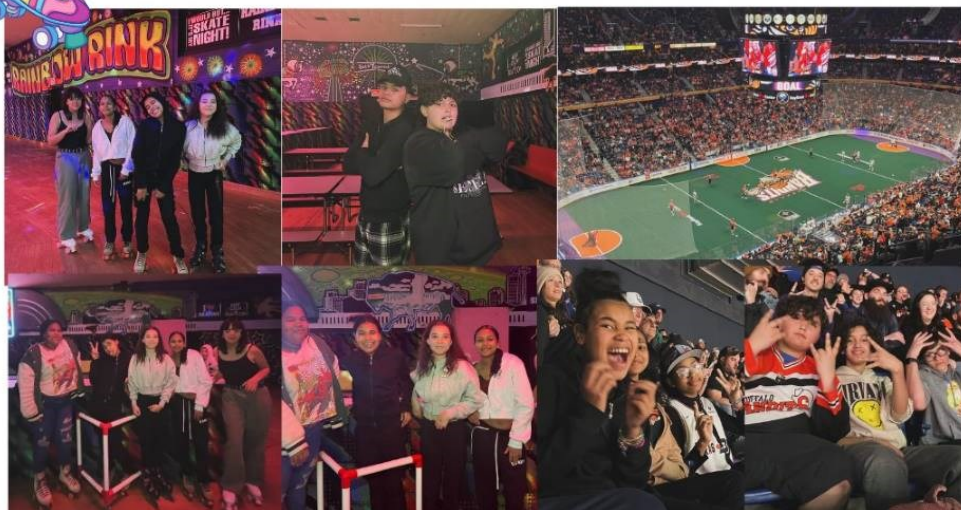


MAY EDITION



"May, the month of sunshine, blooming flowers, and endless possibilities."
— Unknown

SKATING INTO SPRING & A BANDITS WIN!



Last month our NACS Youth Clubhouse for both Erie and Niagara county kicked off spring break with roller skating at Rainbow Rink! Later on in the month, we celebrated a Buffalo Bandits Win!

To join us for our next outing event, please contact:

NACS Clubhouse (Erie County) Manager, Hillary: 716-449-6472

NACS Clubhouse (Niagara County) Manager, Kashmir: 716-449-6405

NACS CLUBHOUSE & NACS ELDER'S PROGRAM COLLAB!



Our clubhouse youth partnered with our Elder's program and created finger scarves. Soon, our youth and elders will be paired up for a pen pal program!

YOUTH SPOTLIGHTS

ERIE COUNTY SPOTLIGHT: HONESTY



Honesty has been a clubhouse member since March 2023! She provide her clubhouse peers with endless laughter, jokes, and a competitive edge with sports. Honesty provides a welcoming environment to clubhouse and we are super proud of her athletic accomplishments!

NIAGARA COUNTY SPOTLIGHT:



Destinee has been a clubhouse member since July 2023! Destinee always has a smile on her face. She always comes to clubhouse willing to try new things. She loves to paint and express herself through different crafts. We're always happy when we get to see Destinee!

STAY UPDATED ON OUR CLUBHOUSE
EVENTS WITH SOCIAL MEDIA!



SCAN ME



NACS CLUBHOUSE CORNER - MAY 2024

CLUBHOUSE CORNER



JUNE EDITION



YOUTH SPOTLIGHTS

"Strawberries are the first berry to bloom, signaling to other berries and fruits that it's time to wake up"

ERIE COUNTY SPOTLIGHT: MICHAEL



Michael (left) has been a clubhouse member since February 2024. He is charismatic, adventurous, and motivated in clubhouse. When he's not in school or clubhouse, he finds different sports to tune his energy into. We appreciate you Michael!

NIAGARA COUNTY SPOTLIGHT:



Dakota (left) has been a clubhouse member since December 2023 and is one of our few boys in Niagara County. Dakota is motivated, kind, and funny! He is always willing to be a role model to our younger clubhouse members and they really look up to him. He has started a new chapter in life, and we are so proud of him and his accomplishments! Way to go Dakota!

STAY UPDATED ON OUR CLUBHOUSE EVENTS WITH SOCIAL MEDIA!



SCAN ME

NACS CLUBHOUSE CORNER - JUNE 2024

CORN HUSK FLOWERS FOR MOTHER'S DAY



Last month our NACS Youth Clubhouse for both Erie and Niagara county made corn husk flowers for Mother's Day lead by Bernadette! Our youth thoroughly enjoyed the activity!

To join us for our next outing event, please contact:

NACS Clubhouse (Erie County) Manager, Hillary: 716-449-6472

NACS Clubhouse (Niagara County) Manager, Kashmir: 716-449-6405

RAAP - GIRLS SOCIETY



Our RAAP Girls Society has had many successful events such as ribbon skirt making, making their own room decor crafts, and much more! If you'd like to join our girls society, please contact Kashmir or Hillary!

**ATTENTION NATIVE YOUTH OF ERIE
COUNTY AGES 12-17**

ON-CALL HOURS



**HAVE A QUESTION? NEED RESOURCES?
JUST WANT TO CHAT? HERE'S YOUR
CHANCE!**

**EVERY MONDAY, 2-5 PM
TEXT OR CALL HILLARY - (716) 449 6472
OR SEND DMS TO OUR INSTAGRAM
@NACS_CLUBHOUSE**

NACS YOUTH CLUBHOUSE IS FUNDED BY NYS: OFFICE OF ADDICTION SERVICES & SUPPORTS (OASAS)

**ATTENTION NATIVE YOUTH OF
NIAGARA COUNTY AGES 12-17**

ON-CALL HOURS



**HAVE A QUESTION? NEED RESOURCES?
JUST WANT TO CHAT? HERE'S YOUR
CHANCE!**

**EVERY MONDAY, 2-6 PM
TEXT OR CALL KASHMIR - (716) 449 6405
OR SEND DMS TO OUR INSTAGRAM
@NACS_CLUBHOUSE**

NACS YOUTH CLUBHOUSE IS FUNDED BY NYS: OFFICE OF ADDICTION SERVICES & SUPPORTS (OASAS)

Native American Community Services of Erie & Niagara Counties, Inc.
TOGETHER WE WALK — AN INDIGENOUS PEER EDUCATION PROJECT

*Calling all Indigenous college students, human service providers,
health care workers, and community members!*



INDIGENOUS PEER EDUCATION & HEALTH TRAINING

*Compensation of up to \$ 2,400 for
completing 45 hours of online trainings!*



INTERESTED? Please contact NACS Special Initiatives
Director Pete Hill to get started! Once registered, participants
will be scheduled to attend an orientation and be directed to
set up their virtual learning portal.

Please email Pete at phill@nacswny.org OR call/text 716-574-8981



Included Trainings:

“Providing Culturally Relevant Native Peer Services”
“Health Literacy in HIV, STI, & Viral Hepatitis Care”
“2SLGBTQ+ Cultural Competency”
“Trauma Informed Care”
...and more!

FUNDED BY THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH / AIDS INSTITUTE





Native American Community Services' "Together We Walk" – An Indigenous Peer Education Project



Information Sheet & Application Form

Project Description:

The "Together We Walk – Indigenous Peer Education" (TWW) Project is an one-year effort to enhance and nurture the health and wellbeing of Native American / Indigenous persons, families, and communities throughout New York State by providing low-effort, informal communications and sharing of relevant resources for peer delivered education with a focus on promoting healthier Indigenous people, reducing rates transmission of HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), and Hepatitis C among Indigenous communities, and an increased access to all relevant health services for Native peoples.

We will engage with at least 15 Native American / Indigenous people throughout New York State to attend and complete a series of training sessions during the project period. These trainings are focused on HIV, STIs, and Hepatitis C, as well as additional topics that relate to these health issues, contributing factors, and Indigenous cultural perspectives.

Non-Native people are encouraged and welcome to join this training series and will receive a certificate of completion but are not eligible to receive the funded stipends.

Procedures to Apply and Participate:

Please contact the Together We Walk Project Director (TWWPD), Pete Hill, for an application form and return it when complete.

After an application is received by NACS, participants will be asked to please--

- 1) attend an initial, virtual orientation session with the TWWPD, Pete Hill.
- 2) create an account with the relevant training website portal.
- 3) complete and submit a federal W-9 form to NACS to receive the stipends upon completion of the training, orientation, and related sessions.
- 4) attend and complete all training webinars.
- 5) submit all certificates from completed sessions to the TWWPD.
- 6) attend a monthly virtual discussion with the TWWPD and other project participants.

Participants who complete all 45 hours of training will receive a formal "Certificate of Completion" for the TWW Indigenous Peer Education Project as sponsored by NACS, as well as the maximum stipend amount available through this project.

Thank You & Next Steps!

To engage in the Together We Walk Indigenous Peer Education Project, please complete the following application form, provide brief answers to the questions asked, and return it to Pete Hill, TWW Project Director at phill@nacswny.org or by call or text, at 716-574-8981.

We are very grateful for your interest in this important project! Please do not hesitate to reach out to Pete if you have any questions, concerns, etc.



Continued on page 21



Together We Walk – An Indigenous Peer Education Project
APPLICATION FORM



To engage in the Together We Walk (TWW) Indigenous Peer Education Project, please complete the following application by providing **brief** answers to the questions asked, and return it to Pete Hill, TWW Project Director at phill@nacswny.org or fax to (716) 874-1874. Thank you!

Name _____
Address _____
Cell _____ Email _____
Organization/School/Group (if any – community members are welcome!) _____
Are you Native American, Indigenous? _____

* For the following questions, there are no “right” or “wrong” answers, per se. By providing us with your responses, you will help us gain a better understanding of how we can support your efforts as you progress through the training sessions.

Please limit your responses for each question to about 30-40 words (2-3 sentences) and use a separate piece of paper, if needed.

- 1) Please describe your connection and/or affiliation with the Native community, and please specify which community or communities you identify with.
- 2) This project is initially focused on learning and sharing information about reproductive and sexual health, including HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections, and Hepatitis C. What challenges or opportunities do you envision in sharing this information with Native people?
- 3) How would you describe your comfort level with discussing issues of personal, sexual, and reproductive health with Native community members?
- 4) Please describe your knowledge of trauma-informed care.
- 5) Please describe your understanding of historical traumas impacting Native people, such as residential boarding schools.
- 6) Please describe your understanding of Native American cultures and traditions.
- 7) Please share how you might envision overcoming issues of stigma, denial, and various phobias when discussing sexual and reproductive health?
- 8) How do you envision sharing the knowledge you gained with Native American people after you completion of this project?



The "Strengthening Our Resilience" Program and "Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Promotion" Program at
Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara Counties, Inc. (NACS)
Proudly Announces a Continuing Virtual Training Series of

"INTRODUCTION TO NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL COMPETENCY"

All sessions will be held virtually and last 60 minutes, and there are TWO OPTIONS for Addressing Trauma-Informed Care:

*Are you NEW to Trauma-Informed Care?
These are for you!*

INTRO TO NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL COMPETENCY & TRAUMA-INFORMED BASICS

Thursday, July 11, 2024, 3 – 4 pm, Register at:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7w9h9qBVU6BPcasWVtZwodu2vrz4rGNWt9FvVw9h9qBVU6BPcasWV>

More sessions will be announced soon!

*Are you already trained in Trauma-Informed
Care? These are for you!*

INTRO TO NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL COMPETENCY & THE RESIDUAL IMPACTS OF HISTORICAL TRAUMA

Friday, June 7, 2024, 1 – 2 pm, Register at:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7w9h9qBVU6BPcasWVtZwodu2vrz4rGNWt9FvVw9h9qBVU6BPcasWVpTMVyo9BaXCrxhtBhy-tZAvfuGtaikvGNUq0EnQmwJidONXZitoaT3>

Wednesday, August 14, 2024, 11 am – 12 pm, Register at:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7w9h9qBVU6BPcasWVtZAvfuGtaikvGNUq0EnQmwJidONXZitoaT3>

Please watch for announcements of in-person and more trainings in the spring of 2024 & more!

For more information, please contact Pete Hill, NACS' Special Initiatives Director
at phill@nacswny.org or 716-874-2797, ext. 348.



These trainings by Native American Community Services are supported by the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) and the NYS Department of Health/AIDS Institute.

The Seneca Nation Education Department
&
The Jacobs School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
Present



7th Generation Operation



Are you curious about the world of Healthcare?

Join us at the Jacobs School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences to gain firsthand experience performing healthcare procedures and techniques.

- Prizes!!
- CPR training all ages
- Food and beverages provided
- Workshops determined by grade

July 12, 2024
Grades 6 & UP!
9:30am-3:30pm
955 Main St
Buffalo, NY 14203



Register Here!

<https://tinyurl.com/7Gen24>

PARTICIPATING UB SCHOOLS:

- Medical
- Dental
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy

WORKSHOPS:

- Suturing
- Anatomy
- DNA extraction
- Vital signs
- Dental procedures
- Ultrasound
- Much more!



Questions?

Email: 7thgenjsmbs@gmail.com



JOIN US IN OUR FIGHT TO HELP PREVENT DEMENTIA

MAP is a research study looking at whether metformin can help prevent memory decline for people with mild memory concerns.

You may be able to join if:

- you are 55-90 years old,
- you or your loved ones have noticed some changes in your memory, and
- you are not already being treated for diabetes or dementia

Potential benefits:

- You will receive some of your blood test results. We can also share these results with your healthcare provider.
- Your participation may improve the prevention of dementia for future generations.

Taking part in MAP is voluntary and will not affect the care you receive.
If you decide to join, you will be compensated for your time.

For more information, please contact:

Nick Audino
716-323-0549
NCAudino@buffalo.edu

or visit us at:

cuimc.columbia.edu/mapstudy

Scan here with



smartphone camera

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



A Tradition of Caring

Services we provide:

- ⇒ Case management/career counseling
- ⇒ Job search and placement assistance
- ⇒ Assistance in identifying employment barriers
- ⇒ Occupational skills training/skills upgrade
- ⇒ Interview preparation
- ⇒ Resume writing assistance
- ⇒ Educational resources and information
- ⇒ Resources for entrepreneurs
- ⇒ Referrals and Linkages to other services
- ⇒ Status card/Tribal documentation assistance

Funding Available to Eligible Native Americans for:

- * Work Experience Positions
- * On-the-job Training
- * Tuition/Books/Educational Support
- * Work Clothes/Tools
- * Training/Certification Programs
- * Other Supportive Services

For more information and/or
to make an appointment, contact:
Native American Community Services

Buffalo Office
716-574-9731

Rochester Office
585-514-3984

Syracuse Office
315-322-8754

We have offices in
Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Lockport,
Rochester and Syracuse

Counties we serve:

Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee,
Wyoming, Monroe, Livingston,
Wayne, Ontario, Yates, Seneca,
Cayuga, Oswego, Onondaga,
Cortland, Oneida, Madison

Funded by the US Department of Labor

Native American Community Services

Workforce Development Services



Native American Community Services has a workforce development program that offers employment and education services to the Native American community in Erie and Niagara Counties. The following is a list of services that are available to eligible participants which includes limited financial assistance related to...

Services provided to eligible participants:

• Case Management related to workforce activities	• Educational resources and information
• Assistance in identifying barriers to employment	• Tuition/Book assistance
• Career counseling/exploration	• Entrepreneurial/small business technical assistance training information
• Job search and placement assistance	• Follow-up services
• 6-week work experience program	• Referral and linkage services
• Resume/Cover letters and interview assistance	• Status Card/Tribal documentation assistance
• Occupational skills training/Skills upgrade	• Supportive Services
• On-the-job training	• Supplemental Youth Services

The following are requirements needed to qualify as an eligible participant:

- ❖ 14 years of age or older
- ❖ Reside on/off the reservation in our service area
- ❖ Native American, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian
- ❖ Tribal documentation of enrollment in a federal or state recognized tribe
- ❖ Males 18+ have registered with Selective Service
- ❖ Unemployed or under-employed
- ❖ Laid-off, furloughed or dislocated workers
- ❖ Veteran or Spouse of Veteran
- ❖ Meet all WIOA eligibility guidelines

We provide these services to Native Americans living in the following counties of New York State:

- Erie
- Niagara
- Orleans
- Genesee
- Wyoming
- Livingston
- Monroe
- Wayne
- Ontario
- Yates
- Seneca
- Cayuga
- Oswego
- Onondaga
- Cortland
- Oneida
- Madison

Native American Community Services
1005 Grant Street, Buffalo, NY 14207
(716) 874-4460

Food Pantry Guidelines

OPEN:

Tuesday 10:00am – 1:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am – 1:00pm



Required Documents:

- Must live in the [14207 or 14216](#) zip code
- Must have [Picture ID](#)
- Must have [ID for everyone](#) in household
- Must have [proof of address](#) (current utility bill)



*****If you are a NEW client you must come in before 12 noon*****

*****Please note that clients may come to the pantry one (1) time each calendar month and they may receive service from ONLY one (1) food pantry.*****



Our organization is here to provide families with a supplemental food base. These supplemental items, when combined with your own provisions, help stretch each family meal. We provide service for numerous families each month and strive to treat each client with fairness and respect. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding of our policies.

IHAWP Job Posting



NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF ERIE & NIAGARA COUNTIES, INC.

1005 Grant Street • Buffalo, NY 14207-2854 • (716) 874-4460 • Fax (716) 874-1874
1522 Main Street • Niagara Falls, NY 14305 • (716) 299-0914 • Fax (716) 299-0903
76 West Avenue • Lockport, NY 14094 • (716) 302-3035 • Fax (716) 302-3037
100 College Avenue, Suite 200 • Rochester, NY 14607 • (585) 514-3984
960 James Street • Syracuse, NY 13203 • (315) 322- 8754

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Indigenous Health & Wellness Promotion (IHAWP) – Cultural Events Planner

Type: Full-Time Hourly / Non-Exempt

Salary/ Range: \$17.23-\$19.23

Office: Buffalo (Travel Required)

Summary:

The IHAWP Cultural Events Planner is responsible for assisting the IHAWP Coordinator in the performance of day-to-day duties in delivering and providing culturally infused events. The goal of the IHAWP program is to improve the health of Indigenous people through holistic, inclusive, and non-judgmental efforts. Incumbent will be flexible to evening and weekend schedules. All efforts will be performed with understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind Principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

OTHER ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Liaison with and engage Indigenous communities and persons.
- Coordinate with the IHAWP Program Facilitation Coordinator to ensure all plans, logistics, expenditures, and related details are implemented successfully.
- Provide and deliver culturally infused events including community discussions addressing traditional Indigenous cultures and teachings, social determinants of health, trauma, historical traumas, healing, professional development trainings on Native American cultural competency, trauma informed care, and an Indigenous peer education component.
- Be present at all in-person gatherings and virtual community conversations to help ensure all details and logistics are addressed in advance of the sessions.
- Manage virtual platforms used by the IHAWP program and troubleshoot any issues that arise.
- Ensure philosophy of healing from historical trauma and Trauma-Informed Care perspectives, values, and practices are maintained.
- Implement and plan in-person and virtual programming in areas such as but not limited to: interventions delivered to individuals and groups, community level interventions, health communication, and public information.
- Ensure that all reporting systems, forms, and additional obligations that are required by the NYS Department of Health/AIDS Institute are completed in accordance with all applicable guidelines by all IHAWP program staff.
- Recruit participants for the IHAWP program through outreach events and materials.
- Travels to all NACS office areas (Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Lockport, Rochester, and Syracuse) as necessary for programming.
- Assist in the Data Management Plan

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree in human services or related field of study preferred. Work experience may replace some of the education requirements at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements.
- Must have clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300K
- Intermediate computer skills and understanding of office applications including MS Office Suite
- Interpersonal skills to work cooperatively and effectively with individuals, groups, and diverse populations.
- Knowledge of local Native American communities.
- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, and communication skills.

BENEFITS:

- 403 (b) Retirement Plan
- Health & Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Employee Assistance Program
- Flexible Spending Account
- Paid Time Off (PTO)

For Consideration send resume to humanresources@nacswny.org

IHAWP Job Posting



NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF ERIE & NIAGARA COUNTIES, INC.
MICHAEL N. MARTIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1005 Grant Street • Buffalo, NY 14207-2854 • (716) 874-4460 • Fax (716) 874-1874
1522 Main Street • Niagara Falls, NY 14305 • (716) 299-0914 • Fax (716) 299-0903
76 West Avenue • Lockport, NY 14094 • (716) 302-3035 • Fax (716) 302-3037
100 College Avenue, Suite 200 • Rochester, NY 14607 • (585) 514-3984
960 James Street • Syracuse, NY 13203 • (315) 322-8754

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Indigenous Health & Wellness Promotion (IHAWP) –Facilitation Assistant

Type: Part-Time/Hourly / Non-Exempt

Hours- 20 hours per week

Salary/ Range: \$17.23-\$19.23 –

Office: Buffalo (Travel Required)

Summary:

The IHAWP Facilitation Assistant is responsible for assisting the IHAWP Coordinator and Cultural Events Planner in the performance and duties in delivering and providing culturally infused events. The goal of the IHAWP program is to improve the health of Indigenous people through holistic, inclusive, and non-judgmental efforts. Incumbent will be flexible to evening and weekend schedules. All efforts will be performed with understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind Principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

OTHER ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist as directed by the Program Director or IHAWP Coordinator to support all needs, tasks, and obligations.
- Support and be present with the successful implementation of the IHAWP program during virtual and all in-person gatherings.
- Support in the delivery of culturally infused events including community discussions addressing traditional Indigenous cultures and teachings, social determinants of health, trauma, historical traumas, healing, professional development trainings on Native American cultural competency, trauma informed care, and an Indigenous peer education component.
- Ensure philosophy of healing from historical trauma and Trauma-Informed Care perspectives, values, and practices are maintained.
- Participate in all relevant trainings, staff meetings, community events, and outreach efforts.
- Ensure that all reporting systems, forms, and additional obligations that are required by the NYS Department of Health/AIDS Institute are completed in accordance with all applicable guidelines by all IHAWP program staff.
- Reports to and collaborates with the IHAWP staff to ensure compliance with all contractual goals, objectives, and requirements.
- Participate in the Data Management Plan.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree in human services or related field of study preferred. Work experience may replace some of the education requirements at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements.
- Must have clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300K
- Intermediate computer skills and understanding of office applications including MS Office Suite
- Interpersonal skills to work cooperatively and effectively with individuals, groups, and diverse populations.
- Knowledge of local Native American communities.
- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, and communication skills.

BENEFITS:

- Paid Time Off (PTO)
- Health & Dental Insurance
- Employee Assistance Program

For Consideration send resume to humanresources@nacswny.org

IHAWP Job Posting



NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF ERIE & NIAGARA COUNTIES, INC.

1005 Grant Street • Buffalo, NY 14207-2854 • (716) 874-4460 • Fax (716) 874-1874
1522 Main Street • Niagara Falls, NY 14305 • (716) 299-0914 • Fax (716) 299-0903
76 West Avenue • Lockport, NY 14094 • (716) 302-3035 • Fax (716) 302-3037
100 College Avenue, Suite 200 • Rochester, NY 14607 • (585) 514-3984
960 James Street • Syracuse, NY 13203 • (315) 322-8754

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Indigenous Health & Wellness Promotion (IHAWP) - Program Facilitation Coordinator

Type: Full-Time / hourly non-exempt

Set Salary: \$20.67/hour

Office: Buffalo (Travel Required)

Summary:

The IHAWP Program Facilitation Coordinator is responsible for assisting the Special Initiatives Director in the performance of day to day duties in delivering and providing culturally infused events. The goal of the IHAWP program is to improve the health of Indigenous people through holistic, inclusive, and non-judgmental efforts. Incumbent will be flexible to evening and weekend schedules. All efforts will be performed with understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind Principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

OTHER ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Attends weekly staff meetings to provide updates, reports issues, concerns, and relevant information.
- Provide and deliver culturally infused events including community discussions addressing traditional Indigenous cultures and teachings, social determinants of health, trauma, historical traumas, healing, professional development trainings on Native American cultural competency, trauma informed care, and an Indigenous peer education component.
- Be present at all in-person gatherings and virtual community conversations to help ensure all details and logistics are addressed in advance of the sessions.
- Assist the Cultural Events Planner with managing virtual platforms used by the IHAWP program and ability to troubleshoot any problems.
- Reports to and collaborates with the Special Initiatives Director to ensure compliance with all contractual goals, objectives, and requirements.
- Ensure philosophy of healing from historical trauma and Trauma-Informed Care perspectives, values, and practices are maintained.
- Implement and plan programming in areas such as but not limited to: interventions delivered to individuals and groups, community level interventions, health communication, and public information.
- Ensure that all reporting systems, forms, and additional obligations that are required by the NYS Department of Health/AIDS Institute are completed in accordance with all applicable guidelines by all IHAWP program staff.
- Fosters and maintains community partnerships relating to the design and implementation of the project.
- Travels to all NACS office areas (Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Lockport, Rochester, and Syracuse) as necessary for programming.
- Assist in the Data Management Plan
- Supervises the Cultural Events Planner and the Facilitation Assistant.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree in human services or related field of study preferred. Work experience may replace some of the education requirements at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements
- Must have clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300K
- Intermediate computer skills and understanding of office applications including MS Office Suite
- Interpersonal skills to work cooperatively and effectively with individuals, groups, and diverse populations
- Knowledge of local Native American communities.
- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, and communication skills.
- Supervisory skills and experience

BENEFITS:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • 403 (b) Retirement Plan | • Health & Dental Insurance | • Life Insurance |
| • Employee Assistance Program | • Flexible Spending Account | • Paid Time Off (PTO) |

For Consideration send resume to humanresources@nacswny.org

Job Posting



NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF ERIE & NIAGARA COUNTIES, INC.

1005 Grant Street • Buffalo, NY 14207-2854 • (716) 874-4460 • Fax (716) 874-1874
1522 Main Street • Niagara Falls, NY 14305 • (716) 299-0914 • Fax (716) 299-0903
76 West Avenue • Lockport, NY 14094 • (716) 302-3035 • Fax (716) 302-3037
100 College Avenue, Suite 200 • Rochester, NY 14607 • (585) 514-3984
960 James Street • Syracuse, NY 13203 • (315) 322- 8754

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Workforce Development Specialist

Type: Full-Time Hourly / Non-Exempt

Salary/ Range: \$17.00-\$19.50 / hour

Office: Buffalo (Travel Required)

Summary:

The Workforce Development Specialist assists in planning and implementing goals and objectives of the Workforce Development Component as well as ensuring quality of service provision to clients. Incumbent will be flexible to evening and weekend schedules. All efforts will be performed with understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind Principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Conducts Initial intake and comprehensive testing to determine client eligibility and needs.
- Develops an Individual Employment Plan (IEP) with client.
- Develops and provides workshops to clients in such areas of academic, life skills, and technical areas.
- Keeps abreast of current trends in the local job market.
- Establishes an effective support network and provides referrals for clients.
- Attends and participates in weekly component staff and other required meetings.
- Maintains necessary documentation and ensures the timely completion of all necessary recordkeeping.
- Develops an outreach action plan to successfully recruit and retain participants and employers into the program.
- Conducts outreach to academic entities, unions, coalitions, service providers, and other individuals/agencies to promote services, develop linkages, build network opportunities and advocate for issues in the Native American Community.
- Develops and nurtures relationships with employers for on-the-job training agreements and work experience opportunities for clients.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree in human service or related field of study preferred, with three (3) years' experience in workforce development including supervision and program management, or a combination of education and work experience
- Knowledge of local area service providers
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements
- Must have clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300K
- Intermediate computer skills and understanding of office applications including MS Office Suite
- Interpersonal skills to work cooperatively and effectively with individuals, groups, and diverse populations
- Knowledge of local Native American communities
- Must be able to lift minimum of 30 lbs.
- Must be able to perform in a smoke-free environment

BENEFITS:

- 403 (b) Retirement Plan
- Health & Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Employee Assistance Program
- Flexible Spending Account
- Paid Time Off (PTO)

For Consideration send resume to humanresources@nacswny.org

Job Posting



NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF ERIE & NIAGARA COUNTIES, INC.

1005 Grant Street • Buffalo, NY 14207-2854 • (716) 874-4460 • Fax (716) 874-1874
1522 Main Street • Niagara Falls, NY 14305 • (716) 299-0914 • Fax (716) 299-0903
76 West Avenue • Lockport, NY 14094 • (716) 302-3035 • Fax (716) 302-3037
100 College Avenue, Suite 200 • Rochester, NY 14607 • (585) 514-3984
960 James Street • Syracuse, NY 13203 • (315) 322-8754

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Family Preservation Caseworker

Type: Full-Time Hourly / Non-Exempt

Salary/ Range: \$19.23 / hour

Office: Erie County

Summary

The Family Preservation Caseworker works in conjunction with the Local County Department of Social Services (LCDSS /DSS) and is responsible for providing prevention services to families referred from DSS. Incumbent helps children remain safely in their homes and prevent placement outside of their home. All efforts will be performed with understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide effective and efficient case management for assigned families.
- Maintain strong communication with the family working toward stabilizing and strengthening the family unit, with regular face-to-face contact.
- Make use of appropriate counseling, parent training, home management, support, and advocacy services.
- Work collaboratively with referral sources, community service providers, and family members to meet goals.
- Produce accurate, thorough, and timely progress notes in CONNECTIONS.
- Ensure all court mandated or recommended services are applied and supported.
- Provide transportation for meetings, services, and appointments in a safe, reliable vehicle, as necessary.
- Maintain confidentiality and sensitive information.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS

- Bachelor's degree in human service or related field of study required with experience in child welfare.
- Knowledge of ICWA, ASFA, Federal and State regulations, as well as mandated reporting requirements.
- Must be flexible to evening and weekend hours.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements.
- Must have clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300K.
- Intermediate computer skills and understanding of office applications including MS Office Suite.
- Interpersonal skills to work cooperatively and effectively with individuals, groups, and diverse populations.
- Knowledge of local Native American communities.

BENEFITS

- 403 (b) Retirement Plan
- Health & Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- Flexible Spending Account (FSA)
- Paid Time Off (PTO)

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960 James Street • Syracuse, NY 13203 • (315) 322-8754

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Family Preservation Caseworker – Niagara County

Type: Full-Time Hourly / Non-Exempt

Salary/ Range: \$17.23- \$19.23 / hour

Office: 76 West Ave., Lockport NY, 14094

Summary

The Family Preservation Caseworker works in conjunction with the Local County Department of Social Services (LCDSS /DSS) and is responsible for providing prevention services to families referred from DSS. Incumbent helps children remain safely in their homes and prevent placement outside of their home. All efforts will be performed with understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

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960 James Street ● Syracuse, NY 13203 ● (315) 322-8754

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Erie County Clubhouse Youth Leader – 3 openings

Type: Part-time Hourly / Non-Exempt

Salary/ Range: \$16.00- \$17.00 / hour

Office: 1005 Grant Street, Buffalo, NY 14207

Summary

The Youth Leaders assist the Clubhouse Manager in providing a safe, supportive, culturally appropriate, alcohol and drug free environment for all members. The Clubhouses welcome self-identified Native American youth and young adults ages 12-17. Leaders will provide transportation, supervision, and leadership. Recruitment through outreach and attending and participating in weekly staff meetings will also be required. Leaders must be available for non-traditional hours, meaning evenings, and weekends. The Clubhouses are open 25 hours per week both in-person and virtually. All efforts will be performed with understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Supervise, provide leadership, and be a positive role model for youth.
- Deliver workshops and activities in a confident, organized manner.
- Ensure youth programming utilizes a percentage of evidence-based prevention models.
- Provide safe transportation and/or supervision of youth to and from clubhouse activities.
- Recruit youth through local outreach efforts.
- Adhere to data collection and performance measurement requirements determined by contractual obligations.
- Maintains necessary documentation and ensures the timely completion of all necessary recordkeeping.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS

- Bachelors or associates degree in human service or related field of study preferred.
- Experience working with community and group settings. Work experience may replace some of the education requirements at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- Have knowledge and understanding of substance use, and experience with at-risk youth.
- Must be flexible to evening and weekend hours as needed.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements.
- Must have clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300K.
- Familiarity with and sensitivity toward local Native American communities.
- Interpersonal skills to work cooperatively and effectively with individuals and groups.
- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, and communication skills.

BENEFITS

- Paid Time Off (PTO)
- Employee Assistance Program

For consideration send Resume to: humanresources@nacswny.org

Job Posting



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100 College Avenue, Suite 200 ● Rochester, NY 14607 ● (585) 514-3984
960 James Street ● Syracuse, NY 13203 ● (315) 322-8754

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Niagara County Clubhouse Youth Leader – 3 openings

Type: Part-time Hourly / Non-Exempt

Salary/ Range: \$16.00- \$17.00 / hour

Office: 1522 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Summary

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- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, and communication skills.

BENEFITS

- Paid Time Off (PTO)
- Employee Assistance Program

For consideration send Resume to: humanresources@nacswny.org

Native American Community Services
of Erie & Niagara Counties, Inc.
1005 Grant Street
Buffalo, New York, 14207

Please share this newsletter with family, friends and co-workers. If you know of anyone who would like to receive NACS News monthly by email, please have them send their first and last name and current email address to:

gghosen@nacswny.org

You can also look for our newsletter on our website:
http://www.nacswny.org/news_and_events.html

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YES, I'D LIKE TO HELP NACS CONTINUE ITS TRADITION OF CARING!!

<p>Please accept my contribution of:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$5 <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p>I'd like to volunteer my time. I can...</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Please detach and return to:</p> <p>Native American Community Services of Erie & Niagara Counties, Inc. 1005 Grant Street, Buffalo, New York 14207</p>	<p>_____</p> <p><i>Name</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p><i>Address</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p><i>City / State / Zip Code</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p><i>Phone</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Please add me to your mailing list!</p>
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FUNDED BY: Erie County Department of Social Services; Erie County Youth Bureau; New York State Office of Children & Family Services; New York State Office of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Services; Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo; Niagara County Department of Social Services, Niagara County Office of the Aging; US Department of Labor; Administration for Native Americans (ANA); Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation; The Oishei Foundation; Erie County Department of Mental Health; NYS Research Foundation for Mental Health; NYS Medicaid Program 29-I; Western New York Foundation; New York State Department of Health/AIDS Institute, as well as businesses, foundations and caring individuals.