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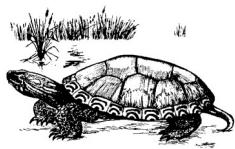


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Breast Cancer Awareness Month

by Jennifer Carr, [BreastCancer.org](https://www.breastcancer.org), Updated on August 28, 2026

October is about more than pink ribbons. While some feel inspired, many people living with breast cancer feel like the month-long campaign overlooks their experience with the disease.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month can mean different things to different people. For some, it's a trigger – 31 days in the fall of pink-ribbon reminders of a disease that forever changed them. For others, it's a chance to show their support for the more than 2 million women around the world who are diagnosed with the disease each year.^[1]

Understanding the goals behind the global campaign and the emotions felt by the many different people living with the disease may help you decide if and how you want to commemorate the month.

What is Breast Cancer Awareness Month?

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is an international health campaign that's held every October. The month aims to promote screening and reduce the risk of the disease, which affects 2.4 million women worldwide.^[1] Known best for its pink theme color, the month features a number of campaigns and programs designed to:

- support people diagnosed with breast cancer, including those with [metastatic breast cancer](#)
- educate people about [breast cancer risk factors](#)
- motivate people – including those who identify as women, men, non-binary, or trans – to learn about their risk of breast cancer
- encourage people to go for [regular breast cancer screening](#) – for women, regular scans begin

at age 40 or earlier, depending on personal breast cancer risk

- raise money for breast cancer research

In the month of October, there are also specific dates designed to raise awareness of specific groups within the breast cancer community.

Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day (October 13)

October 13 is nationally recognized in the U.S. as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day. About 155,000 women in the U.S. are estimated to have metastatic breast cancer (cancer that spreads beyond the breast to other parts of the body).^[2] Some researchers believe this number will rise to over 246,000 living with the disease by 2030.^[3] Despite the growing numbers of people living with metastatic disease, most money for breast cancer research doesn't go toward studying it.

Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day seeks to educate the public about the challenges that people with metastatic breast cancer face as well as the need for more research – and more treatments – for this deadly disease.

The day also serves as a reminder that people can do all the right things – breast cancer screenings and all the recommended treatments for early-stage breast cancer – and still have cancer spread to other parts of the body. As sf-cakes, a member of the Breastcancer.org Community, shared, “Being stage IV during

Breast Cancer Awareness Month sucks. All the messaging about ‘if you catch it early, you’ll be fine,’ is simply not always true.”

Men's Breast Cancer Awareness Week (October 17–23)

Although breast cancer is much more common in women, [breast cancer affects men](#), too. In 2021, President Joe Biden designated October 17 to October 23 Men's Breast Cancer Awareness Week. The American Cancer Society estimates that about 2,670 men in the U.S. will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2026, and about 530 will die from the disease.^[4] But lack of awareness and stigma can be barriers to detection and care in men, trans men, and non-binary people.

The History of Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The event began in 1985 as a week-long awareness campaign by the American Cancer Society, in partnership with Imperial Chemical Industries, a British company that made tamoxifen. The campaign eventually grew into a month-long event.

In 1992, the pink ribbon came into play after Alexandra Penney, *SELF* magazine's editor-in-chief, partnered with Evelyn Lauder, Estée Lauder's senior corporate vice president and a breast cancer survivor, to distribute pink ribbons after the magazine's second annual Breast Cancer Awareness Month issue.

Other variations of the pink ribbon have emerged in recent years to raise awareness that all people with breast cancer are not the same. These include ribbons for

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raising awareness about metastatic breast cancer, men with breast cancer, inflammatory breast cancer, and more.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month controversy

Although many people feel supported by the month's events, activities, and pink merchandise, others strongly dislike Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Seeing pink ribbons at every turn – and the “celebrations” – can seem like a distraction from the very real need for a better understanding of the disease and more research leading to better treatments.

Many in the [Breastcancer.org Community](https://www.breastcancer.org/community) have [shared their feelings about Breast Cancer Awareness Month](#):

- “I already feel overwhelmed and triggered by [Breast Cancer Awareness Month] and it isn't even here yet,” wrote Keris113. “I wish that there was more done by these organizations ... to promote funding for research and treatments that could help both [metastatic breast cancer] and potentially earlier stages as well.”
- “We all have a special ability to create breast cancer awareness year round,” wrote mountainmia. “We all have knowledge and stories we can share that are unique and powerful.”
- “I'm in favor of anything that brings attention to a worthy cause,” wrote Breastcancer.org Community member Brilee76. “It's amazing how oblivious I was to breast cancer before my mom experienced it. ... Education is key.”

Many people are also offended by what's become known as [“pinkwashing.”](#) This is the term

used to describe when companies use pink ribbons to sell their products – but those products may increase the risk of breast cancer.

“As October 1 Breast Cancer Awareness month approaches, I am starting to see posts of products being sold by private businesses that really don't support breast cancer programs,” wrote Community member Brutersmom. “They call us survivors or warriors. Sadly I don't feel like a warrior or a survivor.”

Learn more about breast cancer

For all its controversy, Breast Cancer Awareness Month can be a good reminder to learn more about breast cancer. Some good places to start might be examining [your risk of](#) developing the disease, giving yourself a breast exam, and scheduling your next [breast cancer screenings](#).

U.S. breast cancer statistics

People of every country, race, ethnic group, and income level are affected by breast cancer. In the U.S., the percentage of women diagnosed with breast cancer has been slowly rising for the past couple of decades.

- A woman in the U.S. today has a 1 in 8 chance of developing breast cancer over her lifetime and a 1 in 43 chance of dying from breast cancer.^[5]
- Between 20% and 30% of people diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer develop metastatic breast cancer.^[2]
- Lesbian, gay, and bisexual cisgender women may have a higher risk of breast cancer than heterosexual women due to risk factors like fewer childbirths and higher alcohol use.^[6]

- The average lifetime risk that a man in the U.S. will develop breast cancer is 1 in 755.^[4]
- Transfeminine people taking gender-affirming hormone therapy, including estrogen, are at a higher risk of developing breast cancer than cisgender men.^[7]
- There are about 4 million breast cancer survivors in the U.S., including women receiving breast cancer treatment.^[5]
- While the percentage of women dying from breast cancer has gone down in recent decades, Black women remain more likely to die from breast cancer than women of any other racial or ethnic group.^[5]

Learn more: [Breast Cancer Facts and Statistics](#)

Things to do this Breast Cancer Awareness Month

- If you know someone who is living with breast cancer or has been affected by the disease, check in with them to ask them how they're doing.
- Schedule your annual mammogram. Encourage your friends and family to do the same.
- Learn more about breast cancer and how it affects people's lives from Breastcancer.org's [news](#), [educational content](#), [podcasts](#), and more.
- Join [community discussion forums](#) to ask questions or connect with others. Breastcancer.org also hosts multiple [virtual support groups](#) each week.
- If you'd like to support breast cancer research and programs that support people touched by breast cancer, consider donating directly to organizations that do this work, like

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Breastcancer.org. When you give, [your donation](#) goes directly to what you read, hear, and see on Breastcancer.org.

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National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is an annual designation observed in October. For many, home is a place of love, warmth, and comfort. It's somewhere that you know you will be surrounded by care and support, and a nice little break from the busyness of the real world. But for millions of others, home is anything but a sanctuary. The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that 1.3 million women and 835,000 men are victims of physical violence by a partner every year.

Every 9 seconds, a woman in the U.S. is beaten or assaulted by a current or ex-significant other.

1 in 4 men are victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.

Here's another shocking statistic: the number of U.S. troops killed in Afghanistan and Iraq between 2001 and 2012 is 6,488. The number of women who were murdered by current or ex-male partners during that same time frame is 11,766, according to the Huffington Post. That's almost double the number of people who were killed fighting in the war. People who are in an abusive relationship will stay with their partner for a number of reasons:

- Their **self-esteem** is totally de-

stroyed, and they are made to feel they will never be able to find another person to be with.

- The **cycle of abuse**, meaning the 'honeymoon phase' that follows physical and mental abuse, makes them believe their partner really is sorry and does love them.
- It's dangerous to leave. Women are **70 times more likely to be killed** in the weeks after leaving their abusive partner than at any other time in the relationship, according to the Domestic Violence Intervention program.
- Statistics suggest that almost **5 percent of male homicide victims** each year are killed by an intimate partner.
- They feel personally responsible for their partner, or their own behavior. They are made to feel like **everything that goes wrong is their fault**.
- **They share a life**. Marriages, children, homes, pets, and finances are a big reason victims of abuse feel they can't leave.

How To Observe

Use [#DomesticViolenceAwareness](#) to post on social media. Sometimes, people don't know if

they are really in an abusive relationship because they're used to their partner calling them crazy or making them feel like all the problems are their own fault. Here are a few ways to know if you're in an abusive relationship that you need to get out of.

1. Your partner has **hit you, beat you, or strangled you** in the past.
2. Your partner is **possessive**. They check up on you constantly wondering where you are; they get mad at you for hanging out with certain people if you don't do what they say.
3. Your partner is **jealous**. (A small amount of jealousy is normal and healthy) however, if they accuse you of being unfaithful or isolate you from family or friends, that means the jealousy has gone too far.
4. Your partner **puts you down**. They attack your intelligence, looks, mental health, or capabilities. They blame you for all of their violent outbursts and tell you nobody else will want you if you leave.
5. Your partner **threatens** you or your family.
6. Your partner **physically and sexually abuses you**. If they EVER push, shove, or hit you, or make you have sex with

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them when you don't want to, they are abusing you **(even if it doesn't happen all the time.)**

History

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the "Day of Unity" held in October 1981 and conceived by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The "Day of Unity" soon evolved into a week, and in October of 1987, the first National Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. In 1989 Congress passed Public Law 101-112, officially designating October of that year as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Such legislation has been passed each year since.

As this month comes to an end, the important discussion it brings to the forefront about domestic violence's horrific repercussions should not.

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, please click [here](#) for help. If you are in danger, call 911.

(From [National Day Calendar](#))

What New York is Doing

The Governor has made it clear: keeping New York's families safe—on our streets, in our schools, and now online—is a central priority of her administration. This DVAM, OPDV is building on Governor Hochul's commitments to enhancing the safety of all New Yorkers through New York's landmark digital safety initiatives. Technology-facilitated abuse has become one of the most commonly used tactics by perpetrators of gender-based violence, targeting youth in ways that threaten both their immediate safety and their long-term mental health. Statistics show **7 in 10 young people** reported experiencing technology-facilitated abuse,

and **5% of Middle and High School students** in the United States reported being victims of sextortion.

From sextortion and image-based sexual abuse to cyberstalking and manipulation through AI companions, these harms are escalating rapidly and demand statewide leadership. Under Governor Hochul's direction, New York has already advanced a strong foundation of nation-leading reforms including:

- Youth Mental Health: Governor Hochul's Bell to Bell distraction-free schools policy, the SAFE for Kids Act, and the New York Child Data Privacy Act protect young people from online harms while addressing the youth mental health crisis.
- Prevention & Public Awareness: The [Power Down Speak Up](#) campaign, launched by OPDV in 2025, helps youth, parents, educators, and law enforcement recognize and respond to TFGBV.
- Family Well-Being & Safety: Campaigns such as Get Offline, Get Outside, and Unplug and Play underscore her commitment to ensuring families can thrive offline with safe, healthy alternatives.

Post on Social Media

Follow @NYSOPDV on Facebook, Instagram, X (Twitter), and LinkedIn, and engage with posts by sharing, liking, and commenting using the hashtags [#DVAM2026](#) and [#PowerDownSpeakUp](#).

You can also post the social media graphics below and show the people who follow you that

you're an ally to survivors. When posting, always include information for the NYS Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline, which can be reached 24/7 in most languages: Call 800.942.6906, Text 844.997.2121, or chat at opdv.ny.gov.

Social Media Graphics

Download and use these graphics!

Example: - Graphic #5



You can download the various graphics here as follows:

[Download Graphic 1](#)
[Download Graphic 2](#)
[Download Graphic 3](#)
[Download Graphic 4](#)
[Download Graphic 5](#)

Adopt a Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Policy

Domestic and sexual violence are pervasive in American society and can have a negative impact in the workplace.

OPDV is working to ensure that all state agencies implement best policies and practices for addressing gender-based violence in the workplace that are survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive.

To address the impact of gender-
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based violence in the New York State Workforce, Executive Order 17 requires the **adoption of Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policies by all NYS agencies**. Beginning this year, **Private employers** who seek to do business with New York State as a bidder for competitive contracts **must also implement a Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace policy**. Learn more here:

[Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace](#)

Know the Resources

Did you know that every county in New York State has a [domestic violence program](#)?

Did you know that there are tons of [resources](#) available for victims and survivors from [Orders of Protection](#) and [Address Confidentiality Programs](#) to [Financial Assistance](#) and legal advocacy?

[Talk to an advocate](#) today to learn more about what's available and make sure to share this information with the survivors

in your life.

As technology evolves, so do the resources available for survivors. From services that work to take down non-consensual intimate images, to educational materials that help you understand technology-facilitated abuse, keep up to date on the resources available to combat technology-facilitated gender-based violence.

(From [NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence](#))

Q&A: Leonard Peltier on Life After Prison, His Art, His Story and a Message to Native Youth

by [Native News Online Staff](#), [Native News Online](#), September 19, 2026

Overview:

This Q&A with Leonard Peltier covers his life after nearly five decades in federal prison, his declining eyesight and ongoing search for treatment, his lifelong commitment to art, and an upcoming New York City exhibition featuring artwork he created while incarcerated. Peltier also discusses the forthcoming Netflix documentary about his case, plans for a biography, challenges facing Indian Country, the importance of tribal land recovery and cultural education, and his call for Native youth to defend tribal sovereignty, treaty rights, and Indigenous lands.

Editor's note: Native News Online founder and publisher Levi Rickert interviewed Leonard Peltier on Monday, September 14, 2026.

Peltier, who turned 82 on September 12, discussed life after prison, his health, his artwork, an upcoming exhibition in New York City, a new documentary about his case, plans for a biography, the progress and challenges facing Indian Country, and his message to Native

youth.

Peltier, an Indigenous activist and elder associated with the American Indian Movement (AIM), was released from federal prison on Feb. 18, 2025, after President Joe Biden commuted his sentence to home confinement. Peltier had spent nearly five decades behind bars following his conviction in connection with the 1975 shooting deaths of two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

This Q&A has been edited for clarity and length.

Levi Rickert: Leonard, happy birthday! How did you celebrate it?

Leonard Peltier: Some of the family came down and they brought a couple of cakes and sang "Happy Birthday" and gave some gifts. It was different from any one I've ever had, so it was cool.

Rickert: How's your health?

We're always concerned about your health, and I know our viewers want to know how you're doing.

Peltier: As everyone knows, I lost 82 percent of my vision. Some of it is coming back a little bit. I have people based all over the world looking for treatment for me, and they're all trying to help me get the correct treatment to restore my eyesight.

Rickert: You've been out of Coleman for about a year and a half. How are you doing? Are you feeling good and getting acclimated to a new life?

Peltier: Yes, I feel pretty good. I feel good about it, of course. It's better than that prison cell, that prison period. It's a million times better than laying in a prison cell.

Rickert: There is going to be an art exhibition in New York City beginning October 4. Your son and, I believe, your grandson are taking some of your artwork from prison to the 15th Street Friends Meeting House. Tell us about that art. You

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painted it while you were in prison, correct?

Editor's Note: A selection of Peltier's paintings will be [displayed beginning on October 4](#) at the Fifteenth Street Friends Meeting House in New York City. The works are being transported from North Dakota by Peltier's son and grandson.

Peltier: I've been doing art all through my education period and before that. As people know, when I was young, we didn't have toys. We had to make our own, and we did.

I got very interested in artwork from the beginning because that's a long history of our people. Our people have been doing artwork for thousands of years. We've got cave drawings proving that. We've got buildings and artifacts that also prove it. We're a history of being artists.

We're musicians. We've had some awesome musicians. Some of the biggest rock stars you've seen in the past were Native or half-Native people. So art was very common to all of us.

I used to practice drawing in dirt and stuff like this because we couldn't afford pencils and paper. I continued doing that until I got into school, and then I really got into studying art.

To really begin my art career, I finally got started in activism. I had murals on political walls in Seattle and at our AIM offices and things like that. Then, when I got to prison, I again started to really get into doing my artwork.

Rickert: How many hours a day did you get to paint while you were in prison?

Peltier: Contrary to popular belief,

people say we could do all that stuff ourselves. That's not true. They claim everything was issued to us for free. That also is not true. We had to buy all that stuff.

If we made an order, sometimes it took two or three months to get the order because the stores didn't immediately fill the orders. The prison held it in storage for supposedly research and investigation and stuff like this.

Sometimes it was there two, three or four months before we got our order. And we couldn't draw in our cells. The prisons I was in did not allow us to do our artwork in our cells.

So we had to go to an area where we went and did our hobbies, crafts and stuff like that.

Rickert: My understanding is you produced more than 200 paintings. Is that right?

Peltier: Probably more than that. I think we started keeping track of them after about 200. People were advising me that they were going to be extremely valuable in the future, and we had to start keeping track of them.

So we did. We started keeping count of what I was painting, and I think the count we had was over 200.

Rickert: On Indigenous Peoples' Day, October 12, 2026, the *Free Leonard Peltier* documentary is being released on Netflix.

Peltier: David France is the director. He's a quite well-known director. He makes some very, very good documentaries. He came to me before I got out of prison, and he wanted to do a documentary for me on my case to help me get

out of prison. I told him, "Well, yeah, go ahead, but you've got to do it the way I want it done."

I'm tired of people making these documentaries, and it doesn't really tell the whole facts of the case.

For example, we mentioned some issues like the Myrtle Poor Bear issue. The prosecutor who prosecuted the case made a statement when he was asked directly by the appellate court judges. Basically, he said, "Your Honor, I want you to know that the moment I read her affidavits, there's not one scintilla of truth."

We found out years later he was part of the people that helped her write the statement because she wasn't a real witness. She was created. Nobody wants to present that. Nobody wants to mention that part.

They just say, "Well, Poor Bear might not be a real witness." No. There's no "might" about it. She's not a credible witness.

That was the kind of agreement I made with David: If he would do all that, besides other issues, almost everything, I would go ahead and allow him to make it.

Anyway, he's made it, and it's a pretty good documentary. It'll be out on the 12th.

Rickert: Do you have any plans to write a book yourself and tell the rest of the story?

Peltier: I've been offered to do my biography, so I want to start working on that. But I can't write anymore because I can't see, so I'm going to do it all by tape.

I found someone who's a good writer. I like his style. He's going to

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take my words and put them into a biography.

Rickert: Even with all the money that's flowed into Indian Country from Indian gaming and governmental funds, we still have some of the highest rates of disparities in health care and educational attainment.

What do you think Native Americans should be doing? What should tribes be doing?

Peltier: I'm kind of proud of Turtle Mountain because a lot of our money is going into re-educating the students and teaching them culture and giving them something to do instead of taking that money and just throwing it away.

We're buying back land at enormous increases in the sale of land. In fact, we're doing such a good job on that, the state tried to pass a law here just the last three or four months where we could not buy back our own land.

Rickert: What would you tell Native youth right now? What should they be doing?

Peltier: We need you, kids. We need you to take our place.

I'm getting to be an old man now, even though I don't feel like it. I'm going to be gone soon. I hope another 20 years, but we need people to take our place.

We need people to stand up and say, "No, you're not going to do this. You're not going to take our land, the rest of our land. You're going to give back our land which you took illegally. You're going to give back our rights, our treaty rights."

That's what I want to say to the young people.

WATCH the complete interview:



Army Conducts Ninth Year of Disinterment

by [Levi Rickert](#), [Native News Online](#), May 30, 2026

The U.S. Army will continue its commitment to reunite Native American and Alaska Native families with their loved ones through its ninth year of disinterment operations at Carlisle Barracks, beginning Sept. 1, 2026.

The Army is actively working to help bring healing and closure to five Native American tribes and four Alaska Native families whose children died after being sent to the Carlisle Indian Industrial School and who were buried there more than 100 years ago. On behalf of the Army, the Office of Army Cemeteries (OAC) is scheduled to begin the multi-phase disinterment program in September, with forensic archaeological and anthropological expertise from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The decedents who will be disinterred are: Alaska Natives Mabel Stock, Edward Angalook, Lucy Spaulding, and Tummassak



Grave markers for Indian boarding school students who died during the late 1800s and early 1900s in the Carlisle Cemetery. (Photo/Levi Rickert for Native News Online)

(Tomicock); Peter Howe, Richard Morgan, and Christine Redstone from the Fort Peck Tribes; Frances Bones from the Comanche Nation, Fannie Gibson from the Absentee Shawnee Tribe; Della Atkins from the Shoshone Paiute Tribes; Susie King from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; Margaret Davis from the

Keewenaw Bay Indian Community.

"It is a profound privilege for the Army to continue the Carlisle Barracks Disinterment Program this year," said Karen Durham-Aguilera, Executive Director of Army National Military Cemeteries and the Office of Army Cemeteries. "The unwavering dedication of the five Native American tribes and four Alaska Native families is truly inspiring, and we are honored to support them and the planned return of their children."

In 1879, Carlisle Barracks became the site of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, which was operated by the Department of the Interior until 1918. The school enrolled nearly 8,000 Native American children, with representation from over 100 Native American tribes from across the nation.

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OAC will disinter and transfer custody to families and tribes able to establish the closest family link between the decedent and requester, following Army Regulation 290-5.

The transfer of custody will enable families and tribes to return these children to an interment location of their choice. The Army will reimburse families for their travel to participate in the disinterment process, a subsequent transfer ceremony and the cost of transport and reinterment of their children.

“The Office of Army Cemeteries team is inspired by the strength and courage from the Native American and Alaska Native Tribes as they make this journey to bring their children home,” said Director of the Office of Army Cemeteries Renea Yates. “Navigating the disinterment and return process requires the highest level of professional care and compassion and we are committed to providing the expert assistance needed to return their loved ones to their families and communities.”

The Carlisle Barracks Post Cemetery will be closed to visitors starting Aug. 14, when site set-up begins, until the completion of the scheduled disinterments, tentatively scheduled for Oct. 12. Out of respect for the families and tribes, and consistent with Army cemetery protocol, the entire cemetery area will be enclosed with privacy fencing. Access to the cemetery will be restricted to the OAC staff along with tribal members and their families.

Statement from the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition on the Repatriation of Twelve Carlisle Indian Industrial School Students

by [Native News Online Staff](#), [Native News Online](#), September 2, 2026

The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) released the following statement on Tuesday, September 1, 2026:

The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) honors the families, Alaska Native communities, and Tribal Nations who have worked to bring their relatives home from the Carlisle Barracks Post Cemetery.

On September 1, 2026, the U.S. Army intends to begin the repatriation of 12 Native American students who died between 1879 and 1918 while attending the Carlisle Indian Industrial School. Since 2017, the remains of 58 Native American children have been returned from the Carlisle Barracks Post Cemetery to their families and communities. This act is in response to requests from the closest living descendants, families, Alaska Native communities, and Tribal

Nations, with the remains to be returned to private cemeteries chosen by the families and communities.

The relatives being returned home are:

- Alaska Natives: Mabel Stock, Edward Angalook, Lucy Spaulding and Tummassak (Tomicock)
- Fort Peck Tribes: Peter Howe, Richard Morgan and Christine Redstone
- Comanche Nation: Frances Bones
- Absentee Shawnee Tribe: Fannie Gibson
- Shoshone-Paiute Tribes: Della Atkins
- Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians: Susie King
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community: Margaret Davis

“For generations, families and communities have carried the

grief of children who were taken from their homes and never returned. We call on institutions entrusted with the care of Native children’s remains and cultural belongings to carry out this work with transparency, respect, consultation and accountability. These children were loved, they mattered, and their lives and stories must never be forgotten.” – **NABS Chief Executive Officer, Nikki Santos (Coeur d’Alene Tribe).**

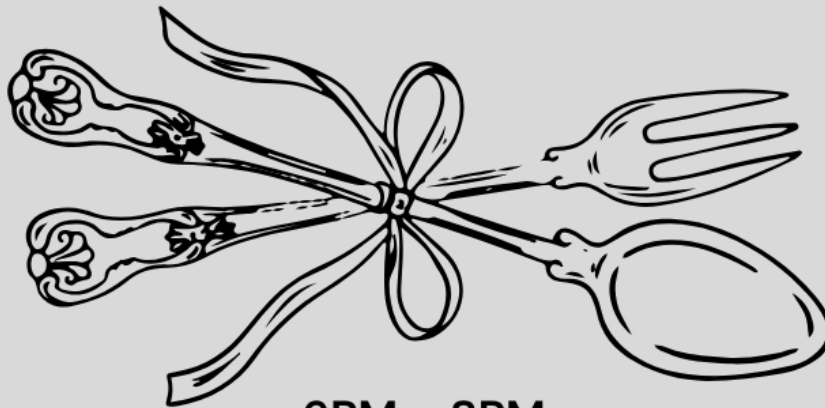
For NABS, the return of these children is a powerful reminder that the history of Indian boarding schools is not simply a chapter in the past. The impacts of the boarding school system continue to be felt by survivors, descendants, families, Alaska Native, American Indian, and Native Hawaiian communities to this day.



A GATHERING TO CELEBRATE THE NACS CLUBHOUSE COMMUNITY



CLUBHOUSE DINNER PARTY



6PM – 8PM

DINNER, GAMES, PRIZES

10/7
NIAGARA COUNTY
1522 MAIN ST,
NIAGARA FALLS, NY

10/8
ERIE COUNTY
1005 GRANT ST
BUFFALO, NY

RSVP BY 10/1

NIAGARA COUNTY RSVP:
SHAWN (716) 449-6472

ERIE COUNTY RSVP:
JES (716) 449-6405



REDISCOVERING OUR ONKWEHON:WE TRADITIONS

ABOUT US

ROOTS is here to increase the availability of cultural education programs and resources for the urban Haudenosaunee people. We aim to implement opportunities to learn about Haudenosaunee traditions and practices through an increased number of Haudenosaunee cultural programs

CLASSES

arts/cooking classes
cultural speaker series
elder and youth information exchange
community socials
singing and dancing classes
yearly marketplace

GOAL

The long-term community goal would be that all Native Americans have access to opportunity, knowledge, and the ability to incorporate traditional concepts and teachings within their families and communities

Arriana Smith
ROOTS Project Specialist
asmith@nacswny.org

Colleen Casali
ROOTS Project Coordinator
ccasali@nacswny.org

Dakota Jonathan
ROOTS Project Specialist
djonathan@nacswny.org

FUNDED BY: THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-
ADMINISTRATION FOR NATIVE AMERICANS

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



Save the Date for Our Giving Thanks Gala

During Native American Heritage Month

This Year's Theme: "Giving Thanks to the Animals"

Thursday, November 5, 2026

5:30pm

Wurlitzer Events

908 Niagara Falls Blvd

North Tonawanda, NY 14120

The evening will feature:

- Hors d'oeuvres & duo entree dinner
- A celebrity emcee
- Inspiring stories
- Special recognitions
- Basket raffles & more



Animal Clans

Air: Heron, Snipe, Hawk

Land: Deer, Wolf, Bear

Water: Beaver, Turtle, Eel

Join Native American Community Services this November for an evening of community, culture, thankfulness, and celebration as we honor the animals who have sustained, taught, and guided our people through generations. Together, we will gather to reflect on the relationships between people, the natural world, and the gifts that make life possible while celebrating our 51st year of strengthening individuals, families, and communities in our 17-county service area of NYS.

For more info or to register:



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

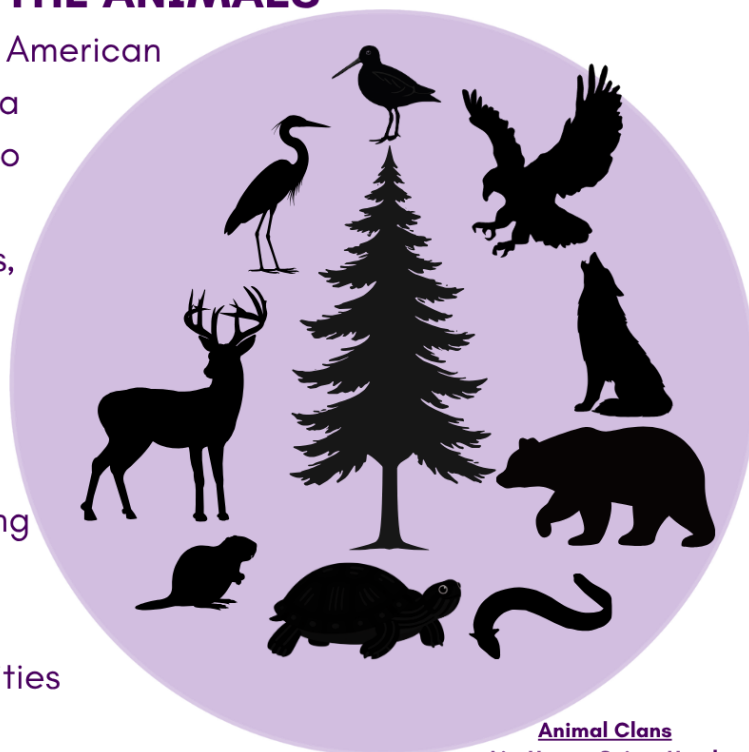


Show Your Support for NACS at Our Giving Thanks Gala

Thursday, November 5, 2026 at 5:30 pm
Wurlitzer Events
908 Niagara Falls Blvd,
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

THEME: GIVING THANKS TO THE ANIMALS

Join NACS this November during Native American Heritage Month as a Giving Thanks Gala sponsor and help advance our mission to strengthen, empower, and advocate for Native individuals, families, communities, and all lives who come into our care, utilizing Haudenosaunee Good Mind principles and practices. Select tiers also include gala tickets or a reserved table for 8, giving an opportunity to bring clients, colleagues, family, or friends together while you demonstrate your commitment to NACS and the communities in our 17-county service area of NYS.



Animal Clans

Air: Heron, Snipe, Hawk

Land: Deer, Wolf, Bear

Water: Beaver, Turtle, Eel

Gala Sponsorship Tiers

Platinum Arrow Sponsor - \$10,000

Gold Arrow Sponsor - \$7,500

Silver Arrow Sponsors - \$5,000

Digital Production Sponsor - \$4,000

Bronze Arrow Sponsors - \$3,000

Gala Stage Sponsor - \$2,000

Event Photography Sponsor - \$1,750

Specialty Mocktail Sponsor - \$1,500

Corporate Table Sponsor - \$1,250

SCAN
ME!



Contact: Marc Isaacs, Marketing & Development
Specialist, marketing@nacswny.org

NATIONAL TRADES THURSDAY EVENT

TRADES THURSDAY BUFFALO

Connecting Local Service Business Owners & Trade Professionals

Join Event Host **Pattie Cook** (*Elite Cleaning Helpers LLC*) and **Native American Community Services** for a local networking evening in celebration of nationwide Trades Day! Connect with fellow service business owners across Western NY, share real-world experience, and build valuable local partnerships.

DATE & TIME

Thursday, Oct 1, 2026

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM EST

LOCATION

Native American Community Services

1005 Grant Street, Buffalo, NY 14207

ADMISSION

100% Free to Attend

Light Refreshments Provided

FOOD & DRINKS

Optional Potluck

Feel free to bring a dish to share.

This is an alcohol-free event.

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

- **Build Local Connections:** Connect with fellow small service business owners and trade professionals across Western NY.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** Share practical experience, industry wisdom, and strategies for solving business challenges.
- **Collaborate & Grow:** Explore referral opportunities and work together to help build a stronger local business community.



EVENT HOST

Host Pattie Cook

Owner, Elite Cleaning Helpers LLC



Call/Text: (716) 935-8384 |



pattiecook@elitecleaninghelpers.com

POWERED BY HOUSECALL PRO • ELITE CLEANING HELPERS LLC • NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES



NATIVE PROFESSIONALS NETWORK COMES TO KAVINOKY THEATRE



**Connect with an emphasis on
creative professions and workplaces**



Saturday, November 14, 2026
12:00pm–2:00pm



D'Youville Kavinsky Theatre
320 Porter Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14201

PURPOSE:

Native Professionals Network (NPN), run by Native American Community Services (NACS), welcomes Native professionals and Native students from area colleges to gather for an afternoon of connecting and networking at Kavinsky Theatre—at no cost—with an added invitation to stay and watch a performance of a bold reimagining of Shakespeare's iconic political thriller *Julius Caesar* to follow.

PROGRAM:

- Engaging activities, introductions, networking, etc.
- A variety of refreshments available
- Two guest speakers (10–15 minutes each), including a Kavinsky Theatre representative

BENEFITS:

- Connect with fellow Native professionals and students
- Expand your professional network
- Exchange ideas and experiences
- Build relationships with potential mentors, colleagues, and future collaborators
- Enjoy an engaging cultural experience

TICKET DISCOUNT OFFER:

Stay to watch the matinee performance for a discounted price—or return the following Thursday, Friday, or Saturday (November 19–21) to see one of its final shows.

REGISTRATION:

RSVP by emailing Marc Isaacs, Marketing & Development Specialist, at marketing@nacswny.org by Friday, November 6, 2026.

THANK YOU TO THE BUFFALO BILLS FOR INVITING NACS TO PRESEASON

NACS COMMUNITY MEMBERS EXPERIENCE THE NEW HIGHMARK STADIUM

Orchard Park, NY On August 27, 2026, members of the NACS community, along with several staff members, had the opportunity to experience the excitement of the Buffalo Bills' preseason matchup against the Pittsburgh Steelers at the new Highmark Stadium, ahead of its inaugural regular season. Through the Buffalo Bills Community Ticket Program, NACS was generously provided 30 tickets, allowing members of the communities we serve to experience the stadium for the first time. Guests also received food and beverage vouchers and a special commemorative pennant. The Bills rallied for a thrilling 28-27 victory, making the evening even more memorable. NACS is deeply thankful to the Buffalo Bills for this generous opportunity and for helping make this exciting new community landmark accessible to people who may not otherwise have had the chance to attend.





27

▶ 28



PIT

BUF

Team	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
PIT	14	0	7	6	27
BUF	3	7	7	11	28



Here's to a memorable first season at the new Highmark Stadium! Go Bills!



PARENTING *Circle*

WHO CAN JOIN?

Native American parents of youth aged 12 to 17 residing in the urban areas of Erie and Niagara County.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Parents attend 10 weekly in-person sessions
- Parents and youth share reflections about their experiences
- Our program offers two groups:
 - One group enhances parents' communication skills to reduce risky youth behaviors
 - One group provides strategies to improve family health practices



**Scan QR Code
to Register**

<https://forms.gle/Q3RQM7VSWbFHeiT67>

Participation is voluntary

ASU IRB IRB # STUDY00016808 | Approval Period 3/17/2023 – 1/15/2027

HIGHLIGHTS

- Parents can earn up to \$170 in gift cards
- Youth can get up to \$130 in gift cards
- Free childcare during session
- Food offering each session



CONTACT US TO REGISTER



Peter Jacobs



(716) 339-1831



pjacobs@nacswny.org



Nur Nahar



(716) 874-4460



nnahar@nacswny.org

BIFF LEGACY GALA: DEAD MAN W/ GARY FARMER

BIFF 2026 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026 • 6:00 PM

NORTH PARK THEATRE

SCREENING FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION AND
LIVE AUDIENCE Q+A WITH STAR GARY FARMER

NATIVE AMERICAN

HERITAGE MONTH

HONORING THE PAST, CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE



Showcase Your Talents at the Seneca Market! This is the perfect occasion to display and sell your crafts to thousands of guests at the Seneca Market during Native American Heritage Month!

The **Seneca Market** will be held on multiple dates during November at **Seneca Niagara** and **Seneca Allegany**.

Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 • 9 AM – 5 PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 • 9 AM – 5 PM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9 • 11 AM – 8 PM
COMMUNITY DINNER & SOCIAL

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 13 • 9 AM – 5 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 • 9 AM – 5 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20 • 9 AM – 8 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 • 9 AM – 8 PM

Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6
9 AM - 5 PM

ATTENTION NATIVE VENDORS

**SPACE IS
LIMITED!**

APPLICATIONS AND WAIVERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9.

Contact: **Dara Nephew** | (716) 535-9584
Email: DNephew@SenecaCasinos.com

NATIVE AMERICAN

HERITAGE MONTH

HONORING THE PAST, CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE



SENECA MARKET

Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 • 9 AM – 5 PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 • 9 AM – 5 PM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9 • 11 AM – 8 PM

COMMUNITY DINNER & SOCIAL • 5 PM – 8 PM

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 13 • 9 AM – 5 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 • 9 AM – 5 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20 • 9 AM – 8 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 • 9 AM – 8 PM

Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino • Hotel Lobby

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6 • 9 AM – 5 PM

HAUDENOSAUNEE DANCERS

Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino • Hotel Lobby

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 • 1 PM & 3:30 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13 • 1 PM & 3:30 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 • 1 PM

Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino • Bus Lobby

SATURDAYS, NOVEMBER 7 & 14 • 4 PM – 5 PM

Seneca Buffalo Creek Casino

Gaming Floor Entryway

THURSDAYS, NOVEMBER 5, 12 & 19 • 6 PM

SENECA MARKET & TRADITIONAL DANCERS

Shop Native crafters & artisans and enjoy traditional Indigenous dance.

Visit SenecaCasinos.com for the full schedule of events.

NATIVE AMERICAN

HERITAGE MONTH

HONORING THE PAST, CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE



**MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 9
5 PM – 8 PM**

Seneca Niagara Event Center

***FREE TO
ATTEND!***

COMMUNITY DINNER & SOCIAL

All are welcome at our annual Community Dinner & Social featuring traditional Native cuisine. Enjoy Haudenosaunee social songs & dances and talented Native artisans & craft vendors.

Visit SenecaCasinos.com for the full schedule of events.

NATIVE AMERICAN

HERITAGE MONTH

HONORING THE PAST, CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE



We are seeking multiple Native Food vendors to provide and deliver food for the Annual Native American Heritage Month Community Dinner & Social on Monday, November 9 at the Seneca Niagara Event Center.

MENU ITEMS NEEDED:

HULL CORN SOUP	7 CANNERS
ROAST WHITE CORN SOUP	5 CANNERS
FRY BREAD	1,300 SMALL
MASHED RED BEANS WITH MEAT	25 LBS.
MASHED RED BEANS VEGETARIAN	10 LBS.
STRAWBERRY JUICE	25 GALLONS

NATIVE FOODS NEEDED

**SEEKING
FOOD
VENDORS**

Must be a current vendor or willing to become a vendor with Seneca Gaming Corporation.
Please send a price list to Nikki Seneca by **Friday, October 9.**

Email: NSeneca@senecacasinos.com

For questions, please call: 716-807-2704

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE



ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

158 PEARL STREET
(716) 858-8000

- MEDICAID LINKAGE
- CASE MANAGEMENT
- SNAP/TANF/HEAP
- LOW COST/NO COST PHONE PROGRAMS

SHELTERS & HOUSING

HARBOR HOUSE

241 GENESEE STREET, BUFFALO
716-842-4184 OR 716-842-4186
CASE MANAGEMENT 7:00AM - 3:00PM

CITY MISSION (MEN'S SHELTER)

100 E. TUPPER STREET, BUFFALO
716-854-8181

CORNERSTONE MANOR (WOMEN & CHILDREN'S SHELTER)

150 E. NORTH STREET, BUFFALO
716-854-8181 (EXT. 100)

LITTLE PORTION FRIARY

1305 MAIN STREET, BUFFALO
716-882-5705



Information provided by:
Haircuts For Those In Need
Free haircut schedule on reverse side
www.haircutsforthoseinneed.org
716-201-0287

FOOD & CLOTHING RESOURCES

FRIENDS OF NIGHT PEOPLE

394 HUDSON STREET, BUFFALO
716-884-5375

TRI-COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

722 TERRACE BLVD, DEPEW
716-255-3422

FEEDMORE WNY

60 DINGENS STREET, BUFFALO
716-822-0919

RESOURCE COUNCIL OF WNY

347 E FERRY STREET, BUFFALO
716-783-8259

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE RESOURCES

BESTSELF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH*

716-884-0888

HORIZON HEALTH SERVICES*

716-831-1800

SPECTRUM HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES*

716-884-5797M

ENDEAVOR HEALTH SERVICES*

716-896-7350

EVERGREEN HEALTH*

716-847-2441

ADDICT 2 ADDICT

716-836-2726

SAVE THE MICHAELS

716-984-8375

*PLEASE CALL REGARDING
WALK-IN HOUR INFORMATION

CRISIS RESOURCES

ERIE COUNTY CRISIS SERVICES

716-834-3131

HOPE HOUSE WARM LINE

716-434-8072

SUICIDE PREVENTION LINE

988

211 WNY IS YOUR FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL LINK TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

FREE HAIR CARE

**NOW OFFERING BASIC PROTECTIVE STYLES
(SIMPLE BRAIDS)**

Provided by:

Haircuts For Those In Need

Schedule:



Friday 8/28~ NW Buffalo Community Center Back To School Event ~ 11am-1pm

155 Lawn Ave. Buffalo, NY 14207

Sunday 8/30 ~ Teen EmpowerFest ~ 2pm-6pm

Johnnie B Wiley, 1100 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo, NY, 14208

Monday 9/7 ~ Genesis Center / St. Simon's Church~ 4-7pm

200 Cazenovia St, Buffalo, NY 14210

Wednesday 9/9 ~ Best Self Recovery Center - Community event~ 1-5pm

69 Linwood Ave. Buffalo, NY 14209

Friday 9/18 ~ Project Homeless Connect ~ 10a-4pm

Buffalo Convention Center 153 Franklin St. Buffalo, NY 14202

Friday 9/25 ~ Buffalo Stand Down Veterans Event ~ 10a-1pm

American Legion Post 1041 - 533 Amherst St. Buffalo, NY 14207

Wednesday 10/14 ~ Buffalo City Mission ~ 3-6pm

100 E Tupper St, Buffalo, NY 14203

Monday 10/26 ~ Friends of Night People ~ 3-7pm

394 Hudson St. Buffalo, NY 14201

Wednesday 11/11 ~ Best Self Recovery Center - Community event~ 3-7pm

69 Linwood Ave. Buffalo, NY 14209

Monday 11/23 ~ Genesis Center / St. Simon's Church~ 4-7pm

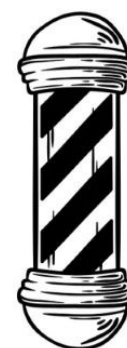
200 Cazenovia St, Buffalo, NY 14210

Monday 12/7 ~ Niagara Falls Community Missions 11a-2pm

1570 Buffalo Ave, Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Monday 12/14 ~ Buffalo City Mission ~ 3-6pm

100 E Tupper St, Buffalo, NY 14203



For More Info
or To Donate
Scan Here



All events are first come, first serve.

All haircuts provided use disposable supplies and disinfected tools.

Follow us on social media @haircutsforthoseinneed

To volunteer or for more information reach out below:

www.haircutsforthoseinneed.org ~ 716-201-0287 - info@haircutsforthoseinneed.org

Haircuts For Those In Need, Inc.

P.O. Box 153 Tonawanda, NY 14151

Employment Opportunity



www.nacswny.org

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

MICHAEL N. MARTIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Family Preservation & Strengthening Caseworker- Erie County

Type: Full-time/ hourly/ non-exempt

Salary/Range: \$19.00- \$21.00 / hour

Office: 1005 Grant Street, Buffalo, NY 14207

SUMMARY:

The Family Preservation & Strengthening 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 the 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.
- 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 strong communication with the family working toward stabilizing and strengthening the family unit, with regular face-to-face contact.
- Maintain confidentiality of sensitive information.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, AND SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree in human services or related field of study required with experience in child welfare.
- Knowledge of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), Federal and State regulations, as well as mandated reporting requirements is preferred.
- Intermediate computer skills and understanding of office applications including MS Office Suite.
- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, and communication skills.
- Must be flexible to evening and weekend hours as needed.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements.
- Familiarity with and sensitivity toward local Native American communities.
- Must have a clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300k.

BENEFITS:

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

For consideration send resume to: humanresources@nacswny.org

Employment Opportunity



www.nacswny.org

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960 James St. Syracuse, NY 13203 • Phone: 315-322-8754 • Fax: TBD

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Healthy Generations Home Visitor

Type: Full-time/ hourly/ non-exempt

Salary Range: \$19.00-\$21.00 / hour

Office: Buffalo Office – 1005 Grant St., Buffalo NY, 14207

SUMMARY:

The Healthy Generations Home Visitor will be responsible for supporting the development and delivery of family-centered, evidence-based services to expectant mothers and families with young children within NACS service areas. During the first year of program, the focus will be on completing the Community Needs and Readiness Assessment (CNRA), strengthening community partnerships, conducting outreach and interviews, developing an Implementation Plan and preparing for direct service delivery to begin in February 2027. All efforts will be performed with the understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Participates in the Community Needs and Readiness Assessment (CNRA) for maternal, infant, and early childhood health home visiting.
- Conducts community outreach, and engagement, to gather input from families, community partners, and stakeholders.
- Participates in planning meetings, training, and implementation activities to prepare for service launch.
- Provides home visits, assessments, and case management services to families enrolled in the Healthy Generations program.
- Delivers effective parenting practices using program-approved, evidence-based models.
- Completes all necessary paperwork related to the provision of Home Visitor Services within two business days of the completed home visit/contact.
- Consults with the Deputy Director of Services, Manager of Family Services, and Healthy Generations Coordinator on a regular basis and for all decisions involving mandated Child Protected Services reporting.
- Refers families/children to community resources and/or other programs at NACS or other organizations.
- Maintains a positive relationship with support networks and community-based organizations for provision of referrals and other support for clients.
- Ensures the program remains compliant with all contractual obligations and requirements.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, AND SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree in a human services or related field of study. Work experience may replace some of the education requirements at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- Lived experience as a parent, caregiver, or in supporting families and children is preferred.
- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, conflict resolution and communication skills.
- Interpersonal skills to work cooperatively and effectively with individuals, groups, and diverse populations.
- Intermediate computer skills: ability to use Microsoft Office Suite.
- Knowledge of local Native communities and culturally responsive or trauma-informed practices is strongly preferred.
- Ability to become certified in CPR & First Aid. Must be able to do medium lifting.
- Must be flexible to evening and weekend hours as needed.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements including a clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300k.

Employment Opportunity

BENEFITS:

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

For consideration send resume to: humanresources@nacswny.org

Employment Opportunity



www.nacswny.org

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960 James St. Syracuse, NY 13203 • Phone: 315-322-8754 • Fax: TBD

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Workforce Development Coordinator

Type: Full-time/ hourly/ non-exempt

Salary Range: \$26.00 - \$28.00 / hour

Office: Buffalo (travel is required- Niagara Falls, Rochester, Syracuse)

SUMMARY:

The Workforce Development Coordinator is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the component while assisting community members to further their education, upgrade job skills, obtain employment and secure a more improved financial status. Program areas include helping community meet basic needs (Food Pantry), Workforce Development, financial literacy/management, digital equity, and community asset building. WDC must be flexible to evening, weekend schedules (when necessary) and travel. The Workforce Development component provides services to 17 counties. All efforts will be performed with the understanding of and in accordance with Good Mind principles, while also adhering to the principles of Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Direct supervision of the Workforce Development component staff including establishing staff responsibilities and procedures necessary to attain contract goals and objectives.
- Evaluates staff performances and completes systematic, regularly scheduled personnel evaluations.
- Follow Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) guidelines to determine local service delivery techniques and methodologies.
- Develops an outreach action plan to successfully recruit and retain participants and employers into the program.
- Travels to all NACS' offices and service areas as necessary to provide support, supervision, trainings, partnership meetings, and outreach events as needed.
- Reports to and collaborates with the Manager of Economic Empowerment to ensure compliance with all contractual goals, objectives, and requirements.
- Assist the Manager of Economic Empowerment to prepare, submit, and secure additional grant proposals to continue or expand funding for the component program.
- Conducts regular reviews of case files and documentation to ensure high standards of care and service delivery.
- 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.
- Must do Workforce Development specialist responsibilities which include conducting initial intake and comprehensive testing to determine client eligibility and needs, develop an Individual Employment Plan (IEP) with client.
- Develops and nurtures relationships with employers for on-the-job training agreements and work experience opportunities for clients.
- Maintain necessary documentation and ensures the timely completion of all necessary recordkeeping, including the utilization of database systems.
- Ensures the program remains compliant with all contractual obligations and requirements.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS, AND SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree from accredited institution with supervisory experience or relevant role. Work experience may replace some of the education requirements at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- Knowledge of local area service providers.
- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, conflict resolution and communication skills.

Employment Opportunity

- Interpersonal skills to work cooperatively and effectively with individuals, groups, and diverse populations.
- Computer skills: ability to use Microsoft Office Suite.
- Familiarity with and sensitivity toward local Native American communities.
- Ability to become certified in CPR & First Aid. Must be able to do medium lifting.
- Must be flexible to evening and weekend hours as needed.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements including a clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300k.

BENEFITS:

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

For consideration send resume to: humanresources@nacswny.org

Employment Opportunity



www.nacswny.org

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

MICHAEL N. MARTIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1005 Grant St. Buffalo, NY 14207 • Phone: 716-874-4460 • Fax: 716-874-1874

1522 Main St. Niagara Falls, NY 14305 • Phone: 716-299-0914 • Fax: 716-299-0903

76 West Ave. Lockport, NY 14094 • Phone: 716-302-3035 • Fax: 716-302-3037

100 College Ave. Suite 200, Rochester, NY 14607 • Phone: 585-514-3984 • Fax: TBD

960 James St. Syracuse, NY 13203 • Phone: 315-322-8754 • Fax: TBD

Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Workforce Development Specialist

Type: Part-time (20 hours per week) / hourly/ non-exempt

Salary/Range: \$19.00-\$20.00 / hour

Office: 1005 Grant Street, Buffalo, NY 14207 – 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 as needed. All efforts will be performed with the 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 in 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, AND SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree in human services or related field of study preferred, with two (2) years' experience in workforce development including supervision and program management.
- Work experience may replace some of the education requirements at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- Knowledge of local area service providers.
- Effective problem solving, organization, time management, and communication skills.
- Intermediate computer skills and understanding of office applications including MS Office Suite.
- Familiarity with and sensitivity toward local Native American communities.
- Must be available for scheduled part-time hours, occasional evening or weekend availability may be required.
- Must pass all background checks and pre-hire requirements including a clean and valid NYS driver's license and carry minimum auto liability coverage of \$100k/\$300k.

BENEFITS:

- Paid Time Off (PTO)
- Mileage Reimbursement

For consideration send resume to: humanresources@nacswny.org

Nya:wëh, Thanks for reading!

Please share this newsletter with family, friends, and coworkers. If you know of anyone who would like to receive the month NACS News by email, please have them send their first name, last name, and current email address to: gghosen@nacswny.org

You can also look for our newsletter on our [website](#).

FUNDED BY: Erie County Department of Social Services; New York State Office of Children & Family Services; New York State Office of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Services; Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo; National Urban Indian Family Coalition; Niagara County Department of Social Services, Niagara County Office of the Aging; United Way of Niagara, US Department of Labor; Administration for Native Americans (ANA); Indigenous Justice Circle; Jessie Smith Noyes 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, Tribal Home Visiting Program, Administration for Children and Families, Health and Human Services as well as businesses, foundations and caring individuals.

I'd like to help NACS continue it's Tradition of Caring...

PLEASE ACCEPT MY CONTRIBUTION OF: ☐\$5 ☐\$10 ☐\$25 ☐\$50 ☐\$100 ☐OTHER:

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