Ain Dah Yung Center
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2015

Our Mission
Ain Dah Yung Center PROVIDES A HEALING PLACE for AMERICAN INDIAN YOUTH AND FAMILIES to thrive in safety and wholeness.
Minnesota Department of Health:
- Child Safety & Permanency Division
- Alcohol & Drug Abuse Division

GOVERNMENT FUNDING
- Otto Bremer Foundation
  St Paul Branch
- TRIBAL SUPPORT, FOUNDATIONS, BUSINESSES AND CORPORATIONS
  VALERIE LARSON – PRESIDENT
  BOARD OF DIRECTORS
  - Anonymous
  - Roberta Patrow
  - Nancy Andrews
  - Pipestone Circle
  - Quill Circle:
  - Pipestone Circle:
  - categories:

The other Circles of Support we cherish are those individuals that share in our vision to help ensure and understand the respect, kindness and understanding. Because of them, I know that I will soon come to know and respect, kindness and understanding. Because of them, I know that I will someday be able to take care of myself, when I turned 16, I packed my bags and head- back to the Ain Dah Yung Center. I was eventually admitted into the Ain Dah Yung Center’s Youth Lodge, their transitional living program, which was an amazing experience. Their programs included lots of meetings and rules, which at first was annoying, but as time passed, I got used to it and the staff encouraged and supported me in all my efforts.

I started getting better in high school
I learned how to manage money and set a budget.
I learned how to take responsibility for myself.
I even went to my junior prom. The school had a dance and when I stood up at the main room, they dropped me off. I ended up having a fantastic time and even rode home in a limousine.

I am truly honored to have this opportunity. Telling my story has brought me hope and a new future.

The Ain Dah Yung Center continues to be a cornerstone for community healing. We are committed to ensuring that American Indian youth in the Twin Cities Area retain access to their Indigenous rights of community belonging and cultural identity.

The following values continue to guide our actions and will shape our future:

Safety always comes first
We treat each other with love, respect, kindness and understanding.
Native language, traditions, spirituality and storytelling are the keys to healing and thriving in our community.
We are committed to integrity and accountability as stewards of community resources.
Individuals and families help to weather many storms and keep perspective.
We are all as diverse as the world, with high standards and achieve.

Ain Dah Yung Center PROGRAMS
Our Emergency Shelter provides culturally specific emergency shelter to American Indian youth who are homeless, runaway, in family crisis, or involved with juvenile corrections. Services include emergency and short-term shelter, crisis intervention, case management, advocacy, information and referrals, access to medical/bilingual, counseling, case management, and community education. The Ain Dah Yung Center is the only 24-hour emergency shelter facility for any youth in Ramsey County and the East Metro, and is the only American Indian youth emergency shelter available to American Indian youth in the Twin Cities metro area. While there are other youth serving shelters, we are unique in our ability to serve American Indian youth in our area. This enables us to skillfully bridge groups together, of critical importance to our Native families and a benefit to all families in general. In 2014, 185 youth were provided with emergency shelter. 100% of youth were offered in-house individual and/or group therapy.

Ninijaawin (the Children’s Program) is a multifaceted program focusing heavily on engagement and prevention—working to ground American Indian youth in Native culture while designed to combat chemical and cultural disengagement, teen dating violence, gang relations, sex trafficking and other self-compromising behaviors among at-risk youth. In 2014, Ninijaawin served 3,077 children.

Our Family Advocacy programs support families through group learning, increasing positive social networks, connecting families to cultural teachings and healing, case management, alternative referrals, resource acquisition, and general family support. Preservation and Reintegration services were provided to 16 families and a total of 47 children and served 27 families through Parenting Skills Group in 2014.

In 2014, the Children’s Mental Health Case Managers provided case management to 36 youth and their families.

Family Preservation and Reunification: Our Family Advocacy Program uses traditional American Indian teachings and an area-based approach that builds on the strengths of families and was established in response to the disproportionate placement of American Indian children outside the home. We provide family preservation and reunification services that combine self-help, professional intervention, and cultural empowerment in order to strengthen families experiencing a process of family reunification. These programs are designed to strengthen parenting partnerships. Our family advocacy program supports families through group learning, increasing positive social networks, connecting families to cultural teachings and healing, case management, alternative referrals, resource acquisition, and general family support. Preservation and Reintegration services were provided to 16 families and a total of 47 children and served 27 families through Parenting Skills Group in 2014.

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Native American Children, Youth, and Families are designed to help American Indian families together and stay by providing the knowledge, skills and resources they need to provide a safe, healthy environment for their children. Programs and services include:

- Rammy County Children’s Mental Health Case Management: Provides support, case management and assistance to coordinating resources for families with children who have mental health needs. In 2014, the Children’s Mental Health Case Managers provided case management to 36 youth and their families.

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