



Fatherhood is Sacred/Motherhood is Sacred training in Mesa, AZ: (From Left) Albert M. Pooley, Program founder; Vicki Rutledge, Director SFN ICW; Juan York, SFN Child Welfare Specialist II; John Fowler, Torres Martinez; Tribal TANF and Cash Johnson, Tribal TANF. (Photo provided by ICW)

Sac and Fox Nation ICW Staff Attend Training in Mesa, Arizona

The first week of February, the Staff of Sac and Fox Nation Indian Child Welfare attended the Fatherhood is Sacred/Motherhood is Sacred training in Mesa, AZ. By and through this training, the Sac and Fox Nation is now a certified agency which will enable the Indian Child Welfare staff to facilitate training. The program is in development stages and training to the public will be available soon.

Overview

Native American Fatherhood & Families Association (NAFFA) is an Arizona based non-profit 501(C) (3) organization founded in 2002. This organization began with the purpose of strengthening Native American families through responsible fatherhood. Native Americans are a great people and they come from greatness, a great heritage, history and culture. We have to be reminded of it at times, but when we take hold of those principles of greatness, we harness the power of change.

Greatness must start and be taught and cultivated in the home!

The Need

There is an immediate need to bring Native American men back to strengthening families by

- Understanding that they are not the problem but rather the solution
- Their innate leadership abilities and understanding of the sacredness of families
- Taking the lead in keeping families together

Native fathers are the greatest untapped resource for their families and communities. With correct information and support they can find their true potential. Desperation can be transformed into hope and discouragement into self-worth and purpose. To truly honor the past we must improve upon the present by having hope and confidence in our fathers to strengthen families and bring unity to our Native Nations.

THE SOLUTION

As a representative of the indigenous people of this great land NAFFA is positioned to take the leadership role in restoring the vision of the importance and value of families back to native people. Families are the heart of Native Ameri-

can cultures. There is no work more important than fatherhood and motherhood. From this position, NAFFA initiated the Fatherhood Is Sacred program designed to strengthen individuals and families by laying a strong foundation of direction and purpose in life. By filling life with Hope – Gratitude and Understanding there is a powerful effect in attitude and behavior change. It inspires and ignites self-motivation in bring that change to a person.

At the request of many of the men in the Fatherhood Is Sacred Program, and their desire for the mothers to learn the same principles they were learning, thus, Motherhood Is Sacred was developed. By sharing this vision between men and women, they work together to bring happiness and safety to their families.

THE CHALLENGE

Little attention has been paid to the unique needs of the Native men as they struggled to become valuable family participants. NAFFA is striving to change that. In recent years most services and programs focused primarily on the needs of women and children.

Our programs are being embraced by Native people across this country, recommended by community and government agencies, utilized by tribal programs and recognized by the White House as a leading resource for their fatherhood initiatives. America is feeling the impact of the erosion and breakup of the family and its great effects on society. Native Americans are feeling this as well.

NAFFA has trained and certified over 300 facilitators in the Fatherhood/Motherhood Is Sacred programs, who lead a 12 week course offered to mothers and fathers in over 90 tribes and 12 urban centers across the United States. Since 2002 approximately 9,000 Native fathers and mothers have participated in Fatherhood/Motherhood Is Sacred with outstanding results. NAFFA is trusted and respected among Native Americans and their communities.

Vicki Rutledge
Director, Sac and Fox Nation
Indian Child Welfare
918-968-3526 ext. 1713

Sac and Fox Nation Hosts State Tribal Victims Services Roundtable Discussions

Vicki Wood, Director Sac and Fox Nation Indian Child Welfare

As part of the ongoing outreach initiative from the District Attorneys Council to Native American violent crime victims, Brian Hendrix, State-Tribal Crime Victim Liaison, District Attorneys Council, planned and presented the fourth in a series of State Tribal Victims Services Roundtable Discussions. The idea behind these meetings is to provide an informal forum in which tribal victims' services providers, victim witness coordinators/victim witness assistants, and area victims' service providers can meet, talk about respective services offered, and discuss any gaps in delivery of resources/support to victims.

In addition, this discussion included a presentation highlighting VOCA/VAWA and other grant funding available through

the District Attorneys Council.

The Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma hosted the roundtable discussion on Tuesday, February 18, 2014. The following tribes were invited to attend this regional meeting: Absentee-Shawnee, Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Iowa, Kialegee Tribal Town, Kickapoo, Sac & Fox Nation, Seminole Nation, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town. Representing the Sac and Fox Nation were: Chief George Thurman, Attorney General Gregory Bigler, Court Administrator Charlotte Cartwright, Director of Indian Child Welfare Vicki Wood Rutledge, and Child Welfare Specialist II Juan York. Chief Thurman both opened and closed the meeting with prayer.



District Attorneys Council to Native American violent crime victims, recently presented State Tribal Victims Services Roundtable Discussions at the Sac and Fox Nation (Photo by Harriett Nanaeto)

Sac and Fox Nation Women's Auxiliary

The Sac and Fox Nation Women's Auxiliary meet the 3rd Thursday every month at 6:00 p.m. We have a pot luck dinner at every meeting. Our meeting locations alternate from the Stroud-Elder's Building to the Shawnee-Multi Purpose Building. If anyone needs information, they can contact Shawna Spoon by phone at 405-275-2581 or by e-mail at shawnaspoon@att.net.

Brown Family Reunion

If you plan on attending please call one of the people listed below to RSVP by May 1. We are trying to get a count on how many plan to make it. Also if you would be interested in Tee shirts let us know that too. Thanks!

Please Call:

Glenda (Brown) Fuller @ 405 962-5732

Ronnie Lauderdale @ 405 765-2700

Twiggy (Wilson) Gregory @ 405- 434-9136

John Soap Jr. @ 405-585-968

Sissy Franklin @ 405 567-9254



Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Domestic Violence Program

Mission Statement

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma's Domestic Violence mission is to eliminate violence in Native Country and to strengthen Native families to end the cycle of violence. Absentee Shawnee Tribe Domestic Violence program serves Native American families and Non-Native families by providing advocacy in the areas of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Dating Violence.



The Domestic Violence Department provides services to:

Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault (on call 24 hours per day), Stalking, and/or Dating Violence. We serve Native and non-Native victims as well as their children, as these problems affect everyone in our community. When a victim flees the situation they often leave behind all of their belongings, that's where we step in, offering a hand up to the victim. We offer advocacy for the victim, through the process of court, counseling, housing and utility assistance, referrals as needed (for services ASTDV does not provide), shelter, and transitional housing. We have four transitional houses fully furnished, where victims will be provided the opportunity to get an education and obtain job skills. Emergency transportation can be provided as well. For questions regarding necessary paperwork in order to receive assistance please contact the AST Domestic Violence Office.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801
Phone: (405) 275-4030 Fax: (405) 273-1192
National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233
National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

WIC Program

Stroud Clinic

USDA Building 920883 S. HWY 99

Open 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each Month

Hours: 9:30am - 3:30pm

Closed for Lunch 12:00pm - 1:00pm

1-800-648-2302 or 918-968-1784 for information

Closed last business day of each month for staff training.

Standards for participation are the same regardless of age, race, sex, color, national origin or handicap.