MnTRECC NEWS

MN TRECC
Minnesota Tribal Resources for Early Childhood Care

Volume 1
Issue 2

October - December 2004

Planning Team

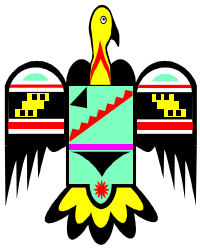
Our last Planning Team Meeting took place on September 10, 2004 after the MnTRECC Retreat that was held in Walker on the 9th & 10th.

Updates were given on the MnTRECC Grants Program and a new Family, Friends and Neighbor Initiative. You will read more about these updates within this newsletter.

We also discussed plans for our next Retreat and dates for our next Planning Team meetings.

Planning Team meetings will now be held every 4 months during the months of January, May and September.

Our next meeting will be on January 14th at the Northern Lights Hotel and Events Center from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. As always, hotel rooms will be reserved for anyone interested in coming in the night before on Thursday - January 13th. A complementary buffet dinner will be available on Thursday. On Friday, there will be a Continental Breakfast and Lunch for Planning Team members.



See you in January

Points of Interest:

- ☺ Please send in your Program Summaries for the Website
- ☺ Remember to return your MnTRECC Tribal Data Survey
- ☺ Looking for Grants Advisory Committee members
- ☺ Recruiting for NICCA Board Members
- ☺

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Tribal Data Survey

Ann Cloud, Data Management Coordinator, has sent out the MnTRECC Tribal Data Survey to all child care providers who are listed in NACCRRAware and who have indicated their ethnicity to be Native American. This Tribal Data Survey is being conducted during the regular CCR&R level update period of September 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004. We are collecting data from Native American child care providers that will help us to determine future activities and benefits for this population.

Thank you to all who have already sent their survey in. For those of you who have not, Ann will be calling you within the next couple months to collect this information.

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Grants Program

The MnTRECC Grants Advisory Committee had their first meeting on August 25, 2004. Members discussed a plan for how funding would be distributed within the grant categories. They also set priorities for grant requests. These priorities are:

- Providing training and professional development opportunities for child care providers
- Enhancing the cultural responsiveness of Minnesota's child care system
- Purchasing supplies, materials, resources and/or equipment to enhance and improve health related activities of children in care
- Purchasing supplies, materials, resources and/or equipment to enhance and improve safety related activities of children in care
- Purchasing supplies, materials, resources and/or equipment to enhance and improve literacy development activities of children in care

Grants are available to Native American licensed family child care providers, child care centers, family child care associations, employer/church-based Rule 2 providers, legally exempt school-based school-age care programs, family, friends and neighbors (FFN) child care providers, and corporations or public agencies that develop child care services. Centers, School Age programs, associations and other multiple staffed sites are eligible if they are licensed by a Tribal agency, are governed by a Tribal agency, if they are funded by a Tribal Agency or if they serve predominantly Native American children.

Grant applications are available from September 7th through October 29th.

The Grants Advisory Committee has most of the representative spots full. We are still recruiting members to fill representation for the following:

1. A School Age Care Provider
2. A Community Employer
3. A Public or Tribal School Staff

A Family, Friends and Neighbor Initiative Grant package will be developed with requests available in January 2005. Watch for details in our next quarterly newsletter.

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER

8) Tribal Early Childhood Network Meeting / Mille Lacs

14) CCR&R All Staff Meeting St. Cloud

21) CCR&R All Staff Meeting St. Cloud

29 Grant Applications Due

NOVEMBER

3—5 National Indian Child Care Association Board Meeting

DECEMBER

3 Grants Advisory Committee Meeting

"Flexible People Never Get Bent Out of Shape"

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Retreat Update

The first MnTRECC Training Retreat was held on September 9 & 10, 2004 at the Northern Lights Hotel and Events Center in Walker.

Our focus for this Retreat was to inform the Tribal Early Childhood Programs of some of the initiatives that are taking place within the state of Minnesota.

The Retreat began with presentations on Thursday afternoon from Valerie Peterson of the T.E.A.C.H and R.E.E.T.A.I.N Program and also from Betty Cooke who informed us about the current revisions that are taking place with the MN Early Learning Guidelines.

We ended this day with an "awesome" Dinner Cruise around the shores of Leech Lake aboard the "Beulah Leona" of Coborn Leech Lake Cruises, Inc.

Jim Koppel of the Children's Defense Fund presented information on Friday morning on a variety of subjects. He informed the participants about the new website tool for "Covering Kids and Families", Tax Credit information and the importance of voting.

Our final topic for the Retreat was a presentation from Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Attorney, Mike Garbow on Tribal Sovereignty. From Mr. Garbow, we learned about Tribal Sovereignty from a legal and historical perspective.

Also joining us for this presentation was George Goggleye, Jr., Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Chairman, which was an honor.

All in all, the Retreat was a success!! An evaluation form will be sent to all participants to collect feedback so we may begin planning for our next Training Retreat.

National Indian Child Care Association

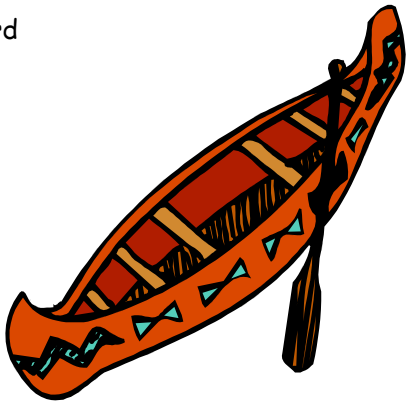
The National Indian Child Care Association (NICCA) advocates for quality child care on behalf of Native American communities, gathers and disseminates information and provides leadership and support to Tribal CCDF grantees.

The NICCA is currently recruiting for membership to the Association.

If you are interested in becoming an Association member, please call Tamie Finn at 218-335-8240 or email at tamie.finn@llojibwe.com.

The NICCA Board will also be conducting elections in October and taking nominations to fill Board vacancies. There are two Board seats open in Region V which includes the state of Minnesota. Please call or email Tamie if you are interested in becoming a Boar member. You must be a NICCA Association member to apply for a NICCA Board seat.

"...two Board seats open in Region V...."



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MnTRECC
Mission Statement

To serve as a foundation and a link where child care and other early childhood programs can gain access to resources and information that will enhance and strengthen the child care delivery system for Native American children and families throughout the state of Minnesota

MnTRECC Staff:

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MnTRECC is a component of the Child Care Services Program within the Leech Lake Early Childhood Development Division

Minnesota

T. R. E. C. C.

DID YOU KNOW?

That Native Americans believe the spider web is a symbol of the sun?

Look for us on the web at www.mntrecc.net

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