
MnTRECC NEWS



MnTRECC Retreat

On June 6, 2007 the MnTRECC program kicked off its annual retreat at Tianna's Country Club in Walker, MN. William Beise (FBI Gang Specialist) provided the evening address focusing on gang activity in Minnesota. On June 7, 2007 the retreat continued at the Northern Lights Event Center in Walker, MN. Opening address was presented by Lee Turney, Leech Lake Early Childhood Director. Vickki Howard provided the keynote address for the event and presented information on Early Childhood Education and the Importance of integrating Anishinabe knowledge in our work with children. Other training session that were offered included: Accreditation Pilot Project, Center for Inclusive Care/Autism, and a round table discussion on Family Friend and Neighbor (FFN) information and resources. The event provided an array of training opportunities and a chance for planning team members and staff to network. A good time was had by all! The next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2007.

Tribal Early Childhood Network Meeting

The Tribal Early Childhood Network Meeting (TECN) was held on June 8 at the Northern Lights Event Center in Walker, MN. This group is funded by a grant from the MN Department of Human Services (DHS). MnTRECC provides coordination for the meeting and Leech Lake Early Childhood Director Lee Turney facilitates the meeting. The meetings are held quarterly and the focus is to bring together Tribal Early Childhood Professionals from throughout the state to network and share information about their programs. Members of the MN DHS, Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) and Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) are invited and attend to provide information on new state-wide initiatives. The next Tribal Early Childhood Network meeting will be held on Friday, October 12, @ 8:30 a.m-2:30 p.m. at the Northern Lights Event Center in Walker, MN. Please plan on joining us! Our next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2007.

MN TRECC
Minnesota Tribal Resources
for Early Childhood Care

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People are like stained glass windows: they sparkle and shine when the sun's out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is light within.

-Elizabeth Kubler-Ross



Grants Program

In April we had scholarships applications available to attend the White Earth Communities Collaborative Conference in Mahanomen, MN and even though we were not able to fund everybody who applied, we were able to fund 30 out of 44 applicants. We funded 25 child care center & head start staff, 3 family child care providers and 2 family, friend & neighbor caregivers. I hope you all have a wonderful experience and take a lot of useful information home to share with the children you care for.

Keep your eyes open for our upcoming grant round! When we have our dates finalized, I will be sending out a notice to all the eligible MnTRECC providers. Below are guidelines used to determine eligibility for services through MnTRECC as an American Indian child care provider.

- ☺ Family Child Care - Must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe or a first/second generation descendant of an enrolled member or be licensed by a Tribal Government
- ☺ Center-Based, School-Age and other Organizations - Must be licensed by a Tribal Government or be funded by a Tribal Government or provide services that are specifically focused to benefit American Indian children.
- ☺ Family, Friends & Neighbor Caregiver - Must an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe or a first/second generation descendant of an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe



Sometimes our light goes out but is blown into flame by an encounter with another human being. Each of us owes the deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this inner light.

-Albert Schweitzer



MnTRECC Site Visits

MnTRECC staff traveled throughout Minnesota during the month of June providing site visits to eight of the reservations located in Minnesota. Reservations included in the visits were: Red Lake, Bois Forte, White Earth, Leech Lake, Fond Du Lac, Mille Lacs, Upper Sioux and Lower Sioux. A visit to Grand Portage in the fall of the year is anticipated due to construction that is currently occurring at that site. It was exciting to talk with staff, tour programs and see all the wonderful work that is taking place across the state.

Metro Work Group

The Metro Work Group met on June 11, 2007 at the Grand Hinckley Inn in Hinckley, MN. This group is funded by a grant made possible through the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The focus of this group is to bring together tribal childcare and other early childhood programs located in the Twin Cities area to determine childcare supports needed and the availability of resources. MnTRECC coordinates and facilitates the group and distributes information on the services the CCR&R and MnTRECC provide to American Indian parents, providers and programs in the Metro area. The next Metro meeting will be held on August 13, 2007 at the Grand Hinckley Inn in Hinckley, MN. For more information about this group, please contact Sandra Williams, MnTRECC Program Manager at (218)-335-8381.

MnTRECC Trainers Gathering

A Gathering for American Indian Trainers was held on May 18, 2007 at Eddy's Resort in Mille Lac. The meeting was schedule for half-day with a lunch provided.

Fourteen American Indian Trainers attending the gathering this year, representing the northern reservations (Leech Lake, White Earth, Red Lake & Fond-Du-Lac) and two trainers from the Metro Area.

Julie Wasiluk, MN CCR&R, provided information on the new child care supports available for Minnesota Deployed Army Nation Guard and Reserve families and introduced the Surge Support Child Care Project and she invited Sue Heisler from White Earth to attend the Training of Trainers on Saturday, June 23, 2007 in St. Cloud.

Gail Mahr, MN CCR&R, provided information on the Not By Chance: Child Care that Supports School Readiness American Indian Community Guide project. This project is funded by the Department of Human Services through the MN CCR&R Network. This curriculum pulls together the framework developed by early education and care professionals through collaboration between state agencies to provide a clear pathway in building quality early care and education that supports school readiness, using three documents; MN Core Competencies for Care Givers, Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPS) and Environmental Rating Systems (ERS).

In June 06 - four American Indian Trainers attended a two-day training of trainers on the Not By Chance (NBC) Curriculum. This group met for an additional six hours to develop an American Indian Communities Guide and provided recommendations for successfully implementation of the NBC curriculum for the American Indian communities in Minnesota. The group networked and provided a list of recommendations on delivery, tips for trainers and tips for the curriculum and created a glossary of acronyms.

During the Trainer's gathering Gail provided information on the Not By Chance: Community Adaptation Guide Practitioner's retreat, which was scheduled on April 14, 2007 in St. Paul. She explained to the group that the guide will be a working draft and placed in binders.

Upcoming Trainings / Events

August

28-30 NICCA National Conference
Uncansville, CT www.nicca.us

September

29 Pamper the Provider
St. Cloud, MN www.providerschoice.com

October

16-17 The Autism Spectrum: Circulation
Adaptions & Adolescent Issues
Roseville, MN
www.spectrumtrainingsystemsinc.com

November

7-10 NAEYC National Conference
New Orleans, LA www.naeyc.org

Stay Informed About Child Care!

Would you like to receive timely updates on child care legislation affecting Minnesota children, families and caregivers?

We invite you to subscribe to the **Child Care WORKS listserv** to receive **Child Care WORKS updates and Action Alerts!**

You will receive *In the WORKS Online* (our online newsletter), event invitations, and occasional action alerts on child care issues. We send information about twice a month, with more frequent updates during the legislative session.

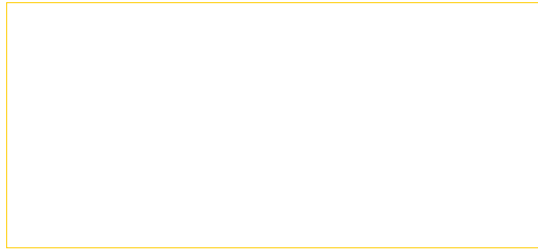
Sign up for our updates and action alerts and learn more about CCW at www.childcareworks.org

For more information contact Child Care WORKS:
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**Our Mission: To achieve and sustain affordable, high-quality child care options for the families and communities of MN.*



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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



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