



TIWAHE NEWS

SLT TIWAHE Newsletter

April 2017

What is Tiwahe?

Tiwahe (ti-wah-hay) means family in Dakota. It symbolizes the interconnectedness of all living things and one's personal responsibility to protect family, community, and the environment. There is no asset more precious to tribes than the health, safety, and well-being of its children, youth, and families.

Spirit Lake Tribe Tiwahe Initiative

Q: What is the background of the Tiwahe Initiative?

A: The Tiwahe Initiative is a five year demonstration project. It aligns directly with the White House Generation Indigenous initiative which is focused on addressing barriers to success for Native youth, by leveraging BIA programs in concert with other federal programs to support family and community stability and cultural awareness.

Q: What are the goals and objectives?

A: The key objectives are to create a more effective and efficient coordinated service delivery model that includes improved screening, improved access to family and social services, create alternatives to incarceration via solution-focused sentencing options, improved links to appropriate prevention, intervention, and treatment opportunities, improved case management services, and finally improved overall partnerships between local, tribal, county, state, and federal providers to improve overall access to services for tribal children, youth, and families.

*“Let us put
our minds
together and
see what life
we can
make for our
children.”*

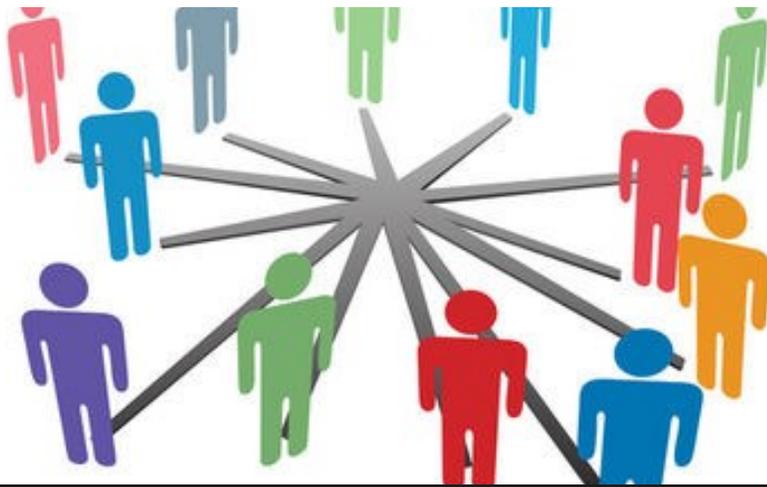
*- Chief Sitting
Bull*



Photo Caption

In This Issue

- What is the SLT Tiwahe Initiative?
- Who are the members of SLT Tiwahe Team?
- Spotlight: SLTSS Tiwahe
- Dakota Values



Who are the partners for SLT Tiwahe Team?

Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services (SLTSS)—Tiwahe

- Darcy Smith, Heidi Parisien, and Sharlotte Martin

Employment & Training—Tiwahe

- Patricia “Denise” White

Spirit Lake Victim Assistance

- Imogene Belgarde and Ann McKay

Spirit Lake Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)

- Marie Martin

Spirit Lake Tribal Court

What is the purpose for the team?

They are service providers that help to “champion” and promote the Tribe’s goal to move towards a coordinated approach to providing services to individuals and families.

The teams goals are to continue to maintain and improve their services to children, youth, and families by improving its linkages to other services and always investing in the infrastructure of the various tribal programs.

Guide and manage the change process and help mitigate fear and resistance. The team works to remove barriers, it can address issues that surface and help maintain the momentum of the initiative.

SLT Tiwahe Initiative 2017 Primary Focus:

Assist Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services in the transition of Child Protective Services from the BIA to the tribe.

Secondary Focus:

Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services—Tiwahe are intervening in and trying to prevent perinatal substance abuse (PNSA). PNSA babies are either born drug exposed or drug addicted.



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Program Highlight: Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services—Tiwahe

What does SLTSS-Tiwahe do?

- Conduct comprehensive intakes, assessments, screenings, and placements for children/youth in SLTSS.
- Provide direction for the development and monitoring of a “goals and objectives plan” in conjunction with the children/ youth and their family.
- Provide advocacy services to clients.
- Refer participant to appropriate community services.
- Collaborate and coordinate with other service providers, districts, and community members as appropriate.
- Provide follow-up monitoring on any placement or referral.
- Provide community and school outreach on behalf of the program.

Dakota Values

Wahoda (Respect)

Ohan Owotana (Honesty)

Woksape (Wisdom)

Waokiyapi (Help)

Wawokiya (Generosity)

Wichwahba (Humility)

Wowaditake (Courage & Fortitude)

Waunsida (Compassion)

Contact Us

Give us a call or email for more information about our services

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