South Dakota
DEPARTMENT OF TRIBAL RELATIONS

Happy Spring!

I hope that everyone is recovering from a long winter and is embracing the spring weather.

Our office has had a busy and productive start to 2023. In January, we hosted State Tribal Meth Summit 5. The summit was successful and had many fantastic presenters. We were honored to have Governor Noem in attendance and to share some of her wisdom with us. We thank all those that presented and attended the event. Participation helps us hear different perspectives and formulate new ways to combat the methamphetamine epidemic.

In January, we hosted the State Tribal Relations Day, which included a Top Gun shoot, legislative reception, and an event at the Capitol. The South Dakota Department of Public Safety, United States Attorney's Office, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Law Enforcement, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Dare Program, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Emergency Management, and South Dakota Wildland Fire all brought booths to our Rotunda Event. We are so thankful for the information they shared with legislators and the public. I am grateful for the number of Tribal Leaders who visited our department staff. Thank you to all those that attended!

Our Suicide Prevention booth has already been to five events this year to hand out Suicide Prevention swag and resources to everyone that we can. I look forward to seeing our Suicide Prevention booth at many upcoming tribal events. We are grateful to partner with many excellent state and tribal agencies to combat the suicide issue in South Dakota. You will find many links to suicide prevention resources and toolkits in the newsletter.

As many of you know, we need more Native American foster families in South Dakota. The ongoing Stronger Families Together initiative provides many resources and information about becoming a foster parent. Please help us share this information with anyone that you know who might be interested in becoming a foster parent.

I thank Director Osborn and the Office of Indian Education for supporting the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings. They have many resources for teachers, parents, and students to utilize. You will find more about what the Office of Indian Education has in store for this year on page 5 of the newsletter.

I wish everyone a safe and joy-filled summer!

David Flute

Cabinet Secretary

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Office Updates

Meth Summit 5

In January, we hosted the fifth annual State Tribal Meth Summit. We were honored to have a great turnout, especially with Governor Noem attending to speak about the Meth problem in South Dakota.

Secretary Flute and Nicole Schneider presented Tiffany Wolfgang and Randi Peterson from the Department of Social Services with our 2022 Partner of the Year award! We are so thankful for all of the work that the Department of Social Services does to assist our department in reaching our goals.

Gov. Noem Proclaimed Joe Circle Bear Day on January 10!

State Tribal Relations Day 2023

We had so many great interactions at State Tribal Relations Day. We were thrilled to have so many Tribal Leaders stop by and say hello! Thank you to all those that set up booths at our event at the Rotunda. We look forward to State Tribal Relations Day 2024!

Did you know about Tribal Tuesday?

Last year we launched a weekly newsletter and video series to promote Native American culture and history. Subsribe now or visit our YouTube page!

RESOURCES

- Community Toolkits
- Order Suicide Prevention Materials
- Tribal Mental Health Toolkit
- Teacher Training
- Suicide Data
- South Dakota Suicide Prevention Plan

BE THE 1 SD.COM
988 • Call • Text • Chat

Need Help? Call or Text 988

Stronger FAMILIES Together

Foster and adoptive families are greatly needed in South Dakota. When families are unable to provide safe care for children due to significant challenges they are experiencing, foster families are needed. In addition to providing care for children, foster families also provide encouragement and support to the entire family as they are working to make changes so the children can return home. Adoptive families who can support children's identity and life-long connections are also needed if children cannot return home safely. In South Dakota most children adopted from foster care are adopted by their foster parents who have established a relationship with the child and their family connections.

Families supporting families is a shared value in South Dakota. By offering a helping hand to other families in our communities, we can build "Stronger Families Together".

click here! TO COMMIT TO KNOW MORE

In Partnership With

DSS South Dakota Department of Social Services

South Dakota Kids BELONG

A STATE CHAPTER OF AMERICA'S KIDS BELONG

RESOURCES:

- Becoming a Foster Parent
- Get Involved
- Meet the Children
- Wrap Around Services
- Foster Care Brochure
- Myths and Facts

For more information visit strongerfamiliestogether.gov

Office of Indian Education Updates

Lakota Virtue Videos!

In September 2022, the Office of Indian Education launched the Lakota Virtue Videos. The videos serve as a source for educators in the classroom for the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings. You can view each video by clicking on the picture below or by visiting our website.

Meet Erika!

Erika Cerveny joined the Office of Indian Education in January of 2023 as the Program Assistant. Erika grew up in Pahá-Sápa (the Black Hills, SD) and received her bachelor's degree from Black Hills State University, where she majored in History and minored in American Indian Studies. At BHSU, her research primarily focused on topics including settler colonialism, tools of assimilation, and Native resistance. She also earned certificates in Museums and Archives. With a background in public history and cultural resources, Erika previously served as the Museum Assistant for the US Department of the Interior, Indian Arts and Crafts Board, Sioux Indian Museum and as the Museum Technician for the National Park Service, Wind Cave National Park. She has also spent time working at the South Dakota State Archaeological Research Center and for The Journey Museum and Learning Center in Rapid City, SD. In her free time, Erika enjoys crafting, reading, and spending time with her cat.

The Wóokiye Project

Resources:

- Scholarships
- OSEU Instructional Resources
- Tribal Colleges
- Advisory Council
- Oceti Sakowin Project
- WoLakota Project
- Region 11 Comprehensive Center

SAVE THE DATE!

2023 INDIAN EDUCATION SUMMIT

November 16 &17, 2023

Huron Convention Center

For more information visit our website or email us at Erika.Cerveny@state.sd.us.

SERVICES & INFORMATION

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