



POSITION DESCRIPTION: ICWA Family Preservationist

As an ICWA Family Preservationist you will be a representative of the North Dakota tribes in Indian child welfare cases. You will be responsible to advocate that the best interests of the child and family are considered throughout the duration of the case. Monitor that any removal of an Indian child from their parents was warranted; support the child in returning to his/her family as soon as there is no longer imminent danger or harm present; and ensure the case plan is conducive to creating lasting meaningful change to maintain, reunify and prevent the reentry of the family into the child welfare system. Observe that active efforts are focused on creating positive long-term change; and to ensure the family has the appropriate resources, tribal or otherwise, to maintain or reunify their family. This position serves on behalf of the tribe to monitor and ensure the best interests of the family are being considered pertaining to the letter, and more importantly the spirit of the Indian Child Welfare Act are upheld.

LOCATION: Native American Training Institute (NATI)

3333 E. Broadway Ave., Suite 1210 Bismarck, ND 58501

SALARY: Negotiable

HOURS: Full time - 8AM – 5PM Monday through Friday with some potential for evening hours for ongoing case management.

SUMMARY OF WORK: ICWA Family Preservationist

- Provide training on ICWA and the prevailing social and cultural standards of the family's Tribe to the child welfare team.
- Provide training for the family in understanding the letter and the spirit of ICWA law.
- Support or participate in the ongoing safety assessment of family as needed.
- Support the identification and implementation of meaningful active efforts at all stages of the case.
- Support the reunification process when there is no longer imminent danger or harm present.
- Support in-home service provision to families.
- Identify and address barriers related to family preservation and assist with coordinating services when appropriate.
- Attend and participate in Child and Family Team meetings for all assigned families.
- Coordinate with and provide reports to the ICWA Service Agent on all aspects of the case.
- Be knowledgeable of all aspects of the case for the duration of the case and communicate with relevant parties to provide resources and guidance.
- Prepare for and offer testimony in court pertaining to the safety concerns of the family while considering the prevailing social and cultural standards of the identified Tribe.
- Collect and facilitate communication about data between Tribes and evaluation team.
- All other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Associate of Arts/Sciences in Human Services or related field required, with two years' direct experience working in Native American youth, families and communities. Bachelor of Arts/Sciences preferred but not required.
- Working knowledge of child welfare, family preservation, youth prevention & intervention strategies; Indian Child Welfare Act; and other human service related issues preferred but not required.
- Must be culturally-competent and knowledgeable about the history, culture and socioeconomic conditions of the Tribes and reservations of North Dakota and beyond as required.
- Must be willing to travel. Overnight travel may be required.
- Must have excellent report writing, organizational, time management, analytical and communication skills.
- Must have the ability to multi-task in dynamic environment and work in a team environment.
- Must have experience in operating office equipment.
- Must be proficient using Microsoft Office Suite, i.e. Excel, Word, Power Point, Outlook, etc.
- Must have own vehicle, have a valid driver's license and proof of vehicle insurance.

Please note there is one full-time position available in or around Fargo that will provide service to Cass County Human Service Zone ICWA families and one full-time position in or around Minot to serve Ward County Human Service Zone ICWA families. Majority of work will take place at those sites with some travel involved.

***All interested applicants should send or FAX a cover letter, resume, CIB, transcripts and (3) references to the Native American Training Institute attention of Jessi Leneagh jessil@nativeinstitute.org or 701-255-6394.