

# Thinking Differently: The Importance for Child Welfare/TANF Collaboration

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**casey** family programs

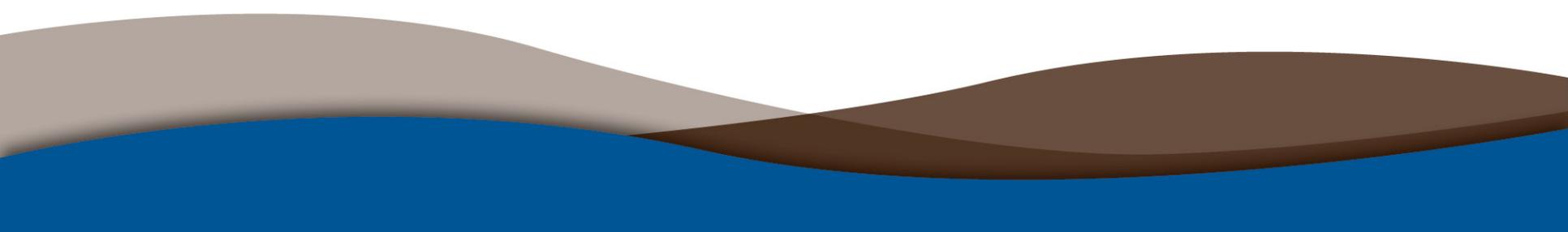
fostering families. fostering change®

# Remember why we are here today

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

**-Sitting Bull**

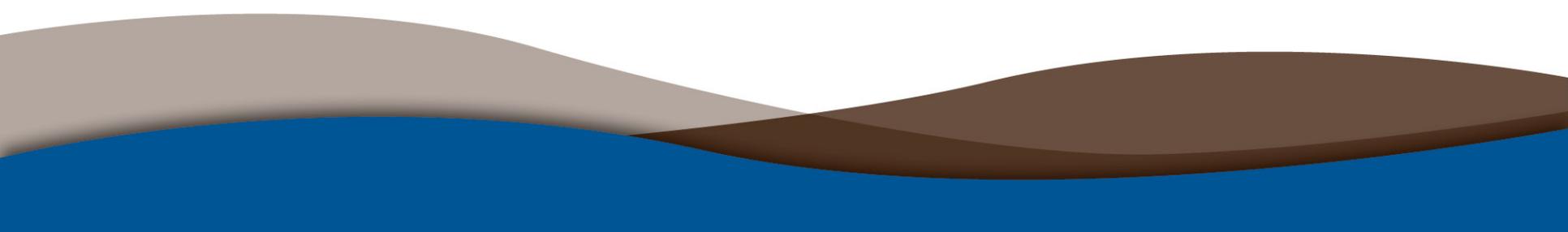
**Hunkpapa Lakota, 1877**



# Overview of Casey Family Programs

**Mission:** Casey exists to provide and improve – and ultimately to prevent the need for – foster care.

**Goals:** Casey aspires to fulfill its Mission by achieving the following long term goals:

- **Permanence**  
We create security for children and youth by finding them safe, loving homes and by encouraging lasting connections to their family, friends, and community.
  - **Transition**  
We prepare youth to successfully make the transition from foster care to independent living.
  - **Prevention**  
We work with parents to strengthen families and prevent the need for foster care.
  - **Disproportionality**  
We promote parity in opportunities and outcomes for children of color, who enter the child welfare system in disproportionately high numbers, receive fewer services, and leave less prepared for adulthood.
  - **Indian child welfare**  
We support American Indian and Alaska Native tribes working to develop and improve their own sustainable child-welfare systems.
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# Overview of Casey Family Programs

## 2013 Organizational Objectives

- **Demonstrating direct service and ICW improvement models.**
  - Influence jurisdictions to ICWA compliance, and to measure improved outcomes for Indian and families, as evidenced by:
    - Increasing use of the QUICWA tool and other compliance tools by tribes, jurisdictions and other entities to increase compliance.
    - Documenting measurable improvements in the well-being of American Indian/Alaskan Native children as measured by widely accepted well-being measures such as reduction in suicide rates and increase in high school graduation rates.

# Overview of Casey Family Programs

## Cont'd 2013 Organizational Objectives

- **Support Tribal IV-E grantees to demonstrate effective practice models for tribes by increasing the numbers of tribes accessing direct IV-E funding by supporting the development of tribal-state agreements and access to IV-E waivers.**
- **Changing the national conversation around building Communities of Hope.**
  - Assist executive branch/tribal leaders, or their designees, to engage local stakeholders around Building Communities of Hope via jurisdiction, foundation, business and other community forces.

# Indian Child Welfare Programs

## 2013 ICWP PRIORITY STATES

- Alaska
- Arizona
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Montana
- New Mexico
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- South Dakota
- Washington

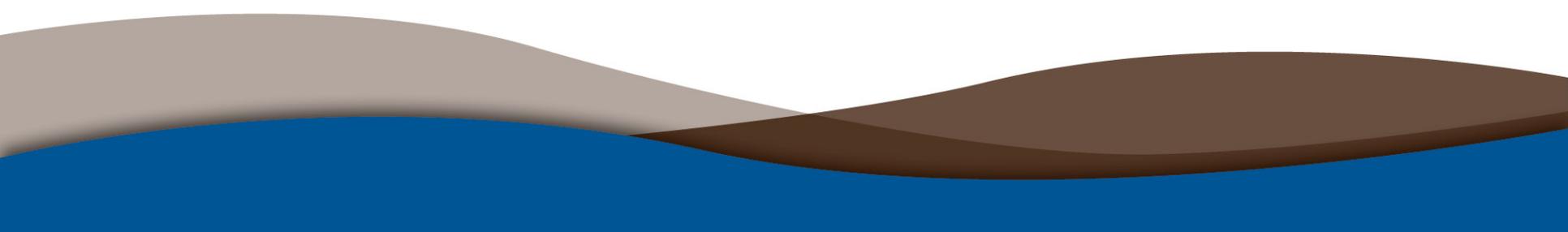
\*\* National Projects

## 2014 ICWP Non-Priority States

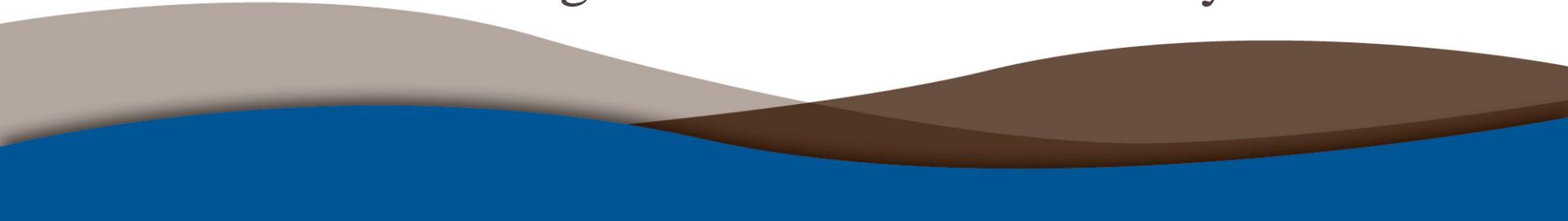
- Colorado
- Idaho-- (2014)
- Maine



# Why is there is a need to collaborate?

- Think about how you get business done for a ceremony, family gathering, birthday party. Everyone plays important role/responsibility.
  - Working together makes the job easier.
  - Child welfare is complex. Keeping children safe will require “all hands on deck.”
  - Everyone in the community wants children to be safe.
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# Why is there is a need to collaborate?

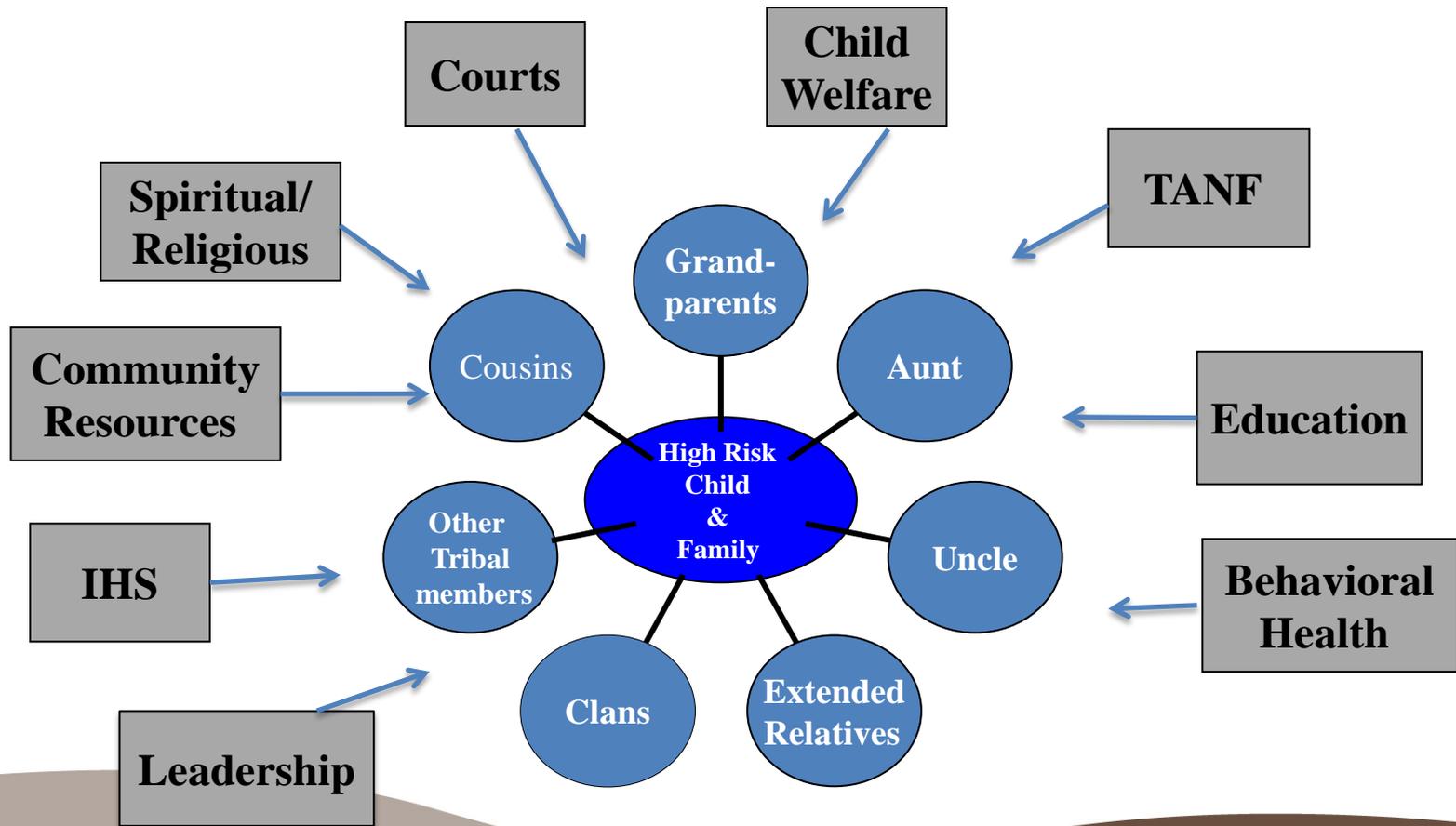
- A TANF worker is often the first point of contact with high-risk families.
  - Parents/guardians/custodians may share more information with a TANF worker than with a child welfare worker.
  - Maximize resources/funding during a time of significant federal budget cuts.
  - Tribes have to become creative with resources/funding– conduct service delivery scans.
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# Why is there is a need to collaborate?

- Tribes are leaders in developing prevention services.
- TANF is temporary. Title IV-E is sustainable. Need to collaborate with child welfare to build infrastructures to improve service delivery.

(Ex: \$150-\$250/month via TANF vs. IV-E eligible child)

# Collaboration



# Contact Information

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