



# Denver Indian Family Resource Center



*Honoring the tradition of  
strong Indian families*



# Guiding Statements



## *Vision*

Generations of healthy, strong American Indian/ Alaska Native (AI/AN) children and families.

## *Mission*

To strengthen vulnerable American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) children and families through collaborative and culturally responsive services.

# DIFRC'S Purpose



- ❑ To keep children safely with their families and within their culture.
- ❑ To address the disproportionate number of AI/AN children in the child welfare system.
- ❑ To serve AI/AN families with child welfare issues in 7 counties of Metro Denver through culturally appropriate services.
- ❑ To advocate for active efforts toward family reunification following the standards of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

# Desired Outcomes for Children and Families

- Safety
- Permanency
- Mental and physical health
- Social and emotional well-being
- Resilience
- Supportive relationships
- Optimal family functioning
- Cultural connectedness
- Kinship connections

# Direct Services Array

- Family Preservation
- Family Reunification
- Parent Education
- ICWA Advocacy
- System Navigation
- Health Advocacy
- Nutrition/Exercise
- Behavioral Health



# Key Factors in DIFRC's Development

After almost thirteen years, these are some of the factors which seem to be key in our development.

- DIFRC was created from a community identified need and vision.
- It has utilized a strategic planning process from conception.
- The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is the standard for its work.
- ICWA advocacy is a strong element of DIFRC's work.
- We have responded to identified needs and developed new resources.
- Collaboration has been key in its planned development and service delivery system.
- DIFRC has emerged as an effective service and knowledgeable resource.
- We continue to value ongoing community input and support in our planning.

*"It's all about relationships."*

# TANF Success

- Indian Child Welfare
- Family needs, family strengths, family supports
- TANF supports



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# Thank you coming!

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