

Ain Dah Yung Center



2012

JANUARY

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OUR MISSION

Ain Dah Yung Center PROVIDES A HEALING PLACE for AMERICAN INDIAN YOUTH AND FAMILIES to thrive in safety and wholeness.

Ain Dah Yung (Our Home) Center
 1089 Portland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104
 P: 651-227-4184, F: 651-224-5136
www.adycenter.org
 Look for us on facebook



2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Boozhoo Community Friends, Partners and Allies,

The Ain Dah Yung Center (ADYC) is proud of the full circle of services we are able to provide with the generous support of our community partners and allies. With you, we are able to prevent homelessness amongst our younger youth, deliver support and resources for families who might be on the brink of homelessness, provide safety and security when our children are in crisis and experiencing homelessness, all the while helping our older youth leave homelessness behind them forever. Therefore, on behalf of the Ain Dah Yung Center, the Board of Directors, staff and the youth and families we serve, it is with deep gratitude that we present our 2011 Annual Report.

It's been twenty-eight years now since the first American Indian school in St. Paul recognized that many of its students were homeless or in homes that were affecting their ability to attend school and succeed. Since then, the Ain Dah Yung Center has led the way as the first agency to provide any form of culturally focused services to any group, to create a continuum of care built from a framework of cultural healing. Our belief is that our children and families are resilient, and we continue to assist our people to fulfill their destinies from a strength based context.

Here are just a few ways in which together, we were able to develop new "walkways" for over 2660 youth and families in 2011:

- Children who were at risk of being solicited into a world of chemical dependency, violence and other negative influences were embraced by our prevention staff, giving them the knowledge and self-esteem they need to deter harmful behaviors.
- Families who were at their wits end, found guidance and a supportive hand that helped them to secure the resources they needed to provide for their children and re-establish their strengths.
- Homeless children had an open door - 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week - to warmth, clothing, family style meals, and positive people who gave them a sense of safety and security.
- Older youth were given a chance to leave homelessness behind them through programming which taught them critical life skills that enabled them to achieve self-sufficiency.
- Homeless youth struggling on our streets every night were given lifesaving supplies, guidance to health services, shelter and other resources, and most importantly, shown that they are not alone.
- Finally, all of our children and families were given the gift of experiencing how the Native way of life can further enhance their successes.

All of this and more is made possible through the thoughtfulness and wisdom of our elders who continue to teach the ways, through allies who understand the importance of culturally relevant services, and community members and partners who stand alongside us with visions that lead to opportunities of wellness and triumph.

It is with heartfelt appreciation that we look forward to 2012 with promise and invite you to not only continue this vital partnership, but join in our various celebrations such as our 14th Annual Cherish the Children Traditional Pow Wow on February 11th and 12th, our Open House in May and other feasts and events. With you, we will continue to give families and children choices that generate optimism and capacity to build on their circles of strength and culture. It's an honor walk with you... Thank You!

Chi Miigwetch,
Valerie Larsen, Board of Directors - President

Deb Foster, Executive Director

AIN DAH YUNG CENTER STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION: DECEMBER 31, 2011

ASSETS	2011	2010
Cash	121,516	201,185
Accounts Receivables	150,897	149,415
Pledges Receivable	89,000	0
Prepaid Expenses	12,266	19,222
Total Current Assets	373,679	369,722
Property & Equipment - Net	844,535	830,097
Total Other Assets	844,535	830,097
TOTAL ASSETS	1,218,214	1,199,819
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts Payable	24,995	26,846
Accrued Payroll Liabilities	38,734	42,966
Refundable Advances	58,005	23,327
Total Current Liabilities	121,734	93,139
Loan Payable - Long Term	165,000	165,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	286,734	258,139
NET ASSETS		
Board Designated	100,000	100,000
Temporarily Restricted	50,743	61,100
Unrestricted	780,737	780,580
TOTAL NET ASSETS	931,480	941,680
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	1,218,214	1,199,819

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Valerie Larson - President
Jan Werness - Vice President
Dan Lemm - Treasurer

Michelle Thompson-Tuttle - Secretary
Sarah Wovcha
Gabrielle Strong - Honorary Member

FUND DEVELOPMENT

We would like to honor those who invest in our work and help complete our Circles of Support. We are deeply grateful to the foundations, government institutions, tribes, businesses and corporations that walk with us as we together create paths of safety and resiliency.

TRIBAL SUPPORT, FOUNDATIONS, BUSINESSES AND CORPORATIONS

3M Foundation
Clearway Minnesota
Heading Home Minnesota Metro Partners Fund
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
Joseph C. and Lillian A. Duke Foundation
Medtronic Foundation
Open Your Heart to the Hungry & Homeless
Otto Bremer Foundation
Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation
RJ Ahmann Company

Target Foundation
The Minneapolis Foundation
The Saint Paul Foundation
Thomson Reuters
TJX Foundation
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
WCA Foundation
Western Bank
Xcel Energy Foundation

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

City of Saint Paul Department of Planning & Economic Development
Ramsey and Hennepin County

Tobacco Prevention and Control
Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Office of Justice Programs

Minnesota Department of Human Services:
• Alcohol & Drug Abuse Division
• Child Safety & Permanency Division
• Office of Economic Opportunity

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:
• Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Homeland Security:
• Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development:
• Supportive Housing Project, Streetworks Outreach

Minnesota Department of Health:
• Office of Minority & Multicultural Health

INDIVIDUALS DONORS

The other Circles of Support we cherish are those individuals who share in our vision to help ensure that children and their families are connected with their cultural traditions, have opportunities to build upon their strengths and lead their best lives. Below we honor these individuals within the following categories:

Pipestone Circle	\$5,000 and above	Abalone Circle	\$500 - \$999
Quill Circle	\$1,000 - \$4,999	Turquoise Circle	\$1 - \$499

Pipestone Circle:

Anonymous
William "Kent" Krueger

Alicia Cordes
Judie J Cutler
Joseph M. Finley

DeAnn Fiore
Julia A Fish
Niki Flick

Turquoise Circle:

Anonymous
Athena Adkins
Dr. James M. Adkins

(in memory of Jared Strand)
Gary S Balwierz
Margy J Balwierz

James R Berling
Sydni Black
Charissa Blue

June Blue
Julie R Brown
(in memory of Jared Strand)

Joseph Brown Thunder
Marcia Burke

Deb Foster
Angela Gauthier
Lisa Heldke

Michael C. Jordan
Nanci Kimker
Valerie Larsen

Daniel Lemm
Douglas Limon
Deborah Loon

Thomas A McSherry
Briana Meehl
Mary Morrissey

Curt Peterson

Brenda J Powell
Charles Ravine
Randal E. Rivard

Roy Roberts
Heather Schilling
Jason Smith

Lachelle Smith
Elona Street-Stewart
(in memory of Marybella Street)

Rev. H. David Stewart
Michelle Thompson-Tuttle
Alan Weisbond

Jan C Werness
Madonna Yawakie
Mel Yawakie

Cheryl Yellow Bird
Patina K Zink



The Ain Dah Yung Center continues to be a cornerstone for community healing. We are committed to ensuring that American Indian youth and families in the Twin Cities Area retain access to their Indigenous rights of community belonging and cultural identity. The following values continue to guide our actions and decisions:

- Safety always comes first
- We treat each other with love, kindness, respect and dignity
- Native language, traditions, spirituality and storytelling are the keys to healing and thriving in our community
- We act with integrity and accountability as careful stewards of community resources
- Humor and humility help us weather many storms and keep perspective
- We empower all to dream, set high standards and achieve

AIN DAH YUNG (OUR HOME) CENTER PROGRAMS

Emergency Shelter provides culturally specific emergency shelter to American Indian youth who are homeless, runaway, in a family crisis, or involved with juvenile corrections. Services include: emergency and short-term shelter, crisis intervention, case and systems advocacy, information and referrals, access to medical/dental care, counseling, case management and community education. The Ain Dah Yung Center is the only 24-hour emergency shelter facility for any youth in Ramsey County and the East Metro, and is the only American Indian youth emergency shelter available to American Indian youth in the Twin Cities metro area. While there are other youth serving shelters, we are unique in our ability to serve children as young as age five. This enables us to keep sibling groups together, of critical importance to our Native families and a benefit to all families in general. **In 2011, 120 youth were provided with emergency shelter.**

Ninjanisag (Our Children) Program is a multifaceted program focusing heavily on engagement and prevention - working to ground youth in Native culture while designed to combat chemical and commercial tobacco abuse, teen dating violence, gang relations, sex trafficking and other self-compromising behaviors among at-risk youth between the ages of 10-21. Through opportunities for community involvement, leadership development, culturally specific health education, and cultural enrichment activities, Ninjanisag develops interpersonal competencies and strengthens the skills our young people need to become community leaders and mentors for other youth. **In 2011, a total of 128 youth participated in prevention and cultural activities.**

Beverly A. Benjamin Youth Lodge is a culturally grounded transitional living program available to youth between the ages of 16-20 that have no parental substitute or foster home to which they can safely go. This intervention program emphasizes training, education and employment goals and is designed to develop a support system to meet holistic needs of body, mind, and spirit. Youth Lodge services emphasize the relationship between youth and positive role models (staff and elders) to teach new behaviors, learn appropriate ways to express feelings, and manage everyday living. Creating community and cultural connection helps tap the inner strengths of youth to better educate

them for independent or inter-dependent living - helping to break the cycle of homelessness. **90% of youth who come to the Youth Lodge finish high school, continue their education, become self-sufficient, and finally leave homelessness behind them. In 2011, the Youth Lodge housed 17 youth.**

The Street Outreach Program provides street-based support to runaway or homeless youth unable or not wanting to enter a shelter. Case workers provide information on safe housing, basic needs resources and health related issues. They also provide health and personal care supplies, food and access to transportation. Youth are provided with drop-in services where they can eat a hot meal, do laundry or shower. **In 2011, approximately 2211 street outreach contacts were made.**

Oyate Nawajin (Stand with the People) Programs are designed to keep American Indian families together and strong by providing the knowledge, skills and resources they need to provide a safe, stable environment for their children. Programs and services include:

• **Ramsey County Children's Mental Health Case Management:** Provides support, case management and assistance in coordinating resources for families with children who have mental health needs. **In 2011, the Children's Mental Health Case Manager provided support, case management and assistance in coordinating resources for 19 youth and their families.**

• **Family Preservation and Reunification:** Our Family Advocacy Program uses traditional American Indian beliefs and an asset-based approach that builds on the strengths of families and was established in response to the disproportionate placement of American Indian children outside the home. We provide family preservation and reunification services that combines self-help, professional intervention, and cultural reinforcement in order to strengthen families experiencing a process of family reunification and/or stressful parenting situations. Our family advocacy program supports families through group learning, increasing positive social networks, connecting families to cultural teachings and healing, case management, appropriate referrals, resource acquisition, and general family support. The Medicine Wheel Project, a collaborative with St. Paul Indian Education and the American Indian Family Center provides families with support and education with the goal of increasing their child's school attendance and success. **Preservation and Reunification services were provided to 32 families and a total of 88 children in 2011.**

• **Indian Child Welfare Legal Advocacy/Compliance (ICWLAC) Project:** was created to enforce local compliance with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). ICWA was created to prevent the dissolution of American Indian families and to reduce the number of American Indian children in out-of-home placement. The Ain Dah Yung Center's ICWLAC Project provides court monitoring on cases involving American Indian children, legal representation to American Indian families (through a collaboration with SMRLS), and education/outreach to identify systemic problems and strategize on solutions regarding ICWA compliance. **In 2011, 49 cases were monitored for compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act.**

