

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Anishnaabek Community and Family Services
Child Care and Development Fund

Parent/Provider Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2021

You are receiving this newsletter because you are either a parent receiving Child Care Assistance from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians CCDF program, you are a Child Care Provider receiving Subsidies, or you are in a collaboration/partnership with the Tribal CCDF Program.

CCDF is located at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 and you can reach us at 800-726-0093 or 906-632-5250. You can contact Trish, CCDF Coordinator at psterling@saulttribe.net or Angel, CCDF Secretary at apeer@saulttribe.net. Our fax number is 906-632-5266.

Co-Pays Suspended Until Further Notice

ACFS CCDF program received more CARES ACT funding (CRRSA). One thing we are doing with the money is paying all the co-pays on behalf of the parents until further notice. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Trish, CCDF Coordinator at psterling@saulttribe.net or 906-632-5250.

ANISHNAABEK COMMUNITY AND FAMILY SERVICES ANNOUNCES CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Anishnaabek Community and Family Services is excited to announce funding availability for child care assistance for Essential Workers residing in the 7 county service area. ACFS Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program is accepting Child Care Applications for Essentials Workers **without regard to income** for a **limited time** due to the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA).

Essential Workers include:

- Health Care Sector Workers;
- Emergency Responders;
- Sanitation and Janitorial Workers;
- Farm;
- Food Service Workers;
- Security, Law Enforcement, Court;
- Information Technology ;
- Emergency Management Administration ;
- Employees Carrying out Public Assistance
 - Teachers-Giving Face-to-Face Instruction
 - Social Workers
 - Behavioral Health
 - Sanitation/Environmental Health
 - Direct Assistance Staff (MDHHS, ACFS, Community Action, Health Department etc.,)

Children must be:

- Members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Reside in the 7 County Service Area
- Be between the ages of 0 and 13 years of age

Child Care Provider must be:

- Licensed Center
- Licensed Family Home
- Relative Care Provider(Grand Parent, Great Grand Parent, Aunt, Uncle or Sibling not residing in the home.
- In-Home Aide

You can find more information on the website <https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/direct-services/child-care-development-fund> and click on the CRRSA application link or by calling Trish, CCDF Coordinator at 906-632-5250 or email psterling@saulttribe.net.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Health and Safety are priorities when it comes to caring for children. The Tribal CCDF program provides necessary Health and Safety required items to CCDF Families and CCDF Providers. If you find you are in the need of Health and Safety required items such as Fire/Smoke detector (one for each level of the home/center), fire extinguisher, carbon monoxide detector, electrical outlet covers, drawer safety latches, first aid kit, etc. please contact CCDF Coordinator, Trish Sterling at psterling@saulttribe.net or 906-632-5250.

CONSUMER STATEMENT

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Anishnaabek Community and Family Services Child Care and Development Fund program offers Child Care Subsidy Assistance to parents with Sault Tribe member (or eligible to be) children living in the Sault Tribe 7 County Service area who are working, going to school, or in a qualified job training program. Eligible parents can choose high quality child care providers that include State Licensed Centers or Family/Group Homes, Tribal Licensed Centers, Relative Care Providers or In-Home Aides. Relative Care Providers and In-Home Aides must complete requirements prior to providing care for your children.

Please contact CCDF Coordinator, Trish Sterling for more information at 906-632-5250 or 800-726-0093.

Visit https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_63294_5529---,00.html to find State Licensed Centers and State Licensed Family/Group Child Care Homes in your area.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

PARENTS AND PROVIDERS:

If you move, please contact us within 24 hours so that we can update your address and important letters and orders can reach you.

If you change your phone number, please contact us within 24 hours so we can update your phone number in our system so that it is easier to reach you.

If you stop working, going to school or end your job training, please contact us with 24 hours so we can update your 'reason for care'.

All billing sheets are due every two weeks according to the Reimbursement Due Dates form and must be submitted within 90 of care being provided in order to be reimbursed as stated on each Child Care Certificate.

All CCDF Rules and Regulations will be adhered to.

If you have any questions about billing, please contact Angel at 906-632-5250 or apeer@saulttribe.net

Any other questions, please contact Trish at 906-632-5250 or psterling@saulttribe.net

Sincerely,

Trish Sterling,
CCDF Coordinator

Child Development Screenings

Ages and Stages is a set of questionnaires about children's development. It has been used for more than 20 years to make sure children are developing well. A screening provides a quick look at how children are doing in important areas such as communication, physical ability, social skills, and problem-solving skills. Ages and Stages can help identify your child's strengths as well as any areas where your child may need support. I love this screening tool because it involves the parents/guardians, child and the care provider. The parent/guardian fills out the questionnaire while playing with their child and returns it to the care provider or CCDF Coordinator for results. Based on the results, the child's individualized lesson plan can be created and if an area of concern is identified then a referral can be made to an appropriate support agency.

Many Child Care Centers are already providing a child development screening. And it may be Ages and Stages, but for parents who are interested, I can provide copies of the following months in the ASQ-3: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 42, 48. Keep in mind: your children all grow and development in differing rates. And it is okay 😊

I also have the Social Emotional questionnaires in the months: 2, 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 48, 60.

They are easy to score and if you see any area of concern, please contact me or your child's teacher or child care provider so we can give you some ideas of how to increase your child's opportunities to grow in those areas.

Any questions, please contact Trish Sterling at 906-632-5250 or psterling@saulttribe.net

RESOURCES

<u>WIC</u>	https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_4910---,00.html
<u>LICENSED CHILD CARE</u>	https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_106253---,00.html
<u>MEDICAID</u>	https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/
<u>SNAP</u>	https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_5527_6691---,00.html
<u>SAULT TRIBE EMPLOYMENT</u>	https://saulttribe.hirecentric.com/jobsearch/
<u>SAULT TRIBE</u>	https://saulttribe.com/
<u>ACFS</u>	https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs
<u>DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS</u>	https://agesandstages.com/
<u>GREAT START TO QUALITY</u>	https://www.greatstarttoquality.org/

ATTENTION: COVID 19 CLEANING SUPPLIES ARE

NO LONGER AVAILABLE!!

We only have a few items available to CCDF Families and CCDF Providers

Sault Tribe CCDF program has COVID 19 CARES ACT Fund Dollars available for CCDF Parents and Providers for COVID 19 related items: disposable face masks, disposable gloves, disinfecting wipes, disinfecting spray, hand sanitizer, antibacterial hand soap. (depending on availability of supply chain)

All items are sent to your home. I will send you a self-addressed stamped envelope with a form to sign to send back with the packing slips you receive so that I can reconcile with our Purchasing Department. It is the policy of the CCDF Program to deny future orders for failure to return the form and the packings slips. Please make your list and send it to Patricia Sterling, CCDF Coordinator, psterling@saulttribe.net or call 906-632-5250

September is Baby Safety Month

Safe Sleep for Infants

Follow these tips for safe sleep during every nap and night-time routine:

- Place your baby on their back, in a crib, bassinet or pack and play, with nothing else in their sleep environment (plan ahead and take a portable crib when you travel).
- Use a firm mattress with a tightly fitted sheet.
- Keep baby's sleep space clutter free - no pillows, blankets or toys.
- Avoid covering baby's head or overheating. Instead of a blanket, consider using a sleep sack, wearable blanket or footed sleeper to keep baby warm.
- Remind everyone who cares for your baby, including babysitters and family members, how to keep baby safe while sleeping.

Michigan Department of Community Health

WWW.KIDS-COOKING-ACTIVITIES.COM

Apple Frogs

Green apples, cut in slices
Green grapes, cut in half
Peanut butter
Mini chocolate chips

Adult should cut apple into slices leaving green peel on. Allow child to spread peanut butter on top of apple slice and layer another slice on top. Add dabs of peanut butter on top and attach green grapes. Add another dab of peanut butter and place chocolate chips on for eyes.



Please contact ACFS staff if you need assistance in meeting your health and safety needs. 1-800-726-0093 or 906-632-5250, or psterling@saulttribe.net

Apple Smiles

This is an apple recipe your kids are sure to love. Cut an apple into slices. (these are the lips) Have child spread peanut butter or cream cheese on apple slice. Place mini marshmallows or yogurt covered almonds (these are the teeth) on top of peanut butter and top with another apple slice.



AFTER SCHOOL CHECKLIST

Put Away Coat and Shoes

Empty Backpack

- Empty lunch container and put in the sink
- Put water bottle by the sink
- Give Mom/Dad important papers
- Put homework at homework station.

Get Mom/Dad Approved Snack

Relax / Downtime

- Play outside
- Play Games
- TV (30 minutes)
- Electronics - Ask Mom or Dad

Homework / Reading Time

Pack Tomorrow's Lunch

- Include fruit and vegetable
- Get drink ready
- Keep in fridge until the morning

Get Backpack, Coat & Shoes Ready

Cultural Awareness

The Ojibway story of the seven grandfathers' teachings was passed down from parent to child for many generations. The story goes...

The Creator gave the seven grandfathers, who are very wise, the responsibility to watch over the people. The grandfathers saw that the people were living a hard life. *There was all kinds of sicknesses and bad things around. The Messenger was told, "Go down there, look around and find out what is happening. Bring back someone who we can tell about what life should be, with the Ojibway" He left immediately and went to all places in the North, South, West and East. He could not find anyone. On his seventh try, while he was looking, he saw a baby. The grandfathers were happy with the choice made by the helper.*

He took the baby back to where the Grandfathers were sitting in a circle. He was still very small and still wrapped inside the cradleboard. One of the grandfathers looked at the baby very carefully. "This is the one. Messenger, pick up the baby. Take him all over; teach him carefully the way the Ojibway should lead their lives." The Messenger took him; they went around the earth.

When they came back seven years later, the boy again saw the Grandfathers. He was already a young man. The Grandfathers noticed that this boy was very honest. He understood everything that was taught. One of the grandfathers took a drum and started singing. Each of the grandfathers gave the boy a teaching. "These are the ones you take with you," he was told.

Nibwaakaawin—Wisdom: To cherish knowledge is to know Wisdom. Wisdom is given by the Creator to be used for the good of the people. In the Anishinaabe language, this word expresses not only "wisdom," but also means "prudence," or "intelligence."

Zaagi'idiwin—Love: To know Love is to know peace. Love must be unconditional. When people are weak they need love the most. In the Anishinaabe language, this word with the reciprocal theme indicates that this form of love is mutual.

Minaadendamowin—Respect: To honor all creation is to have Respect. All of creation should be treated with respect. You must give respect if you wish to be respected.

Aakode'ewin—Bravery: Bravery is to face the foe with integrity. In the Anishinaabe language, this word literally means "state of having a fearless heart." To do what is right even when the consequences are unpleasant.

Gwayakwaadiziwin—Honesty: Honesty in facing a situation is to be brave. Always be honest in word and action. Be honest first with yourself, and you will more easily be able to be honest with others. In the Anishinaabe language, this word can also mean "righteousness."

Dabaadendiziwin—Humility: Humility is to know yourself as a part of Creation. In the Anishinaabe language, this word can also mean "compassion." You are equal to others, but you are not better.

Debwewin—Truth: Truth is to know all of these things. Speak the truth. Do not deceive yourself or others. The boy, because of all the time spent with the Grandfathers, was now an old man. The old man gathered all the people around and told them of his journey to the seven grandfather's lodge. He explained how to use the gifts and that it was now up to the people to try to follow the path of a good and healthy life using the seven grandfather's teachings.

They told him each of these teachings must be with the rest, you cannot have wisdom without love, respect, bravery, honesty, humility and truth. You cannot be honest if you only use one or two of these, or if you leave out one. And to leave out one is to embrace the opposite of what that teaching is.

Wolf Teaches us Humility

Humility is being humble and not arrogant. Recognizing and acknowledging that there is a higher power than man and it is known as the Creator is to be deemed truly humble. To express deference or submission to the Creator through the acceptance that all beings are equal is to capture the spirit of humility. The expression of this humility is manifested through the consideration of others before ourselves. In this way, the Wolf became the teacher of this lesson. He bows his head in the presence of others out of deference, and once hunted, will not take of the food until it can be shared with the pack. His lack of arrogance and respect for his community is a hard lesson, but integral in the Aboriginal way.

HUMILITY is to know yourself as a sacred part of Creation, to be able to know that we are equal regardless of age, race or sex, and being able to be assertive; positively making your needs known without becoming angry or withdrawn; being able to listen to others with an open and non-judgmental mind.

Each month will we focus on one of the teachings.