



Targeted Recruitment Overview





Native Foster Families *needed* to help Native Youth *succeed*

Native American tradition is rooted in the belief and practice that all members of the extended family have an obligation to care for children. Grandparents, aunts and uncles, brothers and sisters and other relatives share in parenting responsibilities.

A recent study shows that Native American families are not aware that there is a need for Native American foster homes. In Woodbury County, there are not enough Native American foster parent for Native children who need them.

Foster parents can keep children connected to their culture

- Help build positive self-esteem
- Help develop positive cultural identity
- Provide a safe, nurturing home
- Strengthen your community by helping youth develop to their full potential

You do not need to have a perfect home to be a foster parent.

If you have overcome adversity, you may have the strength needed to help a child and their family succeed

Ready to get started?

If you have questions about becoming a foster parent, want to know more about the process or are ready to begin, please contact us:

Ansley Griffin,
Native Family Recruiter
712.223.8729
Ansley.Griffin@LSIowa.org

Dawn Luetje
Foster Care and Adoption Director
712.269.4591
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Natives Families for Native Children



This Diligent Recruitment project/program is funded by the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under a Cooperative Agreement, Grant Number 90CO1114-01-01.



www.LSIowa.org/FOSTER



Natives Families for Native Children





Ready to get started?

If you have questions about becoming a foster parent, want to know more about the process or are ready to begin, please contact us:

Native family recruiter

Cell: 641.229.1369

Office: 712.255.2505

www.IowaKidsNet.com/NativeAmerican

Dawn Luetje

Iowa KidsNet Service Area Leader

712.269.4591

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About Iowa KidsNet

Iowa KidsNet is proud to be part of the NF4NC (Native Families for Native Children) project, which is a collaborative effort between the Winnebago, Omaha, Ponca and Santee Tribes; the Iowa Department of Human Services; the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; and private agency partners.



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NF4NC recruiters are available in Nebraska and Iowa in these locations:

Lincoln (State of Nebraska DHHS)

Macy (Omaha Tribe)

Omaha and Council Bluffs (Ponca Tribe)

Santee (Santee Sioux Nation)

Sioux City (Iowa KidsNet)

Winnebago (Winnebago Tribe)



Native foster
families *needed*
for Native youth

Sioux City



"We need more Native families willing to keep the tradition alive in caring for our own. Making an informed decision to foster a child can maximize our potential as Native people for our future generations... Today my family consists of eight children: four biological and four adopted, ages three years to 16 years old." - Gwen, foster and adoptive mom

Helping Native youth *succeed*

Native American tradition is rooted in the belief and practice that all members of the extended family have an obligation to care for children. Grandparents, aunts and uncles, brothers and sisters and other relatives share in parenting responsibilities.

A recent study shows that Native American Families are not aware that there is a need for Native American foster homes in Woodbury County. Currently, there are not enough Native American foster parents for Native children who need them.

Foster parents can keep children connected to their culture, helping them build positive self-esteem and positive cultural identity while also providing a safe, nurturing home. Foster parenting is also a way to strengthen your community by helping youth develop to their full potential.



You do not need to have a perfect home to be a foster parent. If you have overcome some adversity and problems in your life, you may have the strengths needed to help a child and their family succeed also.

Iowa KidsNet is seeking Native families interested in becoming foster parents for Native children. We help families through the process of becoming licensed foster parents in Iowa, being mindful of the traditions, needs and resources of their communities.

Becoming a foster parent

Steps to becoming a foster parent include attending an information session and completing a free training course. Iowa KidsNet offers a 10-week course in Native Trauma Informed Partnering for Safety and Permanence. These foster parent training classes help you:

- Learn about your own family's strengths and needs
- Learn about children in foster care and their strengths and needs
- Learn how trauma affects the way children see the world around them
- Learn how to help children stay connected to their past
- Learn how to keep a safe, healthy home for children and youth
- Make an informed decision about foster parenting