



Greetings!

Thank you for looking through our spring newsletter. We have many important updates to share.

In October, we hosted the annual State Tribal Methamphetamine and Opioid Summit. We were honored to hear from two individuals who shared their personal experiences with recovery from substance abuse. We discussed different trends and resources that are available to those who are struggling with substance abuse. Stay tuned for the 2024 STOMP Summit.

Our department has had a busy and productive start to 2024, beginning with State-Tribal Relations Day. We presented the Cheyenne River Youth Project with a Certificate of Commendation to honor the work that they do for their youth.

Have you heard of the 988 number? If you haven't, now is a great time to learn more about it. 988 is the suicide crisis hotline. Anyone experiencing a suicide crisis can call or text the hotline to connect with support, free of charge. Our department is working on spreading information about 988 through our Suicide Prevention Booth. Read more about South Dakota Suicide Prevention on page three of the newsletter.

South Dakota needs more Native American Foster Families. It's crucial that our Native American children who enter foster care stay with a Native American family to ensure cultural continuity. On page four of the newsletter, there is additional information about becoming a foster parent. If you know someone who might be a good fit, please share this information with them.

Office of Indian Education Director Fred Osborn is wrapping up the final phase of the Wóokiye project. The final phase includes the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings and Standards (OSEUS) online training course that is free to anyone interested in taking the course. We hope all educators and administrators will take the course to spread cultural awareness and education about the Oceti Sakowin in their schools. I am thankful for all the work the Director has accomplished with this program. You can read more about the Office of Indian Education on page six of the newsletter.

We have many exciting events coming up this year. Be sure to subscribe to our weekly newsletter and our socials to keep up with everything that our department has going on.

Have a safe and fun-filled summer!

David Flute  
Cabinet Secretary

## IN THIS ISSUE

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# OFFICE UPDATES

## NEW STAFF

### Meet DTR's Executive Assistant

Tammy, a recent arrival from Denver, blends faith and expertise in Pierre. Her Master's in Human Resource Management paves her professional path, but her true passion lies in service.

In her free time, Tammy and her husband actively serve both their online church community, BRAVE Church, and their new local church, Community Bible Church, in Pierre. Tammy and her family also enjoy traveling and outdoor activities such as camping and fishing.

### Meet DTR's Policy Analyst

Abby joined the DTR office in December 2023 as a Policy Analyst. Abby was previously employed with the University of South Dakota as an Admission Counselor. Abby earned her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Native American Studies from the University of South Dakota in 2022.

In her free time, Abby enjoys traveling the world, doing volunteer work, and spending time with friends and family.

## PARTNER OF THE YEAR



In January, we presented the South Dakota Department of Health with our 2023 Partner of the Year award. We chose the Department of Health for this award for all of their work in helping with the 2023 STOMP Summit and continuing to partner with our agency to address critical health issues impacting tribal populations.

## BUFFALO NATION NEWS

In 2022, we launched a weekly newsletter and video series to promote Native American culture and history. Buffalo Nation News is a great way to keep up with upcoming events and State News. [Subscribe now](#) or visit our [YouTube page!](#)

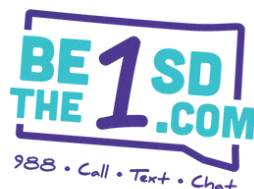




## A BOOTH ON THE MOVE!

## RESOURCES

# South Dakota Suicide Prevention Plan



A wide-angle photograph of a herd of bison grazing in a vast, open grassland. The bison are scattered across the frame, some standing and others lying down, all focused on feeding. The grass is a mix of green and yellow, indicating a late summer or autumn setting. In the background, a line of trees marks the horizon under a clear sky. A large, bold white number '3' is superimposed on the lower right portion of the image.



# STRONGER FAMILIES TOGETHER

Foster and adoptive families are greatly needed in South Dakota. When families are unable to provide safe care for children due to significant challenges they are experiencing, foster families are needed. In addition to providing care for children, foster families also provide encouragement and support to the entire family as they are working to make changes so the children can return home. Adoptive families who can support children's identity and life-long connections are also needed if children cannot return home safely. In South Dakota most children adopted from foster care are adopted by their foster parents who have established a relationship with the child and their family connections.

Families supporting families is a shared value in South Dakota. By offering a helping hand to other families in our communities, we can build "Stronger Families Together".

## RESOURCES

- [Becoming a Foster Parent](#)
- [Get Involved](#)
- [Meet the Children](#)
- [Wrap Around Services](#)
- [Foster Care Brochure](#)
- [Myths and Facts](#)
- [Realities Flyer](#)





# EVENTS

## STOMP SUMMIT

In October, we hosted the 2023 State Tribal Opioid and Methamphetamine Prevention Summit (STOMP) to continue the discussion about preventing and treating substance use in our communities. We were honored to have such an incredible turnout this year! Stay tuned for updates about the 2024 STOMP Summit.



## RESOURCES

[2023 Resource Guide](#)  
[South Dakota Behavioral Health Services County Map](#)



**SAMHSA**  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration



**SD**  
SOUTH DAKOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



**Great Plains Tribal Leaders'  
Health Board**

## STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS DAY

In January, our department held the annual State-Tribal Relations Day. We were honored to have the Black Pipe Singers of Norris Elementary and the Crow Creek Tribal School perform as our musical guests.



Our department honored the Cheyenne River Youth Project with a Certificate of Commendation, for all of the wonderful work that they do. We look forward to State Tribal Relations Day 2024!





# OFFICE OF INDIAN EDUCATION

## 2023 INDIAN EDUCATION SUMMIT

Thank you to all those who attended the 2023 Indian Education Summit! We were honored to have such incredible speakers and vendors! A special thank you to all our sponsors!



## RESOURCES

- [Scholarships](#)
- [OSEU Instructional Resources](#)
- [Tribal Colleges](#)
- [Advisory Council](#)
- [Oceti Sakowin Project](#)
- [WoLakota Project](#)
- [Region 11 Comprehensive Center](#)
- [View the OSEUS Promotional Video](#)
- [Register for the OSEUS Course](#)

### OCETI SAKOWIN ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS AND STANDARDS (OSEUS) ONLINE TRAINING COURSE

#### ABOUT THE COURSE

This Office of Indian Education has created the OSEUS training course to assist administrators and teachers in integrating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings into their schools and classrooms. The training course contains three sections: "Getting to Know the OSEUS," "Culturally Responsive Practices," and "Creating Lessons with Inquiry Design Model."

The course is free of charge and self-paced!

Continuing Education Credits or Graduate Credits are offered upon completion!

#### SECTION 1

"Getting to Know the OSEUS," guided by the wisdom of indigenous elders from South Dakota, explores the significance of the land, environment, identity, culture, language, oral traditions, sovereignty, and way of life of the Oceti Sakowin people.



#### SECTION 2

"Culturally Responsive Practices" guides teachers through understanding their indigenous students' backgrounds and promotes socio-cultural consciousness. In this section, educators can expect to embrace the unique cultures of our Native American tribes.



#### SECTION 3

"Creating Lessons with Inquiry Design Model" provides guidance to teachers on how to incorporate OSEUS teachings into lesson plan content across various grade levels. Additionally, the course provides guidance to administrators on creating a year-long plan for OSEUS vertical alignment in their school.



Visit <https://bhscc.pdx.catalog.canvaslms.com/browse/tie/oseus> to register.

A promotional video of the course can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

To learn more about the office of Indian Education visit [indianeducation.sd.us](http://indianeducation.sd.us).

For more information, please email [Fred.Oshorn@state.sd.us](mailto:Fred.Oshorn@state.sd.us).

This initiative is funded by the Wóokiye Project, a Bush Foundation grant project.



## SAVE THE DATE 2024 SOUTH DAKOTA INDIAN EDUCATION SUMMIT

November 14, 2024

Youth Day on November 15, 2024

Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center, Pierre, SD





# INFORMATION & UPCOMING EVENTS

*Prevention Matters*  
Uniting efforts on substance use prevention in South Dakota

**save the date**  
**05.01.24**

Arrowwood Resort and Conference  
Center at Cedar Shore  
1500 Shoreline Drive  
Oacoma, SD 57365

Join the Division of Behavioral Health and its partners May 1st, 2024 9 AM-4:30 PM as they host a full-day Prevention Summit where individuals will come together to build relationships and learn more on substance use prevention and best practices.

A block of rooms are available through April 1st, 2024 at \$109 per room plus tax and fees. Call (605) 234-6376 and reference the South Dakota Department of Social Services Division of Behavioral Health block to secure a room reservation.

Link to Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/818703543337?aff=oddlatcreator>  
Questions? Email [DSSPREVCONF@state.sd.us](mailto:DSSPREVCONF@state.sd.us)

**SD BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

*Scan Here to Register*



**CIVICS & HISTORY**  
CELEBRATE. ELEVATE. COLLABORATE.

**S U M M I T**

**June 3-4, 2024, Sioux Falls**

**ALLISON MORRISETTE**

**MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS  
COORDINATOR**

PHONE: (605).394.2258

EMAIL: [ALLISON.MORRISETTE@STATE.SD.US](mailto:ALLISON.MORRISETTE@STATE.SD.US)



**TRIBAL NATIONS  
OGETI  
SAKOWIN**

**A PASSPORT TO CULTURE!**



**SD DHS**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Make a difference in someone's life!

Are you looking for flexible part-time employment?

**BECOME A REPRESENTATIVE FOR OUR GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM!**

DHS is looking for responsible, caring individuals who would be interested in acting as a representative for individuals in your community who are under state guardianship. You would visit the individual monthly, provide advocacy, and become a contact.

- Maintain contact including one visit per month
- Attend annual meeting in person or virtually
- Complete short electronic reports - 4 quarterly reports and 1 annual report per year
- \$85.92 per person per month

<https://dhs.sd.gov/>  
Find information here

**APPLICATION**

**Apply Here**

[dhs.sd.gov/guardianship/dhsrepresentatives.aspx](https://dhs.sd.gov/guardianship/dhsrepresentatives.aspx)





# SERVICES & INFORMATION



## CONTACT US

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### SENIOR POLICY ANALYST

Nicole Schneider, 605.773.3415

### POLICY ANALYST

Abby Marquardt, 605.773.5653

### INFORMATION SPECIALIST

Dani Henkel, 605.773.5654

### OFFICE OF INDIAN EDUCATION

### DIRECTOR

Fred Osborn, 605.773.5975







Greetings!

Thank you for taking the time to read about important updates from our department. We have many exciting events planned for the remainder of 2024!

In May, we welcomed an exciting addition to our office. Algin Young, former Chief of Police for the Oglala Sioux Tribe, joined the department as the Tribal Law Enforcement Liaison. Algin will be working with each tribe to find ways to combat law enforcement shortages and to facilitate collaboration between the state and tribes to address drug and crime issues on South Dakota tribal reservations. We are excited to see all the work that Algin will accomplish in his new role. More information about Algin can be found on page three of the newsletter.

In August, our department attended the South Dakota Suicide Prevention Conference with our traveling booth. We had many great conversations and learned an abundance of information. I was deeply moved by many of the speakers who shared their lived experiences with suicide and the impact that it has had on them. I want to thank the Department of Social Services for continuing to host the South Dakota Suicide Prevention Conference and for shedding light on this important topic.

My staff and I have been traveling around the state with our tribal-specific suicide prevention booth to spread information about the 988 number and available resources. We welcome any invitations for our booth to participate in tribal events. If you or your organization are hosting an upcoming event, I encourage you to contact our department. We would be grateful to attend the event with our 988 booth to hand out suicide prevention information and resources. Please call 733.3415 to inquire for more information about our 988 booth. The Department of Social Services also offers tribal-specific toolkits at no charge. More details on the toolkits can be found on page four of the newsletter.

Later this month, our department will partner with the South Dakota Department of Health for the Indigenous and Integrative Health Summit. We look forward to the many presenters who will be showcasing cultural health practices. If you are interested in attending the summit, additional information is available on page seven of the newsletter.

The 2024 State Tribal Opioid and Methamphetamine Prevention Summit (STOMP) will occur in Pierre on October 21 and 22. We are excited to bring in law enforcement and prevention experts to find the best ways to combat drugs and crime in South Dakota. For more information about the 2024 STOMP Summit, or to register, please visit page two of the newsletter.

Finally, I am thrilled to share that the Office of Indian Education has experienced a very successful year, thanks to Director Fred Osborn. In February, the office successfully launched the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understanding and Standards Online Training Course, at no cost to the enrollee. Many educators have successfully passed the course, and many are on track to complete it. The Office will host the annual Indian Education Summit in Pierre on November 14, with a Youth Day on November 15. Please visit page six of the newsletter for more information about the Office of Indian Education.

I wish everyone a safe school year and fall season!

David Flute  
Cabinet Secretary



# OFFICE UPDATES

## SOUTH DAKOTA TEACHERS MAKE A STOP IN SISSETON!



In July, teachers ventured onto a road trip around South Dakota. They made a stop at Sica Hollow to meet with Secretary Flute, Joe Circle Bear and watch some grass dance performers.

## Registration is Open!



*Save the Date*

### STATE-TRIBAL OPIOID AND METHAMPHETAMINE PREVENTION SUMMIT

Keeping Communities Safe & Healthy

October 21 & 22 2024

Law Enforcement Training Center  
1303 E. Highway 14, Pierre, SD



**[CLICK HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ABOUT THE STOMP SUMMIT!**

## BUFFALO NATION NEWS

In 2022, we launched a weekly newsletter and video series to promote Native American culture and history. [Subscribe now](#) or visit our [YouTube page](#)!





# MEET ALGIN YOUNG



Algin Young, Sr. joined the South Dakota Department of Tribal Relations in May of 2024 as the Tribal Law Enforcement Liaison.

Algin is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, where he was raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Algin is a devoted father to five children and shares a 23-year-long marriage with his wife, Monica.

Algin graduated from Crazy Horse High School in Wanblee, South Dakota. After high school, he enlisted in the United States Marines, proudly serving until his honorable discharge in 2001. He initiated his law enforcement career with the Oglala Sioux Tribe's Department of Public Safety, subsequently joining the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Law Enforcement Services (later known as the Office of Justice Services).

Algin's impressive 23-year law enforcement career within Indian Country has seen him undertake a wide range of crucial roles, including Police Officer, Special Agent (Criminal Investigator), Chief of Police, Indian Highway Safety Director, Regional Agent in Charge within the Division of Drug Enforcement, and Associate Director of Field Operations and Division of Drug Enforcement. While with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, he was stationed in South Dakota, Montana, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. Algin returned home and successfully completed a three (3) year contract with the Oglala Sioux Tribe as the Chief of Police.

He proudly graduated from the Indian Police Academy in Artesia, New Mexico, and completed the Criminal Investigator Training Course in Glynco, Georgia. He also assisted in the development & deployment of Operation Lady Justice, which laid the ground work for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) and the Office of Justice Services Division of Drug Enforcement's Mobile Enforcement Teams (MET), which were both very beneficial to Indian Country. Algin committed a career to an unwavering commitment to safeguarding our communities throughout all of Indian Country.

Welcome to the team, Algin!



# SOUTH DAKOTA SUICIDE PREVENTION

## CHECK OUT OUR 988 BOOTH!



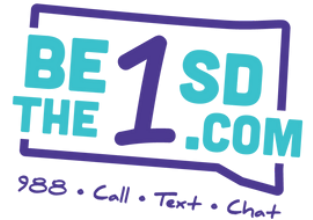
If you are interested in our Suicide Prevention Booth coming to your event, please call 605.773.3415 or email [dtrsociaimedia@state.sd.us](mailto:dtrsociaimedia@state.sd.us)

## REACH FOR LIFE TOOLKIT



50 Pens, 50 Magnetic Notepads, 50 Stickers,  
50 Keychains, 50 Referral Cards, 20 Posters

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Reach for life toolkit.



## RESOURCES

[Community Toolkits](#)

[Order Suicide Prevention Materials](#)

[Tribal Mental Health Toolkit](#)

[Teacher Training](#)

[Suicide Data](#)

[South Dakota Suicide Prevention Plan](#)





# STRONGER FAMILIES TOGETHER



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- [Realities Flyer](#)



# OFFICE OF INDIAN EDUCATION

## 2024 WÓOKIYE PROJECT RETREAT

The Office of Indian Education held a retreat for the Wóokiye Project educators in June in Hot Springs. We are so thankful for their hard work implementing the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings into their schools.



### OCETI SAKOWIN ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS AND STANDARDS (OSEUS) ONLINE TRAINING COURSE

#### ABOUT THE COURSE

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A promotional video of the course can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

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For more information, please email [Fred.Oshorn@state.sd.us](mailto:Fred.Oshorn@state.sd.us).

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# INFORMATION & UPCOMING EVENTS

## Creating Healthy & Wealthy Communities

A Skill-Building Workshop for Rural, Tribal and Frontier Communities



# SAVE THE DATE

# OCT. 1-2

# 2024

**Limited Seats Available!**  
FREE TO ATTEND - A \$500 VALUE!



Tuesday, October 1 and  
Wednesday, October 2



Highlands Conference Center  
Mitchell, SD

REGISTER NOW! Scan the QR code.

Visit [www.doh.sd.gov](http://www.doh.sd.gov) for more information.

\*Travel scholarships available.



Community planning  
is a team sport!  
Bring 2-3 from your  
community.



# ALLISON MORRISETTE

MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS  
COORDINATOR

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SOUTH DAKOTA  
**Indigenous  
& Integrative  
Health Summit**

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2024**

Arrowood Resort & Conference Center at Cedar Shore, Oacoma, SD

### KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

#### Lakota Worldview as Related to Health, Wellness, and Healing

This session will discuss how the Woiwanke (Lakota Worldview) and a kinship-based approach is the foundation for health and healing using an example of the Oinajin Topa (Lakota Four Stages of Life). During this presentation, attendees will learn about the interrelatedness of mind, body, emotions and spirit as a factor in individual wellness, the environmental conditions and context relative to health and wellness in from a Lakota perspective, and the historical and intergenerational considerations relevant to the current state of Lakota health and wellness.

#### Speaker: Richard Two Dogs



Hmuya Mani (Walker With a Roaring), Richard Two Dogs is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, a federally chartered Indian tribe. He lives with his spouse in Porcupine, South Dakota in the Oglala Lakota Nation. Mr. Two Dogs is from the Mato Oyate, Kiyuksa Band and is Oglala Lakota. He is an Oglala traditional healer and a Wakan Iyeska (Interpreter of the Sacred). His father is the late Asa Two Dogs, Sr. and his mother is the late Edna Lone Hill Two Dogs. He descends from the bloodline of Medicine Horse, American Horse, Brown Cloud and Little Warrior. For more than three decades, Mr. Two Dogs has provided Lakota cultural services to many tribal nations in the United States and Canada. He has extensive experience in development and training in the areas of Lakota mental health and wellness, Lakota language revitalization, cultural competency, child and family development and individual/family healing.

#### Integrative and Lifestyle Medicine

This session will cover core concepts regarding Integrative and Lifestyle Medicine, including methods to improve current and future health. Attendees will learn about who can benefit from Integrative or Lifestyle Medicine consultations, the evidence behind the use of these modalities, and how it can benefit patients and yourself.

#### Speaker: Dr. Eric Thompson



Dr. Eric Thompson, MD, DipABLM, specialized in Integrative and Lifestyle Medicine. He received his medical degree from the University of North Dakota and has worked in North and South Dakota providing care. Tired of all the chronic disease, he became Board Certified in Lifestyle Medicine which focuses on lifestyle changes to prevent disease and went to complete a fellowship at the University of Arizona at the Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine. He is passionate about bringing patients better options to achieve optimal health using lifestyle modifications, mind-body techniques, botanicals and more.



REGISTER NOW!



# SERVICES & INFORMATION



## CONTACT US

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