



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

Reclaiming Our People

PROGRAM RESOURCES



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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESOURCES

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RECLAIMING OUR PEOPLE SUMMARY

THE PURPOSE

In the 1980s, the Chiefs of the TCC region declared a war on alcohol in response to the epidemic of alcohol-related social issues affecting the region. As a result of that declaration, TCC pledged to address these issues. Historically our population has experienced many challenges related to alcohol use including domestic violence, suicide, depression and other mental health issues, and a drastic increase in children being removed from parental custody due to substance use. While Tanana Chiefs Conference has taken many steps to address substance use issues throughout services, our communities continue to face growing challenges with the introduction of new drugs.

SUMMARY

The Reclaiming Our People workgroup met biannually for the first several years of the project, making headway in the many initiatives including the sub-regional youth culture camps, suicide prevention training, and the development of policy regarding education and intervention. During the Covid-19 pandemic our region experienced a drastic increase in deaths and associated mental health and substance use issues.

As we were nearing the end of pandemic and the 2018-2022 Reclaiming Our People strategic plan, the Tribal Advisory Council (TAC) met on October 24, 2022 to review accomplishments and to strategize on the next strategic plan to continue to strive towards Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes. New guiding initiatives were developed from the October 24th meeting where we conducted a planning session that reviewed accomplishments and paved our way to strategize on the next strategic plan to continue to strive towards Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

In 2023, during Special Convention the full board of directors passed a directive to redefine the direction of the Reclaiming Our People (ROP) initiative. During 2024 Tanana Chiefs Conference reviewed and evaluated the current Reclaiming Our People Tribal Advisory Council (TAC) structure, community needs, feedback, and input. Through this review a new TAC structure was developed to refocus, work towards increased collaboration, align with community driven initiatives, and improve supportive services.

The new Reclaiming Our People structure provides improved collaboration between Tanana Chiefs Conference services and community stakeholders, guiding ROP Action Plans, ROP subregional budgets, and clear focused community objectives to promote and empower our communities to address social issues affecting the regions. The Reclaiming Our People Action Plans focus on emotional, mental, and cultural well-being within the health continuum.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESOURCES

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Crisis Support

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis and need immediate assistance, please reach out in one of the following ways:

TCC Behavioral Health at (907)459-3800 or Toll-Free (800)478-4741; Outside of regular business hours please selection Option 2.

Calling or texting 988. 988 is a national crisis line with staff located in Alaska. Callers will receive a direct connection to compassionate care and support for anyone who is experiencing suicidal thoughts, who is at risk of suicide, or who is struggling with emotional distress. The Lifeline is free and confidential, with operators that treat callers with respect and listen without judgment. This is a free service that is available 24/7.

Drop In Support Group. If you have a friend or family member who is trying to figure out how to help someone struggling with alcohol or drug use, TCC Behavioral Health offers a “Let’s Talk! Support Group”. It’s a drop-in group meeting that is held on Wednesday from Noon to 1:00 p.m. It is NOT a treatment group. No identifying information will be saved or provided. It’s a chance to understand the addictions loved ones are struggling with and cope with the relationship challenges.

Behavioral Health Service Access

To access any Behavioral Health programs, please connect with your local provider or call directly at (907)459-3800 or Toll-Free (800)478-4741. Outside of crisis services, clients are screened and provided support to reach the program or service needed.

Behavioral Health Outpatient Programs

Adult Mental Health. This program offers support for adults managing mental health challenges. Clients can choose to receive individual or group therapy to explore their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. The goal is to help individuals improve their quality of life and functioning. Case management is offered to most clients to assist with connecting them to community resources.

Child and Family Mental Health. This program is designed to help children, adolescents, and their families improve their quality of life and functioning. This

is a collaborative program that involves both parents or caregivers and the young client. Various therapeutic approaches are tailored to support social and emotional development and overall well-being. Staff are trained to assist with a range of needs and can offer support to help the children and families navigate their mental health journey.

Adult Addictions. All clients have an assessment (substance use or integrated) which indicates the ASAM level of care recommended. This program offers a variety of services to meet patient needs with varying levels of substance use dependency. Treatment is centered on a recovery-oriented curriculum which assists clients with the skills to develop and maintain long-term recovery. Treatment may include individual and group counseling and a variety of groups to address topics such as relapse prevention, physical effects of alcohol and other drugs, models of addictions, managing emotions, stages of change, thinking errors, and other factors impacting life functioning. Providers certified as chemical dependency counselors and behavioral health aides facilitate these services.

Psychiatry: Psychiatry is a Medical Specialty Services. Many conditions may be managed by your Primary Care Provider and referrals are accepted by Medical Referral. Psychiatry is a medical specialty devoted to the treatment of mental health disorders including various emotional, behavioral, cognitive, and perceptual disorders. Our psychiatrists and psychiatric nurse practitioners are licensed providers whom evaluate, prescribe, and monitor medications to best meet patient needs. Services are provided dependent on the maturity of the patient, typically starting at age 4.

Medication-Assisted Treatment: Medical providers may evaluate and prescribe medications to assist patients with substance use dependency through the use of medications in combination with counseling and case management. Outpatient Substance Use Providers closely work with Medical Providers to support patients engaged in substance use treatment through motivational interviewing, case management, and assist patients with accessing higher levels of care.

Behavioral Health Residential Programs

Old Minto Family Recovery Camp. Old Minto Family Recovery Camp is the only residential substance use treatment program operated by Tanana Chiefs Conference. This program was originally designed as an alternative to traditional substance use treatment, at the original Old Minto village and is only accessible by boat, plane, and snow machine. As such, applicants are required to complete a Health Screening Form. This program provides services to families although individuals often attend alone. This program is a minimum of 35 days long, where

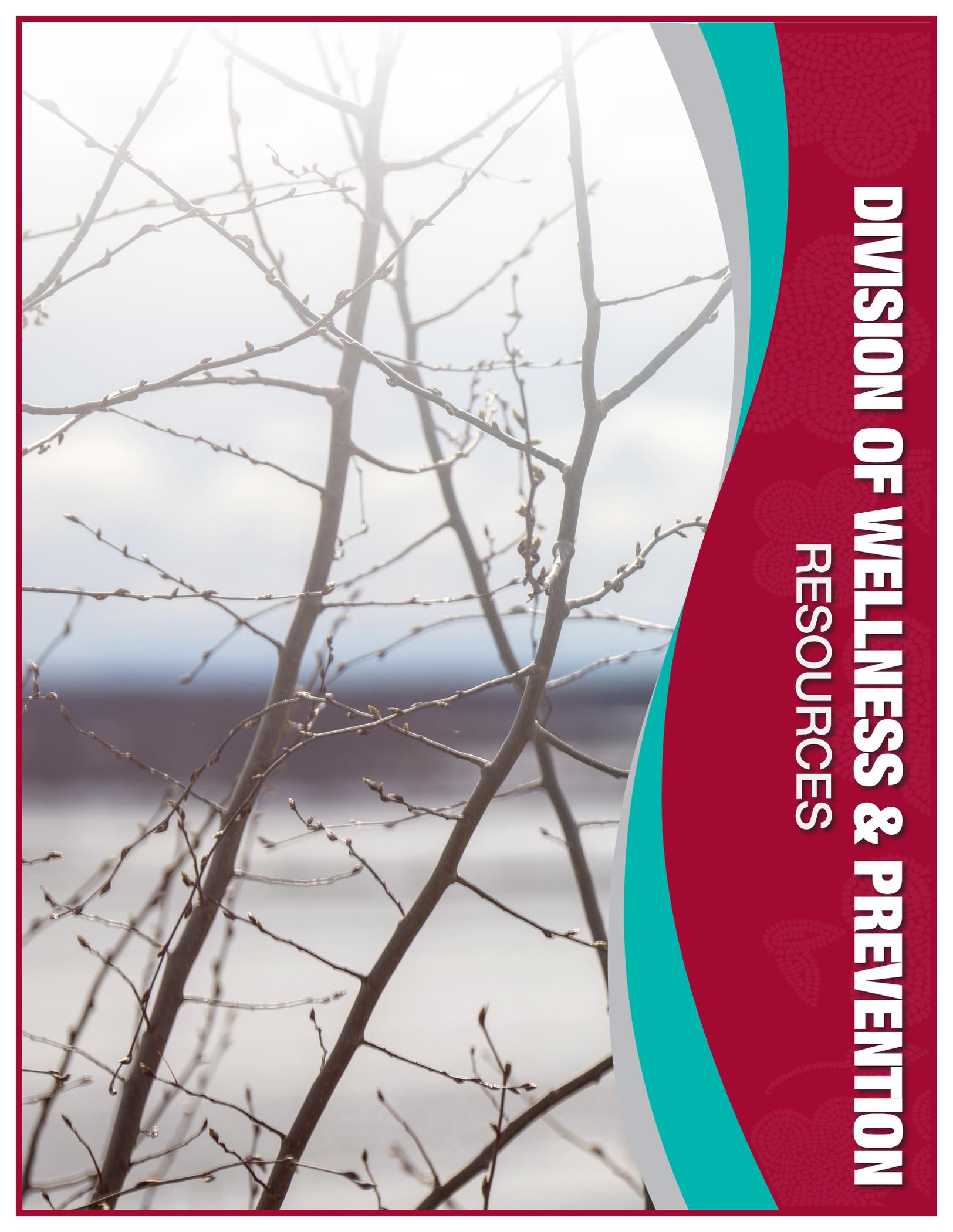
clients learn the skills to develop and maintain long-term recovery and overall wellness. Services are provided by certified Chemical Dependency and Traditional Counselors who teach traditional life skills.

Paul Williams House: The Paul Williams House is a supportive living home for individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI). Case Management program is designed to support individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI). The program provides intensive case management services that are centered on the individual's needs and goals. The providers use a client-centered approach called motivational interviewing, which helps motivate and empower clients to make positive changes in their lives. The providers can assist with various aspects of daily living skills, medication management, and advocacy. They also help clients to access additional resources and support systems that can contribute to their overall well-being and recovery.

Housing First. Housing First is program intended to support individuals whom experience a number of mental health and substance use challenges which makes living independently particularly challenging. This program offers housing to those in need, and many residents choose to engage in intensive case management services and other supportive resources. Behavioral Health partners with program leadership and persons served with case management services. The Case Managers in this program use a client-centered approach called motivational interviewing to support and empower individuals. They can assist with daily living skills, advocacy, and help connect clients with additional resources and support systems. The goal is to help individuals maintain stable housing while also providing the necessary support to improve their overall well-being and recovery.

Gateway to Recovery: This program is a medical inpatient withdrawal management program open to all Alaska residents. This program is primarily operated under Medical Services with partnership with Behavioral Health providers. Patients receive support with 24 hour medical supervision and assistance in their next steps of recovery. Patients are provided support to safely and comfortably withdraw from alcohol, opioids, and stimulants such as methamphetamines.

Graf Rheeneerhaanjii: Graf is a residential mental health and substance use treatment program for youth ages 13-18 whom are experiencing serious mental health challenges making it difficult for them to live in their home. This program is designed to help children, youth and their families improve their quality of life and functioning. This is a collaborative program which involves caregivers and the client including individual and family therapy.



DIVISION OF WELLNESS & PREVENTION
RESOURCES

DIVISION OF WELLNESS & PREVENTION

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Training

Description: Suicide Prevention training focused on recognizing the warning signs of suicide, learning how to offer hope, and knowing how to get help and save a life.

Time Commitment: One 90-minute Training

Audience: Youth (14-18) or Adults (18+)

Contact: Victoria Campbell, 907-452-8251 x3089, victoria.campbell@tananachiefs.org

Inner Critic to Inner Advocate (IC2IA) Workbooks

Description: This workbook helps youth understand factors that shape their internal negative dialogue and learn how to replace these with positive thoughts and actions.

Time Commitment: Six 1-hour Sessions or Self-paced

Audience: Youth (14-18) and Adults (18-24)

Contact: Victoria Campbell, 907-452-8251 x3089, victoria.campbell@tananachiefs.org

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) Training

Description: Youth Mental Health First Aid is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. Youth Mental Health First Aid is primarily designed for adults who regularly interact with young people. The course introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, substance use, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders (including AD/HD), and eating disorders.

Time Commitment: One 8-hour or two consecutive days of 4-hours of Training

Audience: Adults (18+)

Contact: Victoria Campbell, 907-452-8251 x3089, victoria.campbell@tananachiefs.org

Limiting Access to Lethal Means Training

Description: This important training teaches communities: 1) how to prevent access to things like Firearms or medications during a suicidal crisis; 2) how to recognize someone who may be experiencing suicidal ideation; and 3) to understand the best practices for storing firearms and ammunition

Time Commitment: One 60-minute Training

Audience: Adults (18+)

Contact: Cole Cantu, 907-452-8251 x3420, cole.cantu@tananachiefs.org

Doorway to a Sacred Place (DWSP) Training

Description: DWSP provides a model for people within Alaskan communities to respond to traumatic events and help restore wellness in ways that incorporate local cultural strategies and values through the implementation of talking and teaching circles.

Time Commitment: One 6-hour Training

Audience: Adults (18+)

Contact: Steve Ristow, 907-452-8251 x3177, steven.ristow@tananachiefs.org

Crisis Response Workshops

Description: This workshop identifies and equips key community members to obtain crisis skills from QPR, CPR, CALM, various Talking Circle Trainings, personalized wellness knowledge and activities for crisis volunteers to recharge, etc., and to develop individualized community-specific strategic plans to competently respond to crisis events.

Time Commitment: Two 6-hour Training Days

Audience: Adults (18+)

Contact: Steve Ristow, 907-452-8251 x3177, steven.ristow@tananachiefs.org

Grief Trainings/Talking Circles

Description: Give information on grief and be able to work through the difficult experience. Present information on Trauma (historical or intergenerational trauma), and how unresolved grief affects one's life (substance abuse, suicide, domestic violence, abuse, other social problems). Offer service to provide hope and empowerment to individuals and communities, while experiencing grief. Having a talking circle and covering information, so individuals will have an understanding of what they are feeling as they are grieving and able to move beyond a loss.

Time Commitment: 2 ½ hours or more depending on the capacity.

Audience: Adults (18+)

Contact: Roxanne Frank, 907-452-8251 x3581, roxanne.frank@tananachiefs.org

Substance Use and Wellness Presentations

Description: A prevention toolkit aimed at providing awareness and information related to substance misuse within the TCC region and how it impacts mental health, community wellness, and lifestyle balance. With prior coordination, communities can select and/or adapt which presentations suit their individual community needs – 20 presentations to choose from!

Time Commitment: 20-30 minutes for each presentation

Audience: Youth (14-18) and/or Adults (18+)

Contact: J. Leigh Smith, 907-452-8251 x2034, joclynn.smith@tananachiefs.org

Opioid Awareness and Narcan Training

Description: This training provides comprehensive information regarding opioid education and awareness with the goal to recognize and reverse an opioid overdose with Narcan/Naloxone.

Time Commitment: 45-60 minute training

Audience: Adults (18+)

Contact: J. Leigh Smith, 907-452-8251 x2034, jocylynn.smith@tananachiefs.org

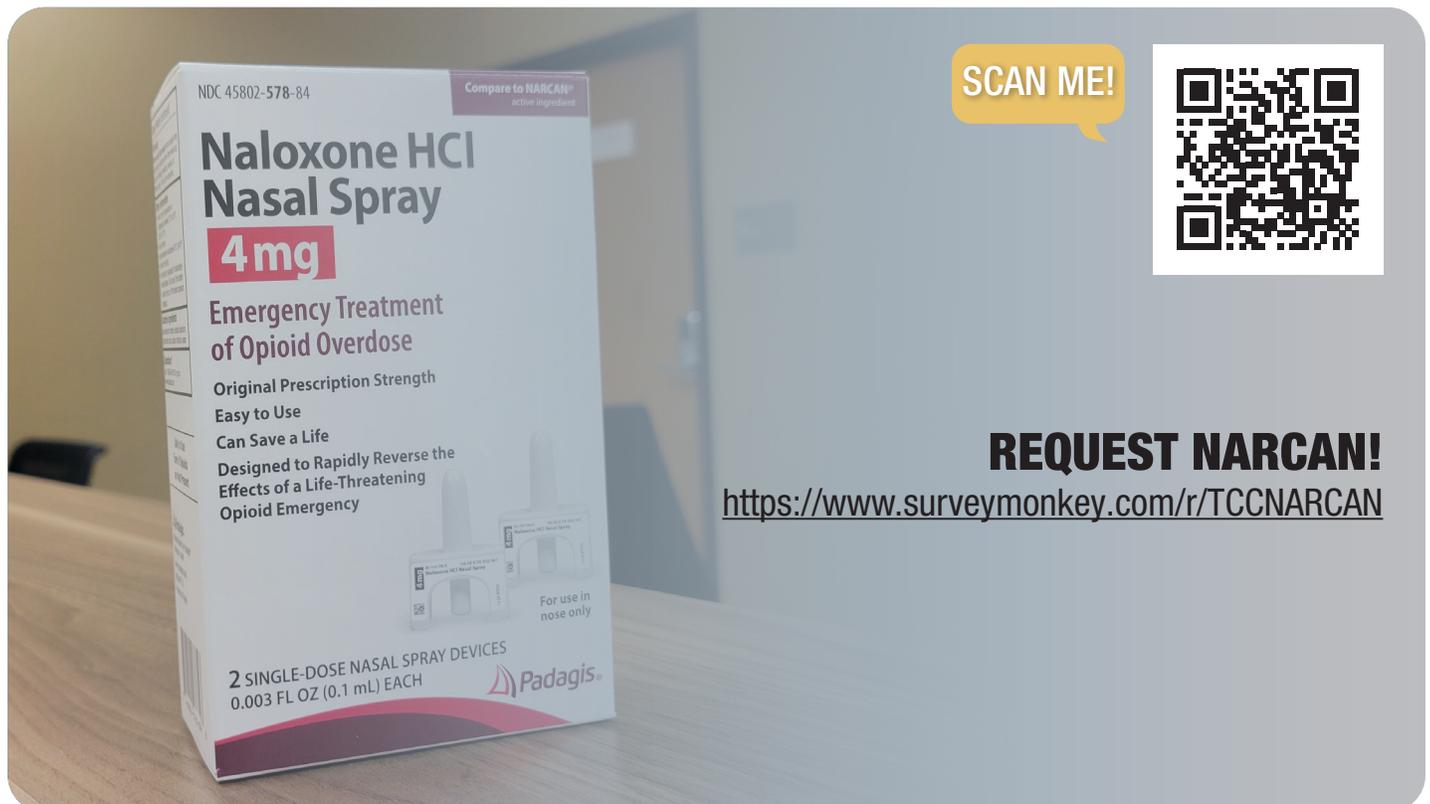
Youth Substance Use and Wellness Presentations

Description: An interactive set of youth presentations highlighting the dangers of commonly used substances, overdose awareness, and Narcan, as well as the importance of mental, physical, and spiritual health and ways to improve each. These presentations involve a fun and resilient character, “Brian the Brain” - who joins in on the journey of healing, learning, and engaging.

Time Commitment: 30-45 minute training for each presentation

Audience: Youth (8-18)

Contact: J. Leigh Smith, 907-452-8251 x2034, jocylynn.smith@tananachiefs.org



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ATV Safety Training

Description: This course is designed to address the high rates of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) in Alaska caused by All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs). The course uses basic safety lessons and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math activities, otherwise known as STEM, when getting ready to ride an ATV. Students will learn how to apply lessons with activities, test their knowledge and create a safety plan for riding an ATV.

Time Commitment: Five 90-minute Lessons

Audience: Youth (6-18)

Contact: Cole Cantu, 907-452-8251 x3420, cole.cantu@tananachiefs.org

Coldwater/Boating Safety

Description: Skills taught through the curriculum include recognizing signs of hypothermia, Land survival, Shelter building, Using/creating outdoor emergency signals, Selecting the right personal flotation device (PFD), Cold water survival, Boating safety

Time Commitment: Five 60-minute lessons

Audience: Youth (6-18)

Contact: Cole Cantu, 907-452-8251 x3420, cole.cantu@tananachiefs.org

Stop The Bleed Training

Description: This National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) course is for civilians with limited or no medical training who wish to learn life-saving bleeding control techniques that can dramatically increase casualty survival. This course teaches participants the following basic life-saving medical interventions 1) Bleeding control with a tourniquet and 2) Bleeding control with gauze packs or topical hemostatic agents.

Time Commitment: One 60-minute Training

Audience: Adults (18+)

Contact: Cole Cantu, 907-452-8251 x3420, cole.cantu@tananachiefs.org

FAQ

Is Suicide Prevention a Behavioral Health topic or a Wellness topic?

The answer is both. While Behavioral Health services help people who need to rebuild their wall of resilience and get out of the risk of suicide area, our program's focus is to help people build such a strong wall and to notice when our friend's walls are weakening that we can step in to help before they get very deep into the risk of suicide area. These areas are also known as prevention and early intervention, though most of our trainings will provide tools for intervention and even post-vention scenarios, just in case.



FAMILY SERVICES & SUPPORT DEPARTMENT RESOURCES

FAMILY SERVICES & SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING

Head Start

Program Description: Tanana Chiefs Conference Birth to Five Head Start Program serves families with children birth to five years old. As an Early Head Start/Head Start (EHS/HS), we provide services through two delivery systems; Center-based and Home-based. The Center-based system uses a classroom to provide services; and the Home-based system provides services in the family's home. Each of our communities that we are located in has unique program options to provide quality services to families.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Head Start Program
907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3797 or 3170
122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

headstartdept@tananachiefs.org

<https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/family-services/birth-to-five-head-start-program/>

Overview:

If you're interested in enrolling in the Tanana Chief Conference Birth to Five Head Start Program, please reach out to your TCC Head Start Village office for assistance with the enrollment process.

We proudly serve the following communities: Allakaket, Grayling, Holy Cross, Huslia, McGrath, Minto, Nenana, Northway, Nulato, Tanacross, Tanana, Tetlin, and Tok.

In case you are unable to contact your local TCC Head Start office, kindly reach out to our central office in Fairbanks.

Please refer to the list below to determine the available options in your community.

Center-Based: Serving children ages birth to five in a classroom setting.

- Full Day: 6-hour days • Monday-Thursday
 - Nenana, Northway, and Tok
- Part Day: 4-hour days • Monday-Thursday
 - Grayling, Huslia, McGrath, Nulato, and Tanacross

Home-Based: Serving all families with children from birth to age 5 in their homes.

- 46 Weekly Home Visits
- 22 Socials Per Year
- Birth to 5-years-old
- Allakaket, Holy Cross, Minto, and Tanana

For any inquiries or if you encounter difficulties reaching your local TCC Head Start office, feel free to contact our central office in Fairbanks.

Application Process:

- Complete the application packet at your local Head Start location
- They will send it in to Central Office for processing
- ERSEA Specialist will contact the family for interview and any incomplete documents
- Once the application is complete, it's reviewed by the Director, and first day to attend is scheduled

Application Location:

Applications can be found on site at your local Head Start or by request, by emailing waverly.neal@tananachiefs.org

Eligibility:

The Head Start program operates on an income-based model. As an American Indian/Alaska Native agency, we have the flexibility to serve up to 49% of children who fall outside the income guidelines, provided that all eligible children are enrolled. This ensures a minimum enrollment of 51% of children meeting the income criteria.

Additionally, we are committed to inclusivity and accessibility. To support children with disabilities, we reserve 10% of our funded slots specifically for their enrollment. This underscores our dedication to providing comprehensive and equitable early childhood education.

For further information or clarification on income guidelines and eligibility, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

Infant Learning Program

Program Description: The Infant Learning Program serves as the cornerstone of the education system for children with special needs under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This initiative receives support from federal and state funding, specifically from the State of Alaska’s Department of Health and Social Services.

Infants and young children, ages birth to three, can be referred to the program through various channels, including:

- Healthcare Providers
- Parents and Caregivers
- Child Protection
- Community Educators or Service Providers
- Anyone can make a referral, provided caregivers consent

Mission Statement:

TCC-ILP provides support and assistance to young children experiencing developmental delays and their families, promoting the safe and healthy development of infants and toddlers within their families and communities.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Infant Learning Program

907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3176

122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

infantlearning@tananachiefs.org

<https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/infant-learning-program/>

Overview:

Serving Interior Alaska along the road system and villages within TCC’s reach, the ILP program at TCC provides crucial services to children, ages birth to three, residing outside the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Membership in the Tribe is not a prerequisite; our services are open to all. We bring support and services directly to your communities, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity.

Services Provided:

- Developmental Screenings and Evaluations
- Hearing and Vision Screening
- Family Support and Service Coordination
- Special Instruction and Developmental Information for Caregivers
- Direct Speech, Occupational, and Physical Therapy
- Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Well-Being

- Referrals to Appropriate Supports and Resources in the Community
- Transition Services to Pre-school, Head Start, and Special Education

How Does It Work?

- A multi-disciplinary assessment will gauge if a child is developing at a similar rate as children of the same age.
- Using large muscles, moving around (Gross Motor)
- Using hands and fingers (Fine Motor)
- Understanding and talking (Communication)
- Getting along and involved with others (Social/Emotional)
- Doing things for themselves (Adaptive)

If a child experiences delays, they may be eligible for Early Intervention Services. The team and the family will develop goals and services together.

Multidisciplinary Team:

Our dedicated team includes professionals such as a Developmental Specialist, Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, parents, caregivers, home visitors, and service providers from other family support programs and community resources.

Individualized Support:

Each family is assigned a Family Service Coordinator, ensuring personalized and comprehensive assistance throughout their journey.

Eligibility:

- Must have children in the home under 18 (19 if child is still in high school)
- Pregnant women must be in the 3rd trimester of pregnancy.
- Must complete application and turn in all required documents.
- Enrolled or eligible to be enrolled into a federally recognized Tribe.
- Family must fall below the state income guidelines for the family size and have less than \$2,000 in resources.

EDUCATION & INDIGENOUS LEARNING

Adult Basic Education (GED Services)

The Adult Basic Education Program provides support for students seeking to complete high school equivalency examinations, or who are in need of upgrades in basic core courses (math, English, etc.).

TCC covers the cost of courses provided by The Literacy Council of Alaska (based in Fairbanks). Adult Basic Education funding consideration is available to Tribal members enrolled to specific Tribes, please contact the Education Department for more information.

Cultural Program

Program Description: This program will defer to culture-bearers in knowledge and practice, and strives for improvement in helping all communities of the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

We intend to enhance and revitalize traditional cultural practices of interior Tribes while providing opportunities for cultural knowledge holders and master artisans to share their unique skills in a multigenerational setting.

Through ongoing communication, coordination, and collaboration (3 C's) with TCC leaderships and culture-bearers, this program seeks to culture-strengthen TCC communities, while also holding space in Fairbanks and visiting communities, to be the catalyst of knowledge and practice to awaken their respective "Spirit."

Vision Statement

To awaken the Spirit within 'The People'

Mission Statement

Through cultural preservation, enrichment, and revitalization we seek to educate, connect, and heal The People to begin our collective journey toward thriving Tanana Chiefs Conference communities.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Cultural Program
907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3547

Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center
101 Dunkel Street, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

cultural.programs@tananachiefs.org

<https://www.tananachiefs.org/cultural-programs/>

Goals

- To preserve Alaska Native cultural heritage to ensure its survival for future generations.
- To guide Alaska Native people in cultural enrichment through enhancing one's knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes by interacting with others of different background, perspectives, and traditions.
- To revitalize Alaska Native culture through a rigorous process of reclaiming and reevaluating cultural practices, traditions, and values that have been lost or marginalized due to historical factors and trauma.

Strategies

- Help connect the TCC community to heritage-strengthening activities such as Native Youth Olympics, performance arts, or ancestral-inspired lifestyle practices.
- Pass on traditional craft skills, indigenous mindfulness, utilizing tangible or intangible forms of cultural heritage for self-identity and guide to one's life-purpose.
- Traditional ceremonies: cleansing, transfer, naming, regalia-making, offerings, burn, specialized dance/song, and many other traditional ceremonies relevant to the diverse communities of Tanana Chiefs Conference.
- Center cultural knowledge development through activities – potentially including theatrical performances/presentations, cultural theatre youth camps, native games youth boot-camp, Indigenous plant workshops, and Indigenous mindfulness workshops.
- Building a Cultural Lending Library of Alaska Native, and Indigenous, relevant books for Tanana Chiefs Conference.

Scholarships

Higher Education Funding

Program Description: Tanana Chiefs Conference is a strong supporter of the educational efforts of higher education students. The Higher Education scholarship provides the opportunity for students to further their education in pursuit of an four year undergraduate degree.

The scholarship is to help cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, supplies, and other related expenses. The TCC Education & Indigenous Learning Department also offers guidance in obtaining financial support from sources of funding other than TCC.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Education & Indigenous Learning
907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3185 or 3447
122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Education_dept@tananachiefs.org
<https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/education>

Overview

The purpose of the Tanana Chiefs Conference Higher Education (HE) program is to provide financial assistance to eligible Tribal members enrolled to an accredited university or institution. This funding is supplemental – applicants are required to apply for all available state, federal and private financial aid while also utilizing all available personal and family resources.

Application Process:

Complete the Application Packet: Ensure all sections are filled out with all required signatures.

Before applying, ensure you have attached:

- Official Transcripts
- Acceptance Letter from your HE or AVT Institution
- Tribal Enrollment Card (or a verification of Alaska Native Ancestry)
- Class Schedule
- Completed Budget Forecast/Need Sheet provided by institution

Call to ensure that all your paperwork has been received and your file is complete.

TCC funding is only available to contracted Tribes (which changes annually), contact Education staff to determine if you are eligible.

Academic Requirements:

- A 2.0 GPA (grade point average) must be maintained.
- Not meeting a 2.0 will result in Academic Probation.
- Academically disqualified students will not be funded.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a higher education grant, an applicant must be:

- An enrolled Tribal member to a Tribe for which TCC administers their education funding – check with Education staff to determine if your Tribe is eligible.
- Students must maintain full or part-time status, as selected.
- Eligibility shall be determined by the Education & Indigenous Learning Department staff.

- Applications must be received by the deadline - April 30th for the fall semester and November 15th for the spring semester.

Adult Vocational Training Funding

Tanana Chiefs Conference is a strong supporter of the educational efforts of vocational students. The AVT scholarship provides the opportunity for adults to attend vocational programs and make a positive difference in the lives of their families. The scholarship is to help cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, supplies, and other related expenses.

AVT funding is available to students from several Interior Tribes, and to all Tribally-enrolled individuals residing in the Fairbanks area, and covers certificate programs (two years or less) and Associate of Applied Science Degrees (two year AAS).

Youth Services

Summer Youth Employment

Village youth, please contact your Tribe if you are interested in working for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) in your community. All applicants will need to complete the TCC SYEP Application form.

The SYEP strives to help youth find opportunities for leadership development, specialized training, and career exploration. Youth must be between the ages of 14-21 (up to 24 years old in some cases) and of Alaska Native, American Indian or Native Hawaiian descent.

For more information, please email syep@tananachiefs.org or call the SYEP Coordinator at (907) 452-8251 ext. 3049.

TCC GO

Program Description: The TCC GO program is designed to provide guidance and resources for high school students in identifying and pursuing their career field of interest while preparing them for post-secondary education or vocational training after high school. TCC GO empowers students to discover their interests through career exploration activities, aligning them with courses and opportunities. Our program guides students in setting goals, choosing postsecondary options, and transitioning into the workplace for a successful career path.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • TCC GO
907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3049, 3039, or 3403
122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
tccgo@tananachiefs.org
<https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/tcc-go/>

Overview:

TCC GO aims to achieve two primary goals: 1) provide career exploration opportunities and support access to educational credentialing, including full scholarships for dual credit courses; and 2) elevate academic engagement among Alaska Native students in the TCC region.

Program Benefits:

Explore the exciting benefits TCC GO offers for your educational journey:

- Student Support Coordinators help identify career pathways and provide full scholarships for UAF's Alaska Advantage dual credit courses.
- Provide internet expense reimbursement (up to \$100/month per household).
- Offer free access to online career exploration software for online career development.
- Provide free access to SAT/ACT prep courses online.
- Individual Targeted Academic Advising:
- TCC GO delivers personalized academic advising to Alaska Native students, encouraging career exploration and supporting basic academic requirements for high school graduation.

Email syep@tananachiefs.org for more information.

Guidance for Educational Opportunities:

Advisors work with students to explore free dual credit opportunities through UAF's Alaska Advantage program, engage in virtual job shadowing, pursue paid stipend opportunities, and access eligible reimbursements for internet expenses.

College Applications and Scholarships:

In addition to helping students utilize TCC GO opportunities, our Student Support Coordinators assist with college applications and scholarship opportunities, ensuring a comprehensive approach to educational success.

Get Driving Program:

This is an opportunity for young adults between the ages of 16-24 years of age to obtain your driver's license. Tanana Chiefs Conference youth services will pay for the driver education course expenses. However, participants are required to

pay their own travel and lodging expenses in Fairbanks to attend the course. For families that would like to be reimbursed this cost, this will be considered on an case-by-case basis before the cost is incurred, please contact TCC GO at tccgo@tananachiefs.org to inquire about this option.

Eligibility:

TCC GO is open to all Alaska Native students (enrolled in a TCC region Tribe) attending school within the region, including homeschool, and to all high school students attending any rural/village school within the TCC region. In order to be considered you will need to submit an application, which you can find on the website. If you have any questions about the application process or issues filling out the application, please contact a Student Support Coordinator.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development

The Rural Economic Development program is here to assist eligible Alaska Natives and American Indians with small business development and entrepreneurship. We strive to meet the needs of the people we serve within today's changing economy.

Applicants for economic development related services may receive assistance with the following: business plan development, small business training courses, and one-on-one technical assistance for your small business. The Rural Economic Development Program is here to assist with learning the fundamentals of creating a business, at this time we are unable to assist new business financially. Contact us at 907-452-8251 ext. 3743.

Employment & Training

Program Description: Championing the aspirations of Native jobseekers, we serve as advocates, mentors, and valuable resources. Our commitment extends to fortifying village economies through job creation, training, and community service. By facilitating employer access to a skilled and dependable workforce, we contribute to economic vitality. Additionally, we open a gateway for youth, bridging them to the world of work and fostering opportunities for growth and exploration.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Employment & Training
907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 2904 or 3172
122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
employment_dept@tananachiefs.org
<https://www.tananachiefs.org/job-training>

Overview:

Explore diverse opportunities through the Employment & Training Department (E&T), dedicated to serving the 42 villages in the TCC region. Our mission is to provide training and empower Tribal members facing employment barriers.

Supportive Services:

- Funding available for tools, work clothing, training, room, and board.
- Awarded only when directly linked to full-time and/or part-time employment.
- Services are subject to funding availability and not guaranteed.

Comprehensive Services:

- **TERO:** Ensure fair employment practices.
- **Work Experiences:** Gain hands-on skills.
- **OJT (On-the-Job Training):** Practical training for real-world employment.

Application Process:

- Complete the Application Packet: Ensure all sections are filled out, and don't forget to sign all required pages.
- Before applying, ensure you have:
 - Tribal ID or CIB card
 - Pricing list of needed items
 - GED/High School Diploma
 - Updated resume and enrollment in ALEXsys
 - Individual Employability Plan (IEP)
 - Letter of intent/dispatch notice
 - Military selective service documentation if applicable
 - These steps ensure a comprehensive application process.

Eligibility:

- Tribal Enrollment or Proof of Eligibility: Must be Tribally-enrolled or demonstrate eligibility for Tribal enrollment. Alternatively, provide a Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) from the Department of Indian Affairs.
- Residency Criteria: Must currently reside within the TCC region.
- Face a barrier to employment, unemployed, or underemployed.

Additional Information:

- 3-In-A-Lifetime Rule: All services are subject to a 3-In-A-Lifetime rule, which means we can only provide assistance three times.
- Apply to your Tribal Council first and foremost.
- Always have an updated resume on hand.

- Don't forget to put your affiliation on your resume (meaning Tribe and Corporation you are enrolled to).

Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program

Program Description: Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Programs are designed to assist individuals with disabilities in re-entering the workforce. This is achieved through career exploration, training attendance, or participation in wild resource and harvest lifestyle activities (formerly subsistence). The goal is to enhance the sustenance of their households and/or communities!

Mission Statement:

TCC-TVR is dedicated to providing assistance that advances vocational opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Our mission is to enrich Tribal, cultural, and traditional values, fostering independence and self-determination.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program
907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3232 or 3329
122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
<https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/family-services/tribal-vocational-rehabilitation-program/>

Overview:

- **Who Should Apply?**
 - If you encounter challenges securing or maintaining employment or participating in wild resource & harvest lifestyle activities due to a physical or mental disability, TCC's Vocational Rehabilitation program is tailored to support you. Discover how we can help you overcome barriers and achieve your vocational goals.
- **Connect with Us:**
 - To explore opportunities with a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, reach out to us for details about the program, eligibility criteria, and how to initiate the services you need. Remember, you can do it, and we're here to assist you every step of the way!
- **Types of Training Provided:**
 - **Vocational Training:** Acquire knowledge through educational institutions, on-the-job training, tutors, or a combination.
 - **Pre-Vocational Training:** Receive academic and basic training to develop preparatory skills for successful entry into vocational training or employment.

- **Personal Adjustment:** Obtain assistance with personal habits and skills essential for effective functioning in the workforce with a disability.
- **Assistive Technology:** Access available assistive technology for rehabilitation needs.
- **Services Offered:**
 - Individual vocational counseling and guidance.
 - Diagnostic inventory and referral services.
 - Medical and psychiatric referral services.
 - Referrals for assistive devices such as artificial limbs, hearing aids, wheelchairs, etc.
 - Assistance, as funds are available, for on-the-job training, tutoring, licenses, equipment, and tools.
 - Suitable job placement referrals.
 - Referrals for independent living services and recreational opportunities.

Eligibility:

- **Residency:** Applicants must reside within a village in the TCC service area or nearby.
- **Disability:** Applicants must have a documented physical or mental disability that substantially impedes employment.
- **Heritage:** Applicants must have documented proof of Alaskan Native or American Indian descent or be enrolled in their Tribe or Corporation.
- **Serving Individuals with:**
 - Amputation
 - Diabetes
 - Head Injuries
 - Hearing Impairments
 - Learning Disabilities
 - Mental Illness
 - Orthopedic Problems
 - Seizure Disorders
 - Speech Problems
 - Spinal Problems
 - Visual Impairments
 - Alcohol and Drug Abuse Recovery
 - Developmental Disabilities

WORKFORCE SUPPORT

Child Care Assistance Program

Program Description: Child Care Assistance offers services for children under the age of 13 (or up to age 19 for children with a diagnosed disability). These services are available to Alaska Native and American Indian families residing in the 42 villages within the TCC region and the Fairbanks area.

The program extends financial child care assistance for both full and part-time child care services to parents or caregivers who are:

- Working
- Job Searching
- Attending School
- Attending Training
- Self-employed
- Participating in a Treatment Program
- Performing Subsistence Activities (Rural Communities only)
- Taking care of Foster Children
- This assistance aims to support families in various situations, ensuring access to child care for those who need it.

Contact

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Child Care Assistance Program

907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3362, 3107 or 3365

122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

childcare@tananachiefs.org

<https://www.tananachiefs.org/get-assistance/childcare>

Overview

The child care program offers reimbursement to child care providers catering to children from eligible, low to moderate-income families participating in the Child Care Assistance Program.

There are four types of child care providers available for your use:

- **Center-based child care:** A facility with a valid child care license issued by the state of Alaska.
- **Group Home child care:** A private residence with a valid child care license issued by the State of Alaska.
- **Relative provider:** A child care provider who is related by marriage, court decree, full blood or half-blood. Can be grandparent, great-grandparent, sibling (if living in a separate residence), aunt and uncle (excluding cousins).

- **Tribally approved provider:** Not related to the child, providing childcare in a private residence, and must be tribally approved (applicable to rural communities only).

These options aim to accommodate diverse preferences and ensure accessible child care for qualifying families.

Application Process

- Complete the Application Packet: Ensure all sections are filled out, and don't forget to sign all required pages.
 - For Fairbanks based applicants, an application submitted to the State of Alaska is required prior to completing the application process for Child Care Assistance.
- Submit a Copy of Your Valid Government-Issued Photo ID: Include a clear copy of your identification.
- Submit a Copy of Your Tribal ID or CIB Certificate: Include a copy of your Tribal ID or Certificate of Indian Blood.
- Provide Proof of All Income: Include documentation verifying all sources of income.
- If Applicable - Include a Copy of Your Class Schedule and Account Summary: If you are a student, provide a copy of your class schedule and account summary.
- For All Children Requiring Child Care, Please Include: A copy of their birth certificates, tribal documentation, and any additional required information.
- These steps ensure a comprehensive application process.
- Complete a telephone interview.

Application Location:

Applications can be found at the following locations:

- <https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/childcare/>
- Chief Peter John Tribal Building
- Village Council Offices

Eligibility for Relative and Approved Provider:

- Age Requirement: Must be at least 18 years old.
- Provider Application: Complete and sign the provider registration application. Both parents and the provider must sign.
- Additional Requirement for Village Residents: Providers residing in the village must also complete a tribal license provider application.
- Must pass OCS Clearance: All potential child care providers.
- Mandatory Criminal Background Check: All potential child care providers are required to complete and pass a criminal background check.

Specific Requirement for Tribally Approved Providers:

- Only applicable to providers residing in rural communities.
- Must have a current TB test.
- Complete and pass a fingerprint background check.

Energy Assistance

Program Description: The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) assists eligible low-income households with their heating and cooling energy costs, energy crisis assistance, weatherization and minor energy-related home repairs.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Energy Assistance Program

907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3457 or 3286

122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

energyassist@tananachiefs.org

<https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/energy-assistance/>

Overview:

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) aims to provide financial assistance to individuals and families struggling to afford their energy bills. The program runs on a fiscal year beginning October 1st and ends on September 30th, so an application must be completed every new fiscal year. The LIHEAP program is a one-time annual supplement payment paid directly to the beneficiary's vendor. LIHEAP can help offset the costs of heating oil, firewood, propane, electricity and natural gas. Cooling assistance is available all fiscal year, which can help offset the costs of cooling and ventilating in the warmer months. Weatherization is also offered to those who qualify for LIHEAP and can be awarded once every three years. Crisis assistance is available all fiscal year for those facing a disconnection of electricity or within 48 hours of running out of heating oil, firewood, propane or natural gas. Priority processing is given to Elders over the age of 60, Veterans, people with disabilities and homes with children

under the age of 6-years-old. The typical application processing time is 45 days once an application is received to determine eligibility, if eligible a beneficiary can anticipate a payment made directly to their vendor within 60 days of their application being received.

Application Process:

- Complete the Application Packet and have your Tribal Authorized Signer certify the application
- Gather any supporting documentation: copy of photo identification, proof of all income for the previous month for all adults, a vendor bill, receipt or statement
- Submit your completed application to energyassist@tananachiefs.org or fax to (907) 459-3870
- If more information is needed to determine eligibility, you and your Tribal Authorized Signer will be notified by mail and/or email if one was provided
- Double check your application before it is submitted to ensure all questions are answered, all pages are signed and that all relevant backup documentation is attached
- Eligibility decisions are made within 45 days of receipt of a complete application, you can inquire about the status of your application through your Tribal Authorized Signer or by emailing energyassist@tananachiefs.org
- Crisis assistance and weatherization requests are available through your Tribal Authorized Signer and by requesting the request through energyassist@tananachiefs.org

Application Location:

- Applications can be found at the following locations:
- <https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/energy-assistance/>
- Chief Peter John Tribal Building
- Village Council Offices

Eligibility:

- **Residency:** Applicants must reside within a village in the TCC service area
- We are able to serve Non-Native and Native residents in: Alatna, Allakaket, Anvik, Arctic Village, Beaver, Bettles, Birch Creek, Central, Chalkyitsik, Chicken, Circle, Dot Lake, Eagle, Evansville, Fort Yukon, Galena, Grayling, Holy Cross, Hughes, Huslia, Kaltag, Koyukuk, Lake Minchumina, McGrath, Manley Hot Springs, Minto, Nenana, Nikolai, Northway, Nulato, Rampart, Ruby, Shageluk, Stevens Village, Takotna, Tanacross, Tanana, Telida, Tetlin & Venetie.
- Serves only Native residents in and around Anderson, Clear, Delta Junction, Healy, Healy Lake & Tok.

Meet the gross income limits:

Household Size	Monthly Income
1.....	\$2,917
2.....	\$3,815
3.....	\$4,713
4.....	\$5,611
5.....	\$6,508
6.....	\$7,406
7.....	\$7,575
8.....	\$7,743

Elder Navigator Program

Program Description: The Elder Navigator Program is dedicated to enhancing the health and wellbeing of Tribal Elders and family caregivers.

We provide support by facilitating access to health and community services and resources. Our program staff is also available to make referrals as needed, ensuring Elders can maintain an independent lifestyle.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • Elder Navigator Program

907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext.

122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Elder_navigator@tananachiefs.org

<https://www.tananachiefs.org/Elder-navigator-program/>

Overview:

The program advocates for individuals by facilitating referrals to service providers and aiding in the completion of applications and forms, covering areas such as heating assistance, public assistance, Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security. Additionally, it plays a crucial role in reporting instances of Elder abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation to Adult Protective Services.

Moreover, the program actively supports TCC programs by coordinating health education events, cultural and engaging group activities for both Elders and Youth. It promotes activities addressing various concerns, including fall prevention, nutrition, and health-related topics, fostering a holistic approach to community wellbeing.

Application Process:

- **Complete the Application Packet:** Ensure all sections are filled out, and don't forget to sign all required pages.
- **Submit a Copy of Your Valid Government-Issued Photo ID:** Include a clear copy of your identification.
- These steps ensure a comprehensive application process.

Application Location:

Applications can be found at the following locations:

- <https://www.tananachiefs.org/Elder-navigator-program/>
- Chief Peter John Tribal Building
- Village Council Offices

Eligibility:

- **Tribal Enrollment or Proof of Eligibility:** Must be Tribally-enrolled or demonstrate eligibility for Tribal enrollment. Alternatively, provide a Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) from the Department of Indian Affairs.
- **Age Requirement:** Must be 60 years of age or older.
- **Residency Criteria:** Must currently reside within the TCC region.

Burial Assistance

Program Description: Burial assistance can provide financial assistance to help with funeral costs up to \$2,500. The deceased must be a member of a federally recognized Tribe and was residing in one of the 37 villages located in the Alaska Interior for the past 30 days and has not been absent from their permanent residence in the past 60 days. If the deceased received Adult Temporary Assistance, Adult Public Assistance, or Nursing Home Medicaid, you will need to apply through the State of Alaska Division of Public Assistance Burial Assistance Program.

General / Emergency Assistance

Program Description: General assistance offers services for people who are single or married that have no children that are enrolled or are eligible to enroll to a federally recognized Tribe. The service area includes 37 villages located in the Interior Alaska.

The program extends temporary cash assistance for people who are:

- Working
- Job Searching
- Attending School
- Attending Training

- Participating in a Treatment Program
- Performing Subsistence Activities (Rural Communities only)

General assistance can provide temporary financial support to help with shelter, utilities, food, and clothing costs. The amount of cash assistance a person receives depends on their income and shelter costs.

Emergency assistance can provide \$1,000.00 per household in the event that your home has been damaged by flood or fire. Application filing as head of household has to be tribally enrolled and must reside in one of the 27 villages located in the Alaskan interior.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • General Assistance Program
907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3006 or 3052
122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
TCCTANF_Dept@tananachiefs.org

Overview:

The General Assistance program offers monthly checks to single or married adults that have no children under the age of 18 living in the house and that have little to no income and is not receiving social security income.

Application Process:

- **Complete the Application Packet:** Ensure all sections are filled out, and don't forget to sign all required pages.
- **Submit a Copy of Your Valid Government-Issued Photo ID:** Include a clear copy of your identification.
- **Submit a Copy of Your Tribal ID or CIB Certificate:** Include a copy of your Tribal ID or Certificate of Indian Blood.
- Provide lease/rental agreement/mortgage and utilities.
- A 30 day bank statement from the date of application.
- **Provide Proof of All Income:** paystubs, unemployment benefit letter, paid work, etc.
- These steps ensure a comprehensive application process.

Application Location:

Applications can be found at the following locations:

- https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/tcc_tanf/
- Chief Peter John Tribal Building
- Village Council Offices

Eligibility:

- Must complete application and turn in all required documents.
- Must have limited to no income.
- Single or married adults who have no children under age 18 in the home
- Enrolled or eligible to be enrolled into a federally recognized Tribe.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program

Program Description: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) offers services for families with children under 18 (19 if still in high school), or someone that is taking care of a relative child. The head of household has to be Tribally enrolled or eligible for enrollment into a federally recognized Tribe. These services are available to families residing in the 42 villages within the TCC region and the Fairbanks area.

The program extends temporary cash assistance for both one parent and two parent households who are:

- Working
- Job Searching
- Attending School
- Attending Training
- Participating in a Treatment Program
- Performing Subsistence Activities (Rural Communities only)
- Taking care of Foster Children

TANF can provide temporary financial support to help with shelter, utilities, food and clothing needs, and offers some work supportive services. The amount of cash assistance a family receives depends on the family's size, income, and shelter expenses.

Contact:

Tanana Chiefs Conference • TANF Program
907-452-8251 | 800-478-8251 ext. 3006 or 3052
122 1st Ave. Ste. 500, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
TCCTANF_Dept@tananachiefs.org

Overview:

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program extends monthly financial support to families with qualifying children meeting low-income guidelines.

There are two TANF options catering to different family structures:

- Families with one or two parents with children under 18 (19 if still in high school).

- ANI TANF – Child Only Case: Designed for families with tribal or OCS custody of a family member related within the 5th degree. In this case, the adult caregiver’s income is not factored into the household income calculation.

Application Process:

To initiate the application process, follow these steps:

- **Complete the Application Packet:** Ensure all sections are filled out, and don’t forget to sign all required pages.
- **Submit a Copy of Your Valid Government-Issued Photo ID:** Include a clear copy of your identification.
- **Submit a Copy of Your Tribal ID or CIB Certificate:** Provide a copy of your Tribal ID or Certificate of Indian Blood.
- **Children’s Documents:** Include birth certificates, Tribal IDs, or CIB Certificates, and Social Security Cards (numbers accepted if cards are not available).
- **Residential Documentation:** Provide a lease/rental agreement, mortgage details, and utility bills.
- **Financial Statements:** Include a 30-day bank statement from the date of application and proof of all income such as paystubs, unemployment benefit letters, and records of paid work.
- **Child Support Form (For One-Parent Households):** Required for single-parent households.
- **TANF Case Manager Interview:** Schedule and complete an interview with a TANF case manager within 30 days of the application date.

These steps collectively ensure a thorough and comprehensive application process.

ANI Application Requirements:

- For ANI TANF applications, additional documentation is necessary. This includes a completed application, photo identification of the caregiver, child support forms for both absent parents, Tribal or OCS custody agreement, children’s birth certificates, Tribal IDs or CIBs, and Social Security Numbers (cards if available). Additionally, a family tree signed off by the Tribe or a letter from the Tribe stating the relationship between the caregiver and child is required.
- For any further inquiries or assistance, please contact our TANF office.

Application Location:

Applications can be found at the following locations:

- https://www.tananachiefs.org/services/tcc_tanf/
- Chief Peter John Tribal Building
- Village Council Offices

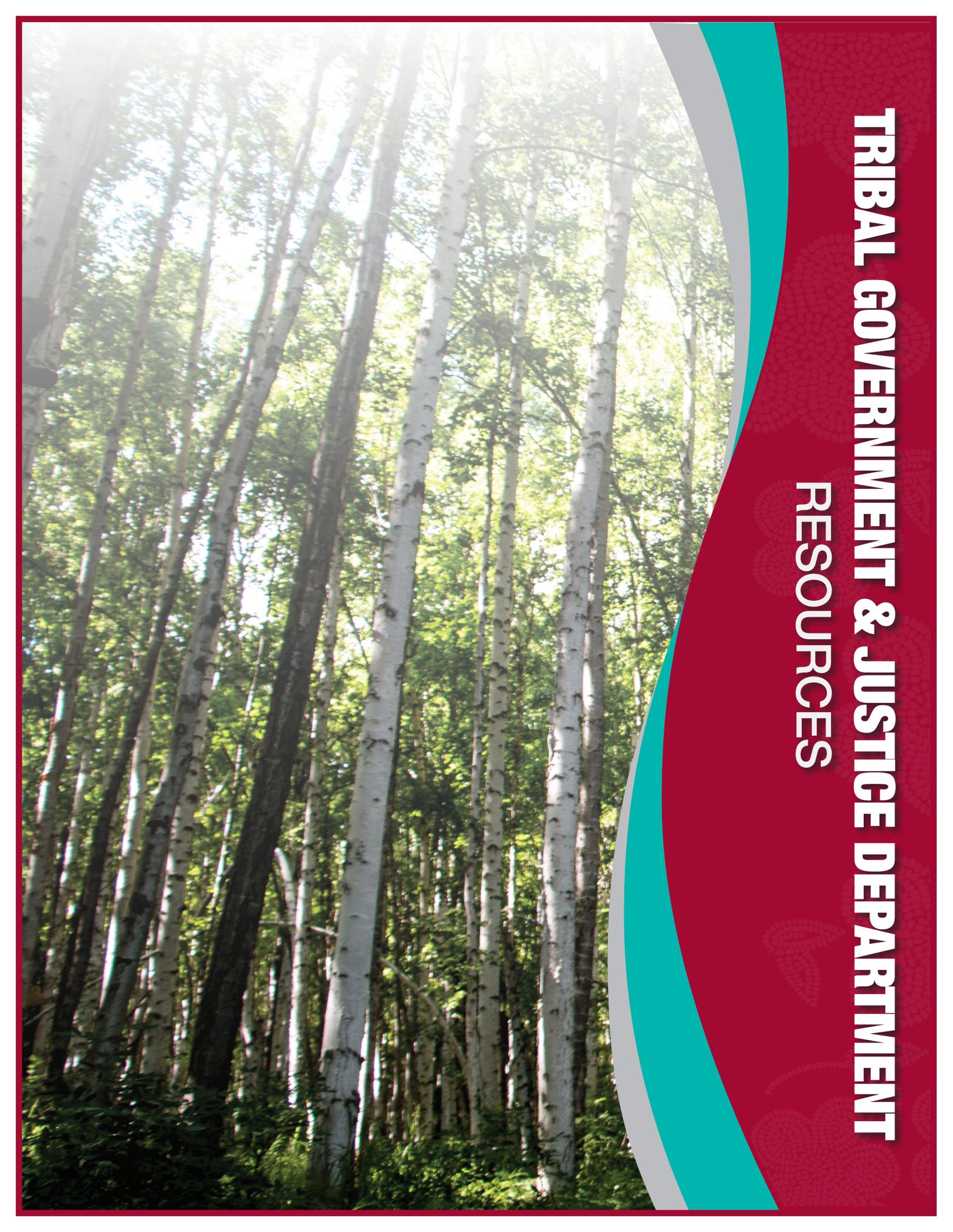
Eligibility:

- Must have children in the home under 18 (19 if child is still in high school)
- Pregnant women must be in the 3rd trimester of pregnancy.
- Must complete application and turn in all required documents.
- Enrolled or eligible to be enrolled into a federally recognized Tribe.
- Family must fall below the state income guidelines for the family size and have less than \$2,000 in resources.

Income Requirements Overview

Although some of our programs require recipients to have low income, not all do. See the table below to learn which programs require a low income and which do not.

Programs	Required	Not Required
Burial Assistance	X	
Child Care	X	
Employment & Training		X
Energy Assistance	X	
GA	X	
GED		X
Head Start		X
Infant Learning		X
Scholarships		X
Summer Youth Employment		X
TANF	X	
TCC GO		X
Vocational Rehab		X



TRIBAL GOVERNMENT & JUSTICE DEPARTMENT RESOURCES

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT AND JUSTICE

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT AND JUSTICE

DEPARTMENT

Description: Oversees the governance and justice needs of TCC's Tribal communities, providing support for Tribal courts, social services, and law enforcement through multiple specialized programs.

Contact:

Betty Ross, Acting Tribal Government & Justice Division Director, 907-452-8251 ext. 3198, betty.ross@tananachiefs.org

Taylor Thurmond, Tribal Government Support Manager, 907-452-8251 ext. 3962, taylor.thurmond@tananachiefs.org

Tribal Family Youth Specialist (TFYS)

Description: Village-based positions focused on Tribal social services, including ICWA compliance, social services, welfare assistance, and family/youth prevention. Specialists also address child welfare and family violence issues, working in coordination with Tribal Trauma Navigators.

Contact: court@tananachiefs.org

Locations: Alatna, Allakaket, Anvik, Eagle, Koyukuk, Kaltag, Hughes, Huslia, Holy Cross, Grayling, McGrath, Minto, Nenana, Nikolai, Ruby, Shageluk, Tanacross

Tribal Government Services

Description: Provides training and assistance in governance issues such as Tribal constitutions, elections, and court development. Offers grant proposal development for Tribal governments and assists with regulatory compliance on alcohol control.

Contact: tribalgovernmentservices@tananachiefs.org

Tribal Enrollment Services

Description: Manages enrollment services for Tribes, including researching enrollment applications, verifying eligibility, and issuing Tribal membership documents. Maintains membership records and provides blood quantum calculations.

Contact:

Christina Jackson, Tribal Enrollment Specialist, 907-452-8251 ext. 3274, christina.jackson@tananachiefs.org

General inquiries: tribalenrollment@tananachiefs.org

Tribal Court Technical Assistance

Description: Supports Tribal courts by assisting with court orders, adoptions, and Tribal court personnel training. Provides technical assistance on child protection cases.

Contact: Jennifer Probert, Tribal Court Support Specialist, 907-452-8251 ext. 3093, jennifer.probert@tananachiefs.org

Dena' Nena' Henash Intertribal Court

Description: A regional intertribal court system that handles cases referred by Tribal courts, including Healing to Wellness courts that offer culturally-based substance abuse treatment.

Contact: Twyla Cruger, Healing to Wellness Courts Manager, 907-452-8251 ext. 3437, twyla.cruger@tananachiefs.org

Tribal Protective Services

Description: Enhances victim services in villages, conducts assessments, and develops strategies for victim support, including services for families of missing/murdered individuals.

Contact:

Bryanna Angulo, Program Manager, 907-452-8251 ext. 3590, bryanna.angulo@tananachiefs.org

Ashton Snow, Trauma Navigator, 907-452-8251 ext. 3430, ashton.snow@tananachiefs.org

Lois Hardesty, Trauma Navigator, 907-452-8251 ext. 2897, lois.hardesty@tananachiefs.org

Ariella Derrickson, Program Coordinator, 907-452-8251 ext. 3195, ariella.derrickson@tananachiefs.org

Rural Victim Advocate(s): Enhance Victim Services

Description: Provides victim advocacy, safe shelter access, and referrals for crime victims. Funded by the OVC Enhance Rural Victim Services grant.

Supervision: Dual supervision by TPSP Manager and Tribal Administrator.

Locations: Takotna, Healy Lake, Alatna, Anvik, Circle, Birch Creek, Eagle, McGrath, Minto, Rampart, Chalkyitsik, Shageluk, Huslia

Safe Home Attendants: Enhance Victim Services

Description: Supports nighttime operations of Tribal safe homes, offering immediate services to victims. Positions funded by OVC Enhance Victim Services grant.

Supervision: Dual supervision by Victim Support Manager and Tribal Administrator.

Locations: Nulato, Northway, Nenana

Tribal Social Services

Description: Provides case management, referrals, foster care support, and advocacy for Tribal members in state or tribal custody. Also offers supervised visits, home visits, and ICWA compliance assistance.

Contact:

Valeen “Niisha” Walsh, Manager, 907-452-8251 ext. 3372, valeen.walsh@tananachiefs.org

Belina Higdon, Resource Family Specialist, 907-452-8251 ext. 3152, belina.higdon@tananachiefs.org

Verna Tittle, Family Support Coordinator, 907-452-8251 ext. 3328, verna.tittle@tananachiefs.org

Miriam Titus, Family Support Coordinator, 907-452-8251 ext. 3659, miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org

Michelle Peter, ICWA Advocate, 907-452-8251 ext. 3478, michelle.peter@tananachiefs.org

Public Safety Program

Description: Offers law enforcement, fire safety, search and rescue, and emergency services to Tribal villages. Administers the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) Program and Tribal Peace Officer Program.

Mission Statement

The mission of Tanana Chiefs Conference Public Safety is to protect and enhance the safety, security, and well-being of our communities. We are committed to providing exceptional service through proactive crime prevention, emergency response, and community engagement. By fostering trust, collaboration, and transparency, we aim to ensure a safe environment where individuals can thrive and communities can prosper.

Our division operates with integrity, professionalism, and a steadfast dedication to upholding the rights and dignity of all individuals. Through innovation and continuous improvement, we strive to meet the evolving needs of those we serve.

Vision Statement:

To create safer, resilient, and thriving communities by fostering trust, collaboration, and innovation in public safety practices, ensuring the well-being of all individuals and promoting a culture of preparedness, protection, and equity.

Value Statement:

Tanana Chiefs Conference Public Safety is committed to fostering safe and secure communities through integrity, accountability, and collaboration. We prioritize the protection of life, property, and rights, ensuring excellence in service through innovation, inclusivity, and respect for all.

Contact:

David Atteberry, Public Safety Manager, 907-452-8251 ext. 2068, david.atteberry@tananachiefs.org

Tribal Reentry Program

Vision: To reduce recidivism in the Interior by promoting healing and advocacy through the guiding principle of Ch'eghwtsen'.

Mission: To support Tribal members reentering society by offering guidance and fostering resilience.

Contact:

Robert "Bobby" Dorton, Program Manager, 907-452-8251 ext. 3640, robert.dorton@tananachiefs.org

Our Vision

Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes

Our Mission

Tanana Chiefs Conference provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior Alaska Native people.



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference