

EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH. A WAY OF LIFE.



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Cree Nation Government

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Department of Justice and Correctional Services

RESPECT CULTURE HUMILITY COURAGE
LOVE UNDERSTANDING EMPATHY PEACE HARMONY
CREE VALUES TOGETHER COLLABORATE COMMUNICATE
SHARING HONOUR WISDOM YOU MATTER HONESTY
FAMILY COMMUNITY YOU BELONG LISTEN LEARN
LIVE GROW BELIEVE IN YOURSELF FORGIVENESS BREATHE
THINK BEFORE YOU ACT TAKE ACTION WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
ENLIGHTEN ENCOURAGE EMPOWER
BE ENGAGED SPEAK OUT BE AWARE
MAKE A DIFFERENCE



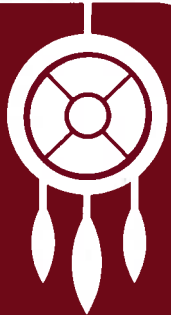
EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH.
A WAY OF LIFE.

The Department of Justice and Correctional Services of the Cree Nation Government creates for our Cree Youth services, programs and processes that honour and respect Cree ideals, values and way of life.



OUR APPROACH

Prepare our youth to make healthier decisions. Preventative measures are about educating, building awareness, intervening and engaging youth.



HOW WE DO IT

- We develop programs for our children and youth of all ages
- We look for successful evidenced-based programs, and see if they fit with our Nation's core ideals and principles
- We adapt them to reflect our connection to our land, culture, beliefs and deliver them in the Cree language
- We look at underlying needs of our children and youth, and focus on the life skills that lead to better decision making
- We build networks and engage partners in the community, regionally and with institutions



COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

Utilizing programs and resources to raise awareness of key social issues: drug/alcohol abuse, domestic/family violence, interpersonal violence, human trafficking, bullying, cyberbullying, neglect, youth gangs, and the impact and consequences of criminal acts.



CREATING A STRONG NETWORK FOR OUR YOUTH

- Families
- Educators
- Elders
- Community Justice Committees
- Youth Protection, Social Services
- Local Government, Youth Councils
- Eeyou Eenou Police Force
- Department of Justice and Correctional Services staff

USE OF DIVERSION PROGRAMS

Working with partners, we deliver such programs as Peacemakers, Dymond Girls, etc. that focus on bullying, resilience, resistance to peer pressure, and positive role modeling.



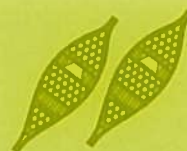
EARLY CHILDHOOD AND PARENTING

- Employ cognitive therapy to transmit life skills to children
- Provide programming for parents to develop essential parenting skills, and opportunities for families to reconnect



FOCUSING ON STRENGTHENING PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- Education; learning and having a positive experience in school
- Cree values and ways of life
- Youth involvement in meaningful activities
- Relationship building
- Work experience and acquiring a trade



LANDBASED PROGRAMS

The land is a teacher and a healer. We support canoe brigades, summer camps, and culturally based workshops used to help youth in reception centers and their families reconnect, develop inner peace and identify underlying conflict and needs.



SUMMER CAMPS AND WINTER EXCURSIONS

Based on our values, children and youth develop character, social skills and conflict resolution tools. They acquire awareness, leadership skills and a voice on social issues in their communities. They learn from Elders Cree values, culture and way of life on our land.


CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE

In schools curriculums: Pitimaa Maamituneyiht SNAP® - STOP NOW AND PLAN teaches valuable life skills to address behavioural issues.

Start of pilot projects in Mindfulness Martial Arts and Young Warriors programs to provide tools to children and youth with learning disabilities.



RECREATION IN THE COMMUNITY

- Collaborating with partners to focus on at risk children and youth, recreation activities allow us to provide lessons on values, life skills and conflict resolution tools to participants
 - Create a new sense of responsibility, excitement and engagement
- 



ADOLESCENCE AND EARLY ADULthood - WORKFORCE

At risk youth acquire work experience in a positive setting to demonstrate the ability to work and be productive, while learning new skills, and giving back to the community. Help youth finish school and/or reduce recidivism.

Through programs and activities that rely on the use of the land, Cree culture, language and tradition, we empower Youth at an early age to acquire or strengthen protective factors necessary to make healthier decisions and to reduce their likelihood of coming into contact with the justice and corrections systems, leading to positive changes in their lives and making our communities safer and stronger.





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