

## Conference on Suicide Prevention in American Indian People Held in Real Life Setting

*American Indian Health and Family Services, a non-profit urban Indian health center, will host the second annual conference focusing on prevention and treatment of issues affecting American Indian people. This educational conference titled, American Indian Communities: Building Culturally Resilient Services for Suicide Prevention and Treatment, is sponsored by the Michigan Statewide Behavioral Health Communication Network, and the Michigan State University School of Social Work.*

November 8, 2011—American Indian Health and Family Services (AIHFS) will host a continuing education conference sponsored by Statewide Behavioral Health Communication network and the MI State University School of social. The conference, *American Indian Communities: Building culturally resilient services for suicide prevention & treatment*, is the second annual conference to focus on the prevention and treatment of issues affecting American Indian people. The conference will be held from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the AIHFS Clinic 4880 Lawndale Street, Detroit, MI.

Jerilyn Church, Executive Director for AIHFS, will make the opening remarks. Church said “The conference will focus on the significant impact of prevention, treatment and wellness efforts happening in Michigan and we are proud to demonstrate in that impact everyday in our clinic.” The clinic will also host a lunch featuring a traditional Native American meal for the conference.

The Agenda includes a Lecture by Emily Proctor, MSW, BASW and Suzanne Cross PhD, ACSW, LMSW titled *Understanding the Impact of Historical Trauma*. Other lectures include an *Overview of the Problem and Prevention Efforts: Finding the Warrior Within* by Hunter Genia, LMSW, CAADC. In the afternoon session Monica Raphael, ICRC, Certified Prevention Consultant will present *The Teachings and Hoop Dancer Demonstration* to provide an overview of the seven sacred teachings of life and how they are used in prevention efforts with Native American youth.

Angeline Bouley-Matson, MPA, Education Direct Sault Sainte Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Barbara Smutek, MPA, STAY Project Manager, Sault Sainte Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will lead the workshop at 1:30 PM titled: *Culturally Responsive Suicide prevention & Intervention : The Sault Tribe Alive Youth Project Approach*. Following the workshop Jerilyn Church MSW, of AIHFS, will facilitate an *Elder Panel: In the Care of Cultural Keepers*. The day will wrap up with a traditional closing ceremony.

Anyone interested in attending the conference can go on line and register here [www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu](http://www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu) The general cost is \$99, with discounts for several special groups. Five Continuing Education Contract Hours (CECH) and five MCBAP hours are available for attending the conference.

American Indian Health and Family Services is a non-profit urban Indian health center serving the American Indian community of Southeastern Michigan. They offer comprehensive, culturally-integrated health care by providing medical and behavioral health services and health education services, in addition to outpatient substance abuse treatment and prevention programs. These services are open to persons with or without insurance. They also have an active youth program, provide health and wellness programs, and sponsor community events.

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