

CD Release Concert to Benefit Native American Youth Group

American Indian young people of the Dream Seekers Youth Program at American Indian Health and Family Services are holding a concert and CD release party to benefit their organization. The CD and event feature original and traditional songs in English and Ojibwe. The public is invited to attend the event held at the American Indian Health and Family Services Clinic from 6pm-9pm on November 11, 2011.

October 25, 2011—A concert and CD release party will be held at American Indian Health and Family Services Clinic, 4880 Lawndale Street, Detroit, on November 11, 2011. The sale of CD, titled “We Are Dream Seekers”, will benefit the Dream Seekers Youth group at AIHFS. The CD and event feature original and traditional songs sung in English and Ojibwe by the Native American youth, Frank Animikwam, Nickole Fox and Karen Schaumann. Joe Reilly, an American Indian performer who has recorded and published over 30 songs on three albums, also participates in the CD and will sing at the concert. The public is invited to attend the event held at the American Indian Health and Family Services Clinic from 6pm-9pm on November 11, 2011.

Jerilyn Church, Executive Director for AIHFS, said, “It’s been inspiring to watch this CD come together. Joe Reilly seeks to inspire and empower healing our relationships to ourselves, each other and the Earth with music. I think everyone that participated received healing gifts from the process and hope the public will also enjoy those gifts.”

AIHFS is asking a \$10 donation for each CD sold. All proceeds go directly to the AIHFS Dream Seekers Youth Program. That program has been building a positive support network for Native youth and families since 1992. The program focuses on balancing the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects of Native youth and families while exploring ways to live healthy and break the cycle of drugs, alcohol and violence.

Nickole Fox, Director of Health Education for AIHFS, said: “In the urban setting, it can be difficult to continue traditions, like song, that are important to our culture. This CD helps with that, as well as giving the children and young adults the opportunity to work together in a warm, supportive environment on an exciting project.” Nickole added, “It’s a testament to how successful the Dream Seekers Youth Group is, that several adults who went through the program as children now work here at the clinic.”

AIHFS 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.

The CD and concert are sponsored by Circles of Care Grant, funded by SAMSHA. The purpose of this grant is to provide tribal and urban Indian communities with tools and resources to plan and design a holistic, community-based, coordinated system of care to support mental health and wellness for children, youth and families.

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