

AMERICAN INDIAN  
**Health & Family Services**

Learn more at [aihfs.org](https://aihfs.org)



AMERICAN INDIAN  
**Health & Family Services**

*Connecting care with a culture of  
comprehensive wellness*

American Indian Health & Family  
Services of Southeastern Michigan

4880 LAWNDAL, DETROIT, MI 48210

YEAR IN REVIEW

**2023**



# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## From the CEO



**Chasity Dial**

Chief Executive Officer

*[Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina]*

### **A year in review...2023**

In a blink of an eye, another year has come to an end. As we bid farewell to 2023 and welcome 2024. It is only fitting to reflect upon the events and developments that unfolded over the past twelve months.

Through this year-in-review article, we aim to provide an overview of the progress made and the positive changes that have benefited individuals, families, and our community.

Perhaps the most transformative aspect of 2023 for health clinics and American Indian Health and Family Services (AIHFS) was the continued integration of technology into our

everyday operations. From the continuation of tele-health services to streamlining patient management systems and virtual meetings, AIHFS has made impressive strides towards technology advancements.

In the aftermath of the pandemic, AIHFS renewed its focus on preventative care measures and reducing the incidents of chronic illness. Focusing on public health outcomes, dietary guidance, exercise regimes, educational initiatives, and mental health --- we aimed to empower individuals to make informed choices regarding their well-being.

Maintaining community partnerships and cultivating new relationships continued to extend through-out 2023. We have gained support in those interested in our New Wellness Center as we prepare to break ground in 2024. Fingers Crossed!

On behalf of AIHFS staff, board of directors, and volunteers, I want to thank you for your continued support. I hope you enjoy this edition as you join me in reflecting back on our year in review.

We wish you and your family good health, happiness and all the best for the upcoming year. Welcome 2024!

Stay safe and well,

Chasity Dial, CEO

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# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

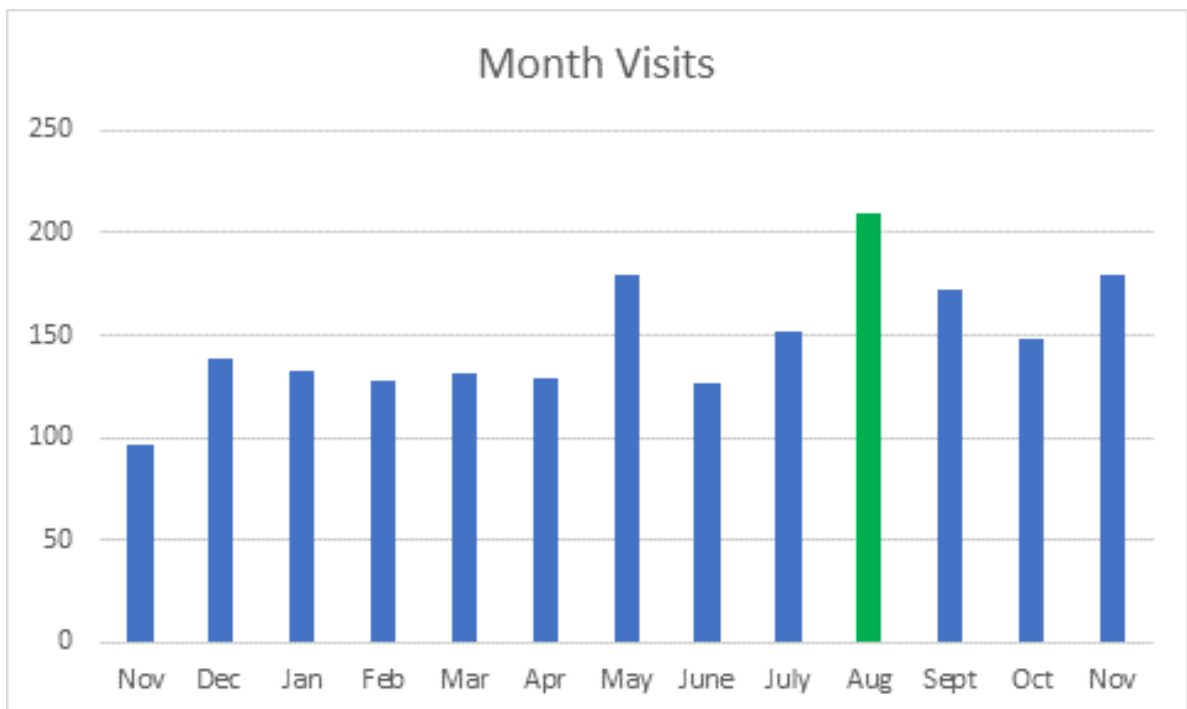
## MEDICAL

### Medical Services

by **Jesse Klebba, DO** Medical Director

The medical clinic has seen many positive changes over 2023 and has made significant strides over the course of the year. Our medical team has been fully staffed for the entirety of 2023 including three family physicians offering appointment times five days a week. We have seen considerable growth over the course of the year; including a steady rise in our appointment demands.

We are pleased to announce that we experienced a noteworthy increase in the number of patients served during the month of August 2023. In comparison to previous years we were able to provide healthcare services to nearly twice the number of patients during this time.





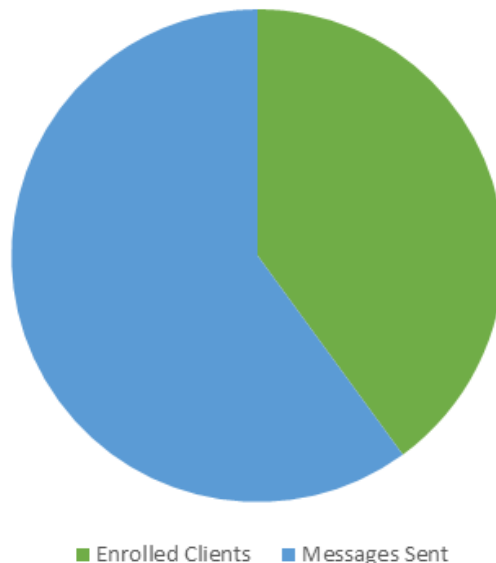
## Leveraging Technology in Healthcare with Audria Mixon

Audria Mixon - Practice Manager, plays a pivotal role in providing our clients with access to quality healthcare. In 2023, Audria implemented an innovative way to improve our appointment system with an activation platform called **CareMessage**.



In today's fast paced world, it can be easy to forget about important appointments including those for healthcare. **CareMessage** is now the automated appointment reminder used by AIHFS to communicate to our clients in all departments. **CareMessage** appointment reminders are friendly short messages sent to clients to remind them of their upcoming appointments. These reminders can come in the form of text messages or automated phone calls. They ensure that clients do not miss important healthcare appointments. Thanks to Audria's determination to improve our clients' health outcomes, AIHFS has seen an increase in preventative care, chronic care and mental health appointments – with a marked decrease in missed appointments over the past 12 months. Since 2022, our “No Show” rate has reduced by more than 50%. This quality improvement process driven by our Practice Manager has ultimately led to better patient satisfaction and improved trust in our healthcare system. We can't wait to see what innovated quality projects Audria has in store for 2024.

CareMessage





# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## MEDICAL

### Government Performance and Results Act

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) is a federal law, that requires federal agencies to demonstrate that they are using their funds effectively toward meeting specific measurable performance goals. Below you will see the 2023 GPRA scores for AIHFS compared to the National 2022 Target.

Diabetes 2023 GPRA	AIHFS Results	National 2023 Target
Controlled BP < 140/90	72.2%	52.4%
Statin Therapy (DM)	81.3%	54.5%

Behavioral Health 2023 GPRA	AIHFS Results	National 2023 Target
Alcohol Screening	43.3%	32.2%
Depression Screen (18+)	47.8%	36.4%
IPV/DV Screen (14-46)	52.4%	29.6%

Other Screening 2023 GPRA	AIHFS Results	National 2023 Target
Dental Access General	35.6%	24.4%
HIV Screen Ever	59.8%	38.9%

In regards to Cardiovascular Disease GPRA measures in 2023, AIHFS showed significant improvement compared to our 2022 measures. We demonstrated a 44.7% of patients in the target goal blood pressure ranges for our patients ages 18-59. This is nearly an 18% improvement from our agencies 2022 results (27.5%). A substantial improvement was also seen in our elder patients where our agency demonstrated a nearly 12% improvement from our 2022 GPRA clinical site baseline in patients ages ranging from 60-85. The GPRA federal target for these two measures has recently changed making the national target not applicable.

Cardiovascular Disease 2023 GPRA	AIHFS Results	National 2023 Target
Controlled BP < 140/90 (age 18-59)	44.7%	N/A
Controlled BP < 150/90 (age 60-85)	47.5%	N/A
CVD Statin Therapy	52.6%	37.8%

## Honoring 25 Years of Dedication and Service

As the first employee to reach twenty-five years of service at American Indian Health and Family Services (AIHFS), Dr. Josette French has been dedicated to the health center since December 8, 1998.

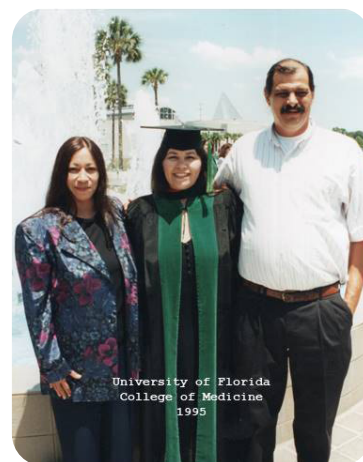
Dr. French is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She became the first Native American to graduate from the University of Florida College of Medicine in 1995. She subsequently completed her family practice residency at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn, Michigan. Soon after, Dr. French began her journey at AIHFS pursuing her goal of helping the Native and underserved communities as a family physician. Along the way, the Native community has helped her connect with her culture in a personal and meaningful way.

Throughout her career, she has been a role model for Native youth aspiring to enter the medical field. Seeing them prosper has been one of the most rewarding experiences of her career. Dr. French feels honored and privileged to have watched the health center grow over the years from a small clinic on Vernor St. to a large community health center with plans for future growth.

To Dr. French, AIHFS is more than a job, it's her cultural home.



*Dr. French took this picture of the clinic in early 1999 when it was on Vernor street.*



*Dr. French with her parents on the day she graduated from medical school.*



*Josette French, MD*



*Star quilt gifted to Dr. French in recognition of 25 years of service.*



*Flowers and cake at employee luncheon recognizing her 25 years of service.*





# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## MEDICAL

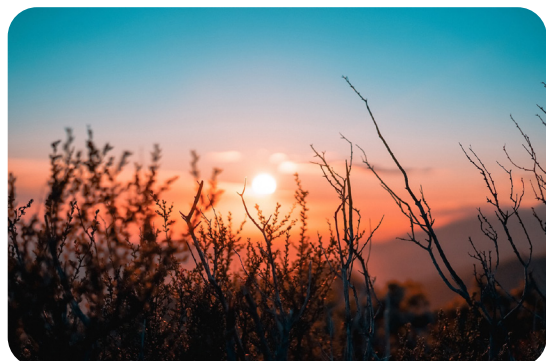
### Access to Nutrition



To address the issue of food equity in underserved communities, AIHFS collaborated with Eastern Market on two initiatives to increase access to healthy affordable food options to all individuals. AIHFS clients were able to enroll in the FreshRx program through a prescription-based system that delivered local produce to their front doors. To double-down, the agency hosted a weekly mobile pop-up Farm Stand during the summer months. Overall, both initiatives have been successful as we continue to recognize the importance of food as medicine. To assist and empower our clients to take control of their health through healthy food choices, AIHFS has onboarded a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) to provide education and promote healthy eating habits that prevent and manage chronic diseases.

## Expanded Clinic Hours

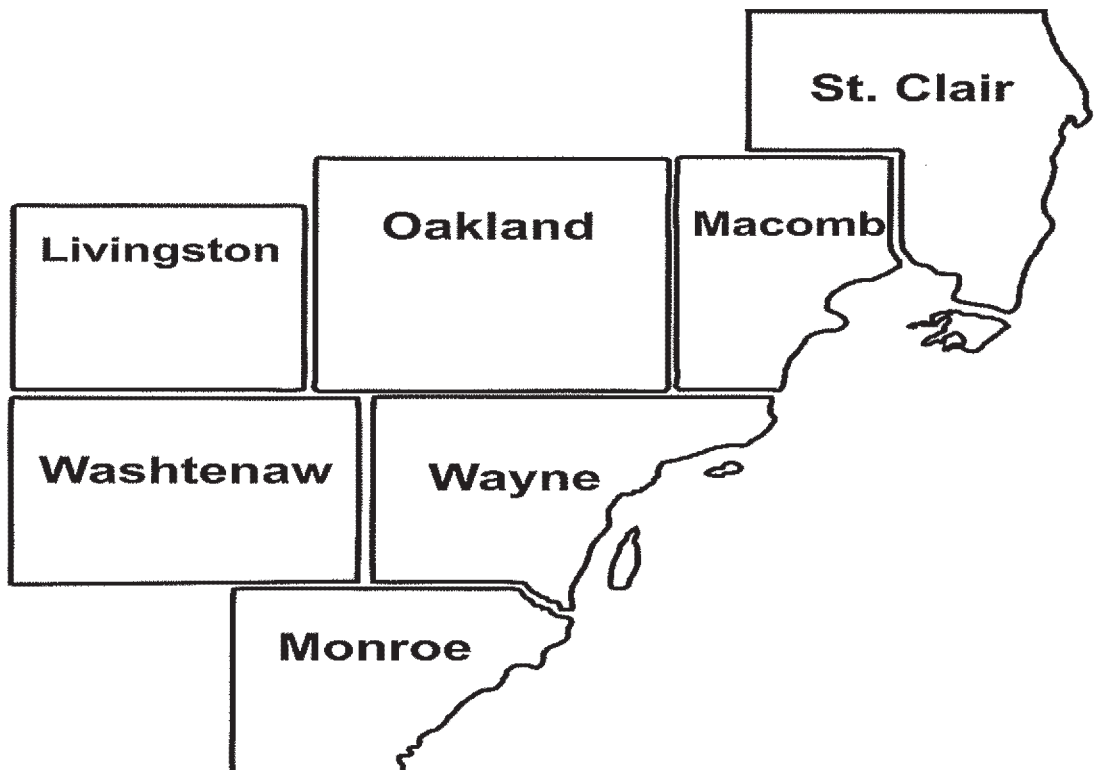
We have expanded our clinic hours every Wednesday offering appointment times starting at 7:30 am – with the last appointment of the day being at 6:30 pm.



# Map of Service Area

American Indian Health and Family Services is a non-profit health and human services agency located in Detroit, Michigan. American Indian Health and Family Services has a medical clinic that is open to persons with or without insurance. We provide services to all people in need, regardless of their ethnicity, nationality, gender, race, religion, age, or sexual orientation.

Alaskan Natives or American Indians enrolled in a federally recognized tribe, or first or second-degree descendants of enrolled tribal members are eligible for services at no cost. We serve American Indian children and families throughout southeastern Michigan with an emphasis on Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Our organization is funded through a combination of public and private sources. The following map shows our service area:





# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Wiijanokiindik ( to work together ), We're Here For You

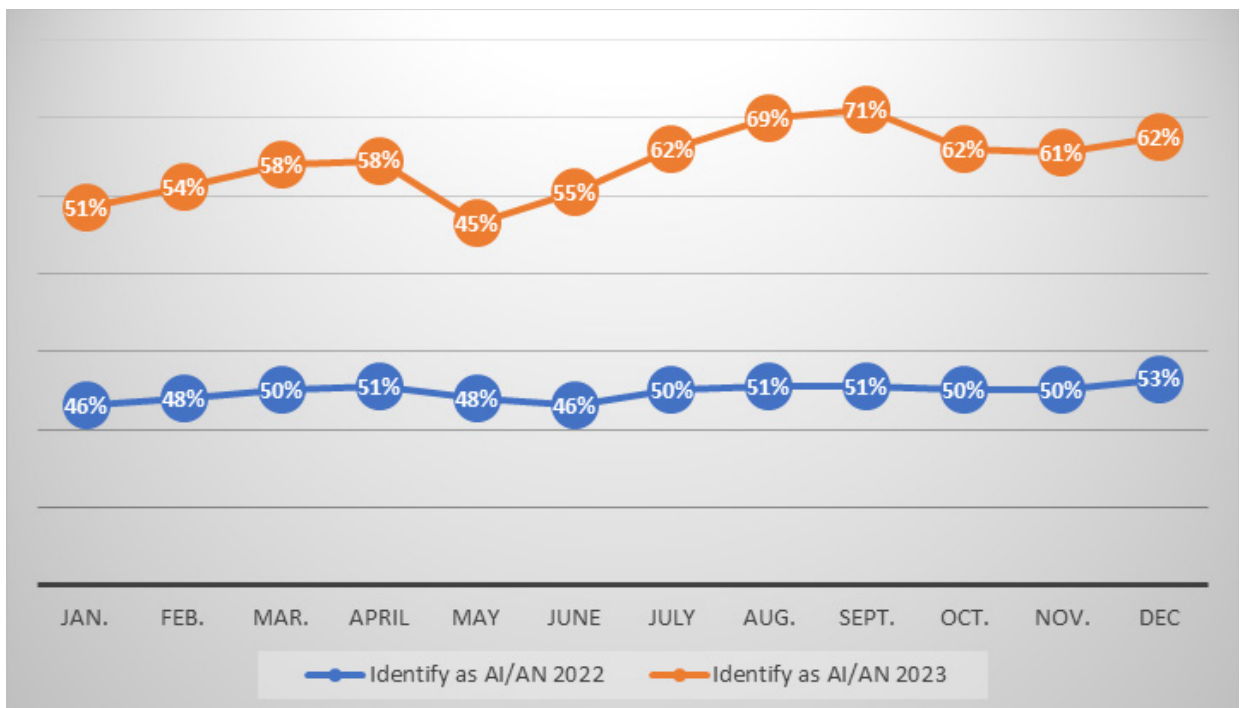
by David Garcia, LMSW

Behavioral Health Director  
Lipan Apache Descendant

Following the Mission and Value Statements of the agency, the Behavioral Health department provides an environment that is supportive, familiar and healing to many of the American Indian/Alaskan Natives and those that identify as "Native American" that reside in Southeastern Michigan.

In the past year there has been a noticeable increase in cultural

engagement. This surge is attributed to the growing recognition of the importance of preserving and promoting indigenous cultures and traditions. With the increase in cultural engagement, AIHFS has observed a corresponding upwards trend in the number of American Indian/Alaskan Native clients seeking mental health services.



\*The 2023 data includes the combined caseload of therapists working with both Federally Recognized and Self-Identified Native Americans.

# THE SACRED BUNDLE AND ZERO SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Our suicide prevention programs provide mental wellness screenings, referrals, gatekeeper trainings, and lifeline materials across the state for anyone age 10 and up



# 12

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND  
COLLEGES REACHED BY  
OUR PREVENTION  
PROGRAMS IN 2023**

BAY MILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE - CHANDLER PARK ACADEMY - CHIPPEWA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL - DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL - DETROIT INNOVATION ACADEMY - GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY - GROSSE POINTE HIGH SCHOOL - MACOMB INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT - MARYGROVE HIGHSCHOOL - MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY - THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN - WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# 19

**COUNTIES WERE  
SERVED BY OUR  
PREVENTION  
PROGRAMS  
IN 2023**

# 3,904

**INDIVIDUALS  
REACHED THROUGH  
OUR PROGRAMS'  
OUTREACH IN 2023**

**RESOURCE KITS  
MAILED TO PARTNERS  
ACROSS THE STATE**

# 260

**INDIVIDUALS WHO  
ATTENDED PROGRAM  
PRESENTATIONS**

# 225

**INDIVIDUALS WHO  
TOOK A GATEKEEPER  
TRAINING**

# 151





# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

### Suicide Prevention

## Hope & Wellness Screenings

By Taylor Maxwell, BA

Interim Zero Suicide Program Manager

Throughout 2023, the prevention programs continued to offer Hope and Wellness Screenings at community events across the state. These screenings allow anyone to take a quick mental health check-in that touches on questions of anxiety, depression, substance use, suicidal ideation, protective factors, and community resilience.

Our Zero Suicide Program saw a wonderful increase in the participation of screenings at each event they screened at in the last year. In 2023, an average of 15 adults took part in a Hope and Wellness Screening at each event our programs participated in, an increase from the average of 12 participants at each event in 2022.

This increase can be attributed to more recognition in tribal and urban



communities, increased comfortability with program staff, and an overall willingness to discuss mental health more openly. We hope to build on this progress in the upcoming year to help further both mental health assessments and tailored referrals to those who may need them, especially those communities with limited access to resources.

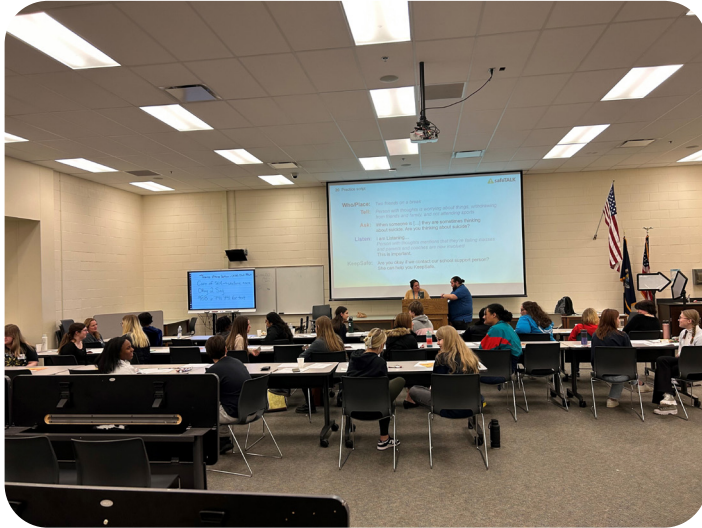


## Suicide Prevention

# SafeTALK Trainings

By Adon Vazquez

Sacred Bundle Program Assistant



*Students at Dakota High School role-playing during SafeTALK Training*

The Sacred Bundle Project has continued to provide gatekeeper trainings for those who are willing to help make communities “suicide safer” across the state. The program’s main training courses include SafeTALK and ASIST. SafeTALK is an introductory course designed to help participants identify a persons with thoughts of suicide and connect them to an appropriate suicide first aid resource. ASIST is an intensive course designed to teach community members to not only identify a persons with thoughts of suicide but to also provide a suicide intervention including safety planning.

During the 2023 year, Sacred Bundle provided 7 SafeTALK and 3 ASIST trainings to participants that included youth, teachers, parents and first

responders. In total, roughly 200 Suicide Alert Helpers and Suicide First Aid Interventionists were certified within both tribal and urban settings. These trainings provide tangible steps for helping those who are having thoughts of suicide but as many previous participants have recounted, the impact extends beyond the training's framework. Participants who become gatekeepers are able to extend the care and concern demonstrated in the trainings to the individuals they live, work, learn, play, and pray with, allowing more than just those taking the courses to have open, honest, and safe conversations around suicide.

If you are interested in participating of hosting a gatekeeper, please contact us at [sacredbundle@aihfs.org](mailto:sacredbundle@aihfs.org)



## AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

# COMMUNITY WELLNESS

## Healthy Start/Tribal Home Visiting

By Salli Wabsis, BS and Natalie Coté, MPA

Community Wellness Director

Development Administrative Coordinator

2023 has been a year of growth for Healthy Start. Healthy Start had 319 total visits which included prenatal, postpartum mothers, and children ages 0 to 5. Healthy Start enrolled 24 new clients.

Every Monday this year, Healthy Start offered a play group where families and their children would come out to enjoy interactive outdoor activities, along with engaging and connecting with other families and participating in arts & crafts and family spirit lessons.

On Fridays during the month of August, the Program offered swim lessons and encouraged water safety awareness for children and their parents at the Patton Recreation Center. The activities included giveaways and prizes along with the swim lessons. Swim lessons are extremely important for all children, but especially for AI/AN children, as one CDC report showed that the drowning rate among AI/AN people under 30 was twice as high as the drowning death rates for Caucasians. (Drowning Rates Impacted by Racial and Ethnic Disparities)

In the same month, Healthy Start held a coat giveaway for our clients and other community members. We made connections with our clients, other families

in the community, and let them know about all of the great resources we offer here at AIHFS. Healthy Start also offered Family Spirit classes that helped to inform our moms about safe sleep practices along with how to comfort a crying child, potty training, and safety proofing a home for children.

In August and September, Healthy Start offered First Aid, AED, and CPR training for our clients, community members, and staff to become certified in CPR for those who were 16 years of age and older.

Also, Charmaine Paulson (Anishinaabe Elder, Grand Portage) helped with AIHFS youth and community by enlightening us about Mashkiki, which is the Strength of the Earth, and other cultural norms and values.



*Healthy Start Client Christina and her baby*

# Youth Program

By Nicole Hankus, BFA Youth Development & Planning Manager



Youth Program has had a very active and exciting year that brought wonderful opportunities to our youth. This year we were granted the opportunity to create a whole year of curriculum for urban Native youth that is centered around the Seven Grandfather Teachings of the Anishinaabe people and focused on culture, creativity, education and wellness. Here are some of our highlights!

## FIELD TRIPS

Henry Ford; Detroit Riverwalk; Michigan Indian Family Olympics; the Detroit Zoo; Angeline Boulley Book-signing; Wayne State University

## PARTNERSHIPS

Laskey Recreation Center; Loyalty Foundation; Detroit Zoological Society; General Motors







# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## COMMUNITY WELLNESS

### Youth Program (cont.)



#### ACTIVITIES

Go-carts; miniature golf; kickball;  
basketball; arts & crafts; cultural  
teachings; cooking classes

#### CONFERENCES

UNITY, Mid-year and National

#### EVENTS

Gathering of Native Americans;  
Trunk-or-Treat

Finally, we are glad to announce that our Dream Seekers are restarting the Youth Advisory Council with the support of Dr. Sandra Gonzales and Dr. Michael Kral from Wayne State University. This will be a place for them to use their voice, build leadership skills, and continue to let us know what they are seeking to do within the Dream Initiative program.



# Winter

# Solstice

On December 21st, Community Wellness hosted a Solstice celebration where youth, families and community members were invited to share prayers at our fire, a potluck dinner, and stories about everything that was lived and learned throughout the year at American Indian Health & Family Services. We reflected on all the Seven Grandfather Teachings given throughout the year and shared in crafting led by youth from the Dream Initiative Program. We are grateful for another year of health, traditional teachings, and community collaborations. We look forward to continuing to nurture our Healthy Start families and the bright futures of our Little Dreamers and Dream Seekers.







# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Government Interlinkage



Thursday, October 19, we were grateful to have a visit from Indian Health Service Director, Roselyn Tso. As director, Ms. Tso administers a nationwide health care delivery program that is responsible for providing preventive, curative, and community health care to approximately 2.7 million American Indians and Alaska Natives in hospitals, clinics, and other settings throughout the United States.

*Pictured L-R: Tammy King, Bemidji Area Urban Coordinator; Glenn Wilson, C.O.O.; Roselyn Tso, Director, Indian Health Services; Chasity Dial, C.E.O.; Daniel R. Frye, Bemidji Area Director*

AIHFS was honored by an in-person visit from the Region V Director of HHS, Michael Cabonargi. Director Cabonargi toured our agency on March 23, 2023 and spoke to many of our staff to learn more about Urban Indian Health. The focus was on the community we serve, the services and programs provided and the expansion of services we hope to grow at the new site. Director Cabonargi was very interested in our new building project and we made sure his tour included not only our current site but also our future site.



*Pictured L-R: Glenn Wilson, C.O.O.; Michael Cabonargi, HHS Region 5 Director; Chasity Dial, C.E.O.*

## Government Interlinkage (cont.)



Elizabeth Hertel, the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), stopped by along with Lorna Elliott-Egan, Director of Tribal Government Services.

*Pictured L-R: Glenn Wilson, C.O.O.; Chasity Dial, C.E.O.; Elizabeth Hertel, and Lorna Elliott-Egan*

U. S. Representative, Rashida Tlaib, came to AIHFS on Friday, May 26th to deliver a "big check" and balloons, Publisher's Clearinghouse-style. She and her Chief-of-Staff Larissa Richardson took part in an agency tour, and a visit to the site of AIHFS' new facility. The funding from Rep. Tlaib will go toward making our dream of a new facility a reality!

*Pictured L-R: Chasity Dial, C.E.O.; Kimberly Copeland, Development Director; Rashida Tlaib*



Annual Bemidji Area Urban Indian Organization face to face conference in Prior Lake, MN.

*Pictured L-R: William Fisher, Chief of Contracting Office, IHS; Dr. Rose Weahkee, Director of the Office of Urban Indian Health, IHS; Chasity Dial, C.E.O.; Glenn Wilson, C.O.O.; Waneta Assaf, Director of Finance; and Lesley Burnham, Accounting Specialist*





AMERICAN INDIAN  
**Health & Family Services**

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Sweatlodge

**28** community members, on average, joined our monthly sweat lodges throughout 2023

In 2023, our community sweat lodges have seen an increase in participation by **63%**

In conjunction with our community lodges, three elder's and three women's lodges were provided this year

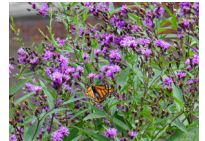
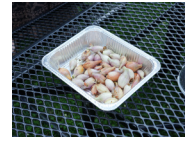




## Garden



Our garden benefitted from Levi Strauss volunteering for spring clean-up! It was maintained the rest of the year by employee involvement.



## Children's Mental Health Awareness Day



## Trunk-or-Treat



Trunk or Treat that provided an opportunity to provide a safe space for family fun! The costumes were awesome and the cars all got to wear their own Halloween costumes, too.







# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Spreading Awareness



## January 4 Ribbon Skirt Day

National Ribbon Skirt Day originates with the story of Isabella Kulak. A member of Cote First Nation, Saskatchewan, Isabella was shamed for wearing her handmade ribbon skirt to a formal wear day at her elementary school. Ribbon skirts are a centuries-old symbol of identity, adaptation, and survival for Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse people, and represents a direct connection to Mother Earth.

## May 5

### Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls Day

We wore red to raise awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Day, also known as Red Dress Day in Canada. It is an international Movement to increase awareness of the disproportionate amount of violence experienced by Indigenous Canadian and Native American women.



## Spreading Awareness (cont.)

### September 30 Orange Shirt Day

Along with our relatives in Canada, we acknowledged September 30 as a National Day of Remembrance for the harm experienced by Indigenous families, and their communities, because of forced enrollment at Indian Boarding/Residential Schools.



### October 19 Purple Thursday

As part of October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we joined the National Institute of Health in their #PurpleThursday campaign. By wearing purple on Thursday, October 19, it showed support for those who have experienced domestic violence and abuse; it let them know that help is available for themselves and their families.



### November 15 Rock Your Mocs

Rock Your Mocs is a positive opportunity to be united and celebrate tribal individuality by wearing moccasins. We honor our ancestors, and indigenous peoples worldwide, and commemorate National Native American Heritage Month.







# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## ADMINISTRATION

### Board of Directors



**John Lemire, JD**  
*Chairperson*



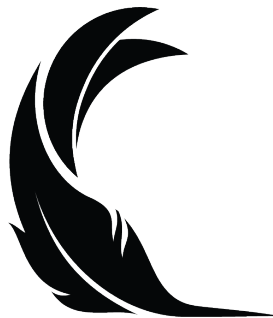
**Marilyn A. Roubidoux, MD**  
*Vice-President*



**Marcia A. Ryan**  
*Secretary*



**Joanne Sobeck, PhD**  
*Member at Large*



**Casey Haam, BSA**  
*Member at Large*



**Adam Hollier**  
*Member at Large*



**Josh Frye, BA**  
*Member at Large*



**Gerard Heath, MD, MBA**  
*Member at Large*



**Essi Hollier, MPA**  
*Member at Large*



**George Luckey, PhD**  
*Member at Large*

## Executive Staff



**Chasity Dial, MPA**  
*Chief Executive Officer*



**Glenn Wilson, MS**  
*Chief Operating Officer*



**Waneta Assaf, BS**  
*Director of Finance*



**Salli Wabsis, BS**  
*Director of Community  
Wellness*



**David Garcia, LMSW**  
*Behavioral Health  
Director*



**Jesse Klebba, DO**  
*Medical Director*



# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## ADMINISTRATION Operations

By Glenn Wilson, MS

Chief Operating Officer

Over the course of the past year the operations group has witnessed numerous changes as we elevate our current infrastructure and address our systemic needs. We have restructured our operations in order to better prepare for the upcoming launch of our new healthcare campus.

This recognition has involved the creation of specialized subgroups within the department, each responsible for handling specific topics and tasks. Throughout the past year, critical operational systems have achieved several accomplishments (see below).

**Installing a generator that allows us to maintain power for our clinic and respective operations at all times**

Implementation of a new internal "ticketing" system for operational and IT support

**Accomplished significant network upgrades, inclusive of new servers, security upgrades and continued evolution in our remote and virtual capabilities**

**Refurbishment of our clinics handicap accessible ramp**

**Implementation of critical software to further enhance the agency's inventory system**

Procuring multiple grants from various foundations that directly support operational needs

The goal of the operations group is to quietly facilitate the extensive systems and infrastructure necessary to provide services with no adverse impact. Over the course of the past year, we did not have any lost service days due to power outages, were able to improve the efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of medical services through technological advances installed in our clinic, improve the security of our buildings, successfully maintain our physical plant, and directly develop our personnel systems to support current operational needs and prepare for our continued growth and development.



## Quality Assurance

This year our Medical Director, Dr. Jesse Klebba, was appointed as Quality Assurance Director. The following is from our Client Satisfaction Data 2023.

**66%**

Survey  
Response  
Rate

**98%**

Patient  
Retention  
Rate

**98%**

Satisfied  
with  
Visit

**100%**

Cleanliness  
of  
Building

**97%**

Transportation/  
Driver  
Satisfaction

**99%**

Friendliness  
of  
Staff

## Client Comments

"Grow so you can provide more services at your facility. Otherwise, everything is great" (7/12/23)

"I am a new patient. So far I'm completely satisfied" (3/21/23)

"I think you guys are perfect. The front desk ladies and the nurses and doctor all treated me in a very kind and professional way and I appreciated it." (8/23/23)

"Para mi fue un gusto ser atendida estay muy contenta you les day un #10 y recomendaré amigos para que les den services" (4/5/23)

"I think the biggest improvement will be when the new facilities are done and you add dental to your list of services" (7/18/23)





AMERICAN INDIAN  
**Health & Family Services**

# ADMINISTRATION

## Employee of the Month



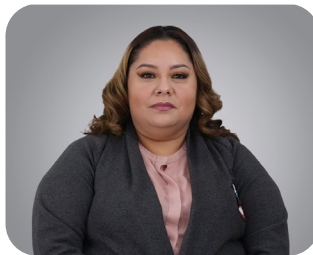
**MARCH:** Stefani Garcia



**APRIL:** April Slaven



**MAY:**  
Kimberly Copeland



**JULY:**  
Marcella Martinez



**AUGUST:**  
Lesley Burnham



**SEPTEMBER:**  
Nicole Hankus



**OCTOBER:**  
Dan Weed



**NOVEMBER:**  
Bryn Oaks



# New Health & Wellness Building

By **Jermaine Miller, BS**

Project Coordinator

As we continue to pursue our vision to be nationally recognized as a leading Urban Indian Health, Wellness and Community Center supporting healthy Native people, families and communities; we are making great strides and progress moving forward with our new building.

Currently, we are in the Environmental Phase. This process includes removal of all environmental hazards above and below ground. With the help of our Environmental Consultant (PSI Intertek) we were able to locate (2) partially filled Underground Storage Tanks, located on the Wesson property. PSI performed all pumping and cleaning of the underground storage tanks contents prior to the complete removal and disposal of both tanks. The Environmental Process also included the removal of all contaminated soils caused by the underground storage tank leakage over time.

American Indian Health and Family Services (AIHFS) was awarded a Michigan

Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) Refined Petroleum Fund (RFP) Grant. The RFP Grant provided funds to support the environmental clean-up and redevelopment of the Wesson site. The dynamic project team consisted of AIHFS, PSI Intertek, EGLE, alongside the City of Detroit.

We are also making progress with the design of the new building. With help from our Architect / Engineer Consultant (Seven Generations),





# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## ADMINISTRATION

### New Health & Wellness Building (cont.)



we are able to move forward with the design process. Next steps will be taking our current visual concepts and translating into the blueprints that will define our new building. In an effort to expedite the design and construction process, we have hired Sachse Construction. The collaboration with Sachse and Seven Generations together during this phase will provide us guidance as we move from design to construction.



In my role, I will continue to represent AIHFS to ensure that the project design and construction of our new Building and Campus will enrich the lives of the community we serve. It's an exciting time as our Non-Profit Organization embraces the innovative conceptualization of the entire Capital Improvement Plan.

Thank you!





# Information Technology

By Dustin Sample

Systems Administrator

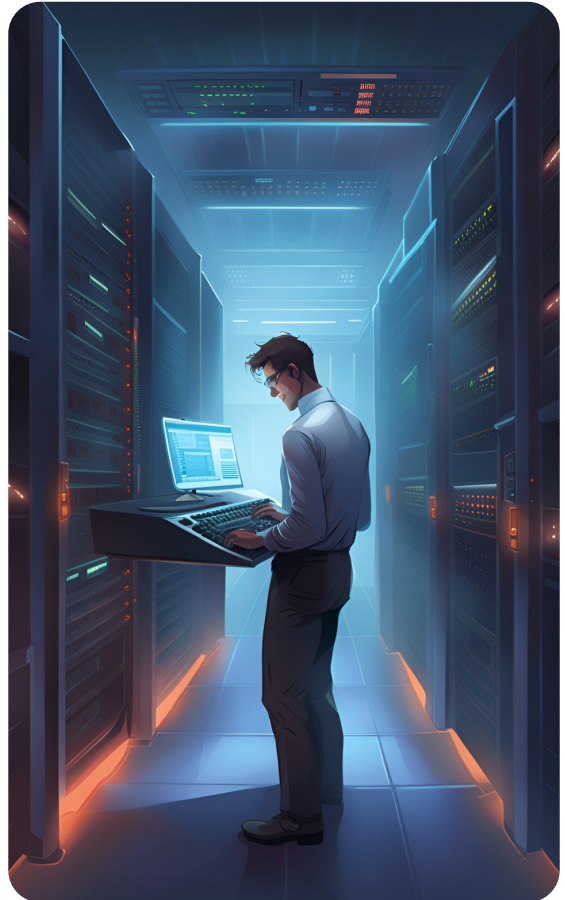
Information Technology (I.T.) is an important backbone to any industry and AIHFS is no exception. In 2023, we made a number of improvements to our systems to better protect our patients' information, along with having better performance. Below are a few of the steps taken to improve our systems.

Upgraded network infrastructure from a 10GbE backbone to a 25GbE backbone. This serves to improve data flow for all wired/wireless networks. This also improves connectivity in the local data networks.

Purchased a new server to improve internal applications processing capabilities and capacity.

We upgraded all Windows 10 workstations and laptops to Windows 11 and all servers to Server 2022, to ensure client data is safe and secure.

Inadequately trained staff are an internal threat to the privacy of our clients. We provided computer security and VPN trainings to keep staff up to date on risks.



Preventing unauthorized access into the local network is crucial for protecting patient data. We upgraded our firewall and security appliances for improved protection.

Developed new I.T. ticketing system to accelerate computer repairs. By implementing a new communication tool, staff now have access to getting support and accountability to make sure what is important is getting done.

# DEVELOPMENT

## Annual Charity Gala

By Kimberly Copeland      Development Director



*Dr. Klebba, Salli Wabsis, Glenn Wilson, Chasity Dial, Waneta Assaf, David Garcia*



*Jaida, Community Member; Tatanka Means, Keynote Speaker; Chasity Dial, CEO*

On October 5, 2023, AIHFS held our 2nd Annual Charity Gala at the Garden Theater in Detroit. Tatanka Means gave a lively and entertaining keynote. It was nice to see the community come out to support raising funds to build our new facility. Save the date for AIHFS' 3rd Annual Charity Gala to be held at the Garden Theater on October 4, 2024 featuring a panel discussion on the Urban Indian Experience.



*Susan Blaisdell, Community Member; Eva Kennedy, Community Member*



*Eva Torres, District 6 Manager; Chasity Dial, CEO*



*Jeff Nielson, AIHFS Advisory Panel; Tina James, Executive Administrator*

\*more pictures are on our website at: <https://aihfs.org/charity-gala-2023/>

# Donor List

By Kimberly Copeland

Development Director

All of us here at AIHFS would like to express our extreme gratitude for the following donors between 10/1/22 and 9/30/23.

## **Monthly Donors**

Alexa Gallo  
Alicia Fukada  
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## **Foundations**

Community Foundation for  
Southeast Michigan (CF-  
SEM)  
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ment Fund  
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Seminole Hard Rock Hotel  
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(Donor List Continued on Next Page)



# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## DEVELOPMENT

### Donor List (cont.)

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(Donor List Continued on Next Page)



## Donor List (cont.)

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Waneta and Frank Assaf  
Warren Hollier  
Will Jones III  
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M. Regan  
Yvonne Zeoli



## Join us for AIHFS' 3rd Annual Gala!

October 4th, 2024, 6:00-9:30PM at  
the Garden Theater in Detroit.

3929 Woodward Ave 48201

Semi-formal Attire

Silent Auction

Hors d' Oeuvres and Tacos



## SAVE THE DATE



# AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services

## FINANCE

### Financial Audit

By **Waneta Assaf**

Director of Finance

Doreen Mayhew conducted our annual Single Audit and Audit of Financial Statements, comprising our financial position as of September 30, 2023 and 2022.

Specific to the Single Audit, AIHFS was found to have no material weaknesses or significant findings. AIHFS has qualified as a low-risk auditee and in all material respects are in compliance with all grant and Office of Management of Budget requirements.

Regarding audits of our financial statements, there were no material or significant findings. AIHFS has qualified as a low-risk auditee; financial statements present fairly in all material respects; are financially solvent and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Noteworthy fund-raising awards towards the new Building:

- MDHHS State of Michigan 2024 – 3,000,000.00
- Federal 2023 Appropriations – 1,500,000.00
- Michigan 2023 MEDC – 1,000,000.00



**AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES OF  
SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN, INC.  
(A Nonprofit Organization)**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

---

**SECTION I**

**SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

**Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weakness(es)? ☐ Yes ☒ None reported

Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted? ☐ Yes ☒ No

**Federal Awards**

Internal control over major programs:

Material weakness(es) identified? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weakness(es)? ☐ Yes ☒ None reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR 200.516(a)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Identification of major programs:

<u>Assistance Listing Number(s)</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
93.243	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Projects of Regional and National Significance

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low risk auditee? ☒ Yes ☐ No



AMERICAN INDIAN  
**Health & Family Services**

# FINANCE

## Financial Audit (cont.)

**AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES OF  
SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN, INC.  
(A Nonprofit Organization)**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

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### SECTION II

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT FINDINGS

None.

# IN CLOSING...





## How to Support AIHFS!

Only with your support can AIHFS continue to try to meet the physical, spiritual, emotional and mental wellbeing needs of Native American families and other underserved populations in Southeastern Michigan. Additionally, as a 501 (c)(3), your generous support is tax-deductible.

**Won't you make a donation today to help us get closer to meeting these needs?**

To donate by check or money order  
please send payable to:

American Indian Health & Family Services  
P.O. Box 810, Dearborn, MI 48121-0810

To donate online:  
[www.aihfs.org/donate/](http://www.aihfs.org/donate/)

Or, use this QR Code  
>>>



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**AIHFS**  
**4880 Lawndale**  
**Dearborn, MI 48210**

**Return Service  
Requested**

**Mission:**

Empower and enhance the physical, spiritual, emotional, and mental wellbeing of American Indian Families and other underserved populations in southeastern Michigan through culturally grounded health and family services.

**Vision:**

AIHFS will be nationally recognized as a leading Urban Indian health and community center supporting healthy Native people, families and communities.



AMERICAN INDIAN  
**Health & Family Services**

**Learn more at [aihfs.org](http://aihfs.org)**