ND Department of Human Services contracted with the Native American Training Institute (NATI) in partnership with ND Tribal Nations to help children and families across North Dakota.
State – Tribal Title IV-E Agreements

ND Department of Human Services has entered into a formal government to government agreement with four ND Tribal Nations.

- Originally developed and signed in 1981
- Enhanced agreement was signed in September 2019
- Agreement is reviewed at least every 2 years

Title IV-E Agreements allow:

- Pass through federal IV-E funding to each Tribal Nation.
- Allowance for each Tribal Nation to retain jurisdiction, care, custody and placement responsibilities of children while receiving direct reimburse for the care of Title IV-E foster care eligible clients
- Intergovernmental Work Group meetings –quarterly
- Guardianship subsidy access was added in 2019
- FMAP contract claiming was added in 2019
State covers the federal match for all foster care maintenance costs and divides the federal return 50%-50% with each Tribe (FMAP). Each Tribe is responsible for their non-federal portion of administrative costs (IV-E claims).

1. Foster Care Maintenance paid on behalf of children under Tribal custody in a foster care placement
   19-21 Biennium
   • $9,096,105.56
   21-23 Biennium thru 12-31-21
   • $2,614,315.40

2. Title IV-E Admin Claims Submitted and Paid to the Tribe
   19-21 Biennium
   • $48,475.57 to Spirit Lake only
   21-23 Biennium to date
   • $0.00

3. Tribal Contract Claims Reimbursed to Tribe for Service
   19-21 Biennium
   • FMAP Contract Funds: $261,438.76
   • Family Preservation Contracts: $404,427.67
   21-23 Biennium to date
   • $0.00

**January 1, 2022**
1504 total children in ND foster care
- 775 identify as Native American (51.5% of total)
- 445 in custody of a Zone or DJS (29.5% of total)
- 330 in custody of a Tribal Nation (22% of total)
Overview of Child Welfare Support

The Department Children and Family Services offers each public agency (Zones, DJS, Tribal Nations):

✓ Guidance and technical assistance of law, rule and policy for all child welfare program programming.
✓ Safety Framework Practice Model
✓ Training through contracted vendors (CFSTC and NATI)
✓ Ongoing technical assistance to statewide staff via monthly case management calls and Field Service Specialist support.
✓ Family preservation funds to support diversion from foster care and timely permanency for children
✓ Support and assistance to kinship caregivers (Kinship-ND)
✓ Funding and support for child welfare case needs (excess maintenance, respite care, shelter care funding, etc.)
✓ Centralized foster care eligibility determinations (payment source) and authorization of funding to providers.
✓ Continuous quality improvement efforts through QA reviews.
✓ ND Title IV-E Prevention Plan/Portal
✓ QRTP residential placements / Ascend approval TA
✓ Interstate Compact on Placement of Children (ICPC)
✓ Adoption Subsidy
✓ Guardianship Assistance

In addition, the Department Children and Family Services offers Tribal Nations:

✓ Pass through funding via the State-Tribal IV-E agreement
✓ Shared FMAP funding for Native American children in foster care
✓ Completion of all data entry for all Title IV-E children in foster care
✓ Co-facilitation of IV-E Child and Family Team Meetings through the use of a CFS Field Service Specialist
✓ Monthly support calls with each Tribal Nation and the CFS Foster Care Sub-Adopt Eligibility Unit to review cases, paperwork, etc.
✓ NATI contracted support of a hired Tribal Liaison
✓ NATI contracted support of an administrative claims trainer