

Our Mission

To strengthen vulnerable American Indian and Alaska Native children and families through collaborative and culturally responsive services.

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Denver Indian Family Resource Center

7596 W. Jewell Ave.,
Ste. 305
Lakewood, CO 80232
(720) 500-1020
difrc.org



What's Inside:

- Celebrating Native American Heritage Month
- What you can do this giving season

DIFRC is a proud member of the following:



NICWA
National Indian Child Welfare Association



Family Resource
Center Association



Colorado
NONPROFIT
Association

Honoring Our Heritage *Native American Heritage Month*

Our heritage makes us strong and resilient; despite the challenges we face, having our family and community to support us throughout life—good and bad—is powerful medicine. Those who were once separated from their families during the boarding school and adoption eras—today's parents and grandparents—share of our cultural and community losses.



They remind us of their lost connections to who they were. Now we work to rebuild and reconnect to family, friends, and community. Through this work, we believe we honor the heritage of those

throughout the country and in the Denver metro area.

DIFRC asks you to reflect on what your heritage has given you. Whether you are native or not, heritage teaches you what is important; it informs who you are and connects you to those who came before you; it helps you guide, support, and nurture the next generation. During Native American Heritage Month, think on how you will take the opportunity to celebrate with the young people around you; the future leaders and shapers of our world.

We take this month to celebrate and honor the gift of heritage and the opportunity to share it. We hope you are able to reflect on your experiences, and let us know: how has your heritage made you stronger?



How you can embrace the spirit of giving in 2017

This month we reflect on what it means to celebrate our heritage. Our community is so special because we take opportunities to work together to support one another. **We are stronger together; that strength is our heritage.** A key to embracing American Indian and Alaska Native resilience is by supporting organizations and members of our community who work so hard to keep our families together, and to preserve our heritage. You can be a part of that—here's how you can help:

- ✦ **Colorado Gives Day is on Tuesday, December 5.** This is a great way to celebrate the work of DIFRC and help us compete for a share of the million dollar incentive fund from the Community First Foundation. You can **schedule a donation in advance** at coloradogives.org/difrc or wait to donate on December 5th. You can also make smaller monthly gifts.



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Donations on coloradogives.org can also be made in someone else's name—you can give the perfect holiday present, or give in honor of a loved one who has walked on.

- ✦ **Giving Tuesday is on November 28th.** The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has pledged to **match each gift given through Facebook on Giving Tuesday!** You can maximize your gift by going to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DenverIndianFamilyResourceCenter on November 28th and clicking on the donate button at the top of the page.

Not able to give? You can also fundraise on our behalf via Facebook and ColoradoGives.org!

- ✦ **Read more about how you can help at difrc.org/donate-now/**

Congratulations, Kathryn Redhorse!

We are pleased to announce that Kathryn Redhorse, formerly Family Services Supervisor, has been named Interim Executive Director! We hope you will congratulate her and give her your support in her greater leadership role for our community.

You may have noticed some changes around our office. We are seeking new, creative ways of making sure our services are as efficient as possible, and convenient for the people who need us. Keep an eye out for how our service model might change over the next year! Never fear—our family services and resource and referral staff will always be there to make sure your family is safe, strong, and healthy.

Walk-in hours continue to be offered on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thanks for coming! Our Phyllis Bigpond Day Celebration was a success, and we are grateful to all community partners, elders, and parents who attended to celebrate the state holiday in honor of our founding Executive Director, as well as those who contributed to nearly \$7,500 raised in her name.

Did your family miss out on backpack distributions earlier this year? Well, we've got a bunch sitting in our office waiting to come home with you! Call Rachel at (720) 500-1005 to claim yours!





Honoring the tradition of strong Indian Families.

7596 W. Jewell Ave. Suite 305

Lakewood, CO 80232

Phone: 720-500-1020

Our Vision

Generations of healthy, strong
American Indian and Alaska
Native children and families.

DREAMCATCHER

NEWS ✦ UPDATES ✦ COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Our Staff

- ✦ Kathryn Redhorse (Lakota/Navajo), Interim Executive Director
- ✦ Verla Howell (Pawnee/Flandreau Santee Sioux), Family Engagement Specialist
- ✦ Wilma Yellow Cloud (Oglala Lakota), Family Engagement Specialist
- ✦ Rachel Bryan-Auker, Resource and Referral Specialist (Kaigani Haida & Tlingit)
- ✦ Katie Brown, Community Program Coordinator
- ✦ McKenna Ganz, Development Manager
- ✦ A.J. Myers, AmeriCorps VISTA

Our Board

- ✦ Jack Soto (Diné /Cocopah), Chair
- ✦ Veronica Lane (Navajo), Treasurer
- ✦ Michael Johnson (Arikara/Hidatsa/Ojibwe), Secretary
- ✦ Del Nutter (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma)
- ✦ David Weiden (Sicangu Lakota)
- ✦ Teresa Bernie (Ihankthunwan Nakota)

Too many mailings? Not enough?

New address? Let us know at:

difrc.org/sign-up