

# Engaging and Supporting Native Fathers

Targeted Resources for Tribal Child Welfare, October 2016

## [Native American Fatherhood & Families Association](#)

This organization is working to strengthen Native American families through responsible parenthood using two signature programs: *Fatherhood is Sacred & Motherhood is Sacred*, and *Linking Generations by Strengthening Relationships*.

For more about NAFFA, see:

- [Spotlight on NAFFA](#)
- [Engaging Dads: Recognizing the Sacredness of Fatherhood](#)

## [The Good Road of Life](#)

Offered by Native P.R.I.D.E., these culture-based programs help keep Native families together by assisting with how to address unresolved conflicts in relationships and improve communication skills.

## [Wicasa Was'aka: Restoring the Traditional Strength of American Indian Boys and Men](#)

This article uses a historical trauma lens to examine health disparities among Native men and boys. Sharing insights from historical trauma-informed interventions that were used with Lakota men and Southwestern American Indian boys, the authors offer public health implications and strategy recommendations.

## [Indigenous Fathers' Involvement in Reconstituting "Circles of Care"](#)

This 2010 study with indigenous fathers illuminates the historical factors that have shaped their current experiences.

## [Understanding Fathering among Urban Native American Men](#)

This 2011 article uses existing data to examine fathering perceptions among Native men.

### **Learn More:**

[Father Involvement Research Alliance](#)

## ['We could be the turn-around generation': Harnessing Aboriginal fathers' potential to contribute to their children's well-being](#)

This 2012 article highlights the importance of a father's involvement, noting regular contact with a positively involved father improves health outcomes and is associated with good development.

## [Indian Fathering in the Dakota Nation: Use of Akicita as a Fatherhood Standard](#)

This paper explores fathering in the Dakota nation. Using historical Akicita (male worrier societies) standards, authors discuss how Native men who wish to provide effective parenting can incorporate Akicita standards in their paternal responsibilities.

## [Positive Indian Parenting](#)

This training is designed to help prepare staff to use a culturally specific approach to train Indian parents.

## [Resource Directory for Fatherhood Programs](#)

This resource directory, created by NICWA, includes a listing of fatherhood programs that tribes can utilize when searching for funding resources.

## [A Guide for Father Involvement in Systems of Care](#)

This 2013 guide includes strategies to help fathers become involved, and information on the importance of doing so.

## [San Antonio Fatherhood Campaign](#)

An initiative of the American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Mission initiative aims to promote responsible fatherhood.



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