

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Anishnaabek Community and Family Services
Child Care and Development Fund

Parent/Provider Newsletter

March 2022

You are receiving this newsletter because you are either a parent receiving Child Care Assistance from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians CCDF program, you are a Child Care Provider receiving Subsidies, or you are in a collaboration/partnership with the Tribal CCDF Program.

CCDF is located at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 and you can reach us at 800-726-0093 or 906-632-5250. You can contact Trish, CCDF Coordinator at psterling@saulttribe.net or Angel, CCDF Secretary at apeer@saulttribe.net. Our fax number is 906-632-5266.

Co-Pays Suspended Until Further Notice

ACFS CCDF program received more CARES ACT funding (CRRSA). One thing we are doing with the money is paying all the co-pays on behalf of the parents until further notice. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Trish, CCDF Coordinator at psterling@saulttribe.net or 906-632-5250.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Health and Safety are priorities when it comes to caring for children. The Tribal CCDF program provides necessary Health and Safety required items to CCDF Families and CCDF Providers. If you find you are in the need of Health and Safety required items such as Fire/Smoke detector (one for each level of the home/center), fire extinguisher, carbon monoxide detector, electrical outlet covers, drawer safety latches, first aid kit, etc. please contact CCDF Coordinator, Trish Sterling at psterling@saulttribe.net or 906-632-5250.

CONSUMER STATEMENT

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Anishnaabek Community and Family Services Child Care and Development Fund program offers Child Care Subsidy Assistance to parents with Sault Tribe member (or eligible to be) children living in the Sault Tribe 7 County Service area who are working, going to school, or in a qualified job training program. Eligible parents can choose high quality child care providers that include State Licensed Centers or Family/Group Homes, Tribal Licensed Centers, Relative Care Providers or In-Home Aides. Relative Care Providers and In-Home Aides must complete requirements prior to providing care for your children.

Please contact CCDF Coordinator, Trish Sterling for more information at 906-632-5250 or 800-726-0093.

Visit https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_63294_5529---,00.html to find State Licensed Centers and State Licensed Family/Group Child Care Homes in your area.





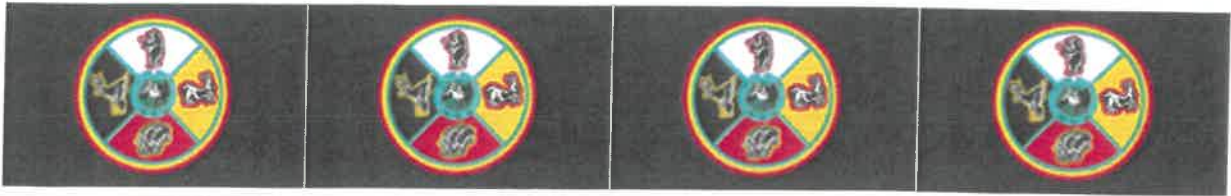
We only have a few COVID-Related Cleaning supply items available to CCDF Families and CCDF Providers

Sault Tribe CCDF program has COVID 19 CARES ACT Fund Dollars available for CCDF Parents and Providers for COVID 19 related items: **disposable face masks, disposable gloves, disinfecting wipes, disinfecting spray, hand sanitizer, antibacterial hand soap.** (depending on availability of supply chain)

All items are sent to your home. I will send you a self-addressed stamped envelope with a form to sign to send back with the packing slips you receive so that I can reconcile with our Purchasing Department. It is the policy of the CCDF Program to deny future orders for failure to return the form and the packings slips. Please make your list and send it to Patricia Sterling, CCDF Coordinator, psterling@saulttribe.net or call 906-632-5250

RESOURCES

<u>WIC</u>	https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_4910---,00.html
<u>LICENSED CHILD CARE</u>	https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_106253---,00.html
<u>MEDICAID</u>	https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/
<u>SNAP</u>	https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_5527_6691---,00.html
<u>SAULT TRIBE EMPLOYMENT</u>	https://saulttribe.hirecentric.com/jobsearch/
<u>SAULT TRIBE</u>	https://saulttribe.com/
<u>ACFS</u>	https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs
<u>DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS</u>	https://agesandstages.com/
<u>GREAT START TO QUALITY</u>	https://www.greatstarttoquality.org/



Child Development Screenings

Ages and Stages is a set of questionnaires about children's development. It has been used for more than 20 years to make sure children are developing well. A screening provides a quick look at how children are doing in important areas such as communication, physical ability, social skills, and problem-solving skills. Ages and Stages can help identify your child's strengths as well as any areas where your child may need support. I love this screening tool because it involves the parents/guardians, child and the care provider. The parent/guardian fills out the questionnaire while playing with their child and returns it to the care provider or CCDF Coordinator for results. Based on the results, the child's individualized lesson plan can be created and if an area of concern is identified then a referral can be made to an appropriate support agency.

Many Child Care Centers are already providing a child development screening. And it may be Ages and Stages, but for parents who are interested, I can provide copies of the following months in the ASQ-3: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 42, 48. Keep in mind: your children all grow and development in differing rates. And it is okay 😊

I also have the Social Emotional questionnaires in the months: 2, 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 48, 60.

They are easy to score and if you see any area of concern, please contact me or your child's teacher or child care provider so we can give you some ideas of how to increase your child's opportunities to grow in those areas.

Any questions, please contact Trish Sterling at 906-632-5250 or psterling@saulttribe.net

CCDF Over Income Essential Employee CCDF Subsidies

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians ACFS Child Care and Development Fund had limited funds to provide Over Income Essential Employees temporary Child Care Subsidies.

We were able to offer this special, temporary funding due to COVID grants that our program received. It was a very popular program and we were able to help over 50 families across the 7 County Service Area that were over income and Essential Employees for our regular Income Based Child Care program.

This program has reached its capacity and we can no longer accept nor process these applications as of Thursday, December 2, 2021.

The Seven Grandfathers Teachings

The Creator gave the seven grandfathers, who are very wise, the responsibility to watch over the people. The grandfathers saw that the people were living a hard life. There were all kinds of illnesses and bad things around. The Messenger was told, "Go down there, look around and find out what is happening. Bring back someone who we can tell about what life should be, with the Peoples" He left immediately and went to all places in the North, South, West and East. He could not find anyone. On his seventh try, while he was looking, he saw a baby. The grandfathers were happy with the choice made by the helper.

So the messenger brought the baby back to where the Grandfathers were sitting in a circle. He was still very tiny and wrapped inside His cradle board. One of the grandfathers looked at the baby very carefully. "This is the one. Messenger, pick up the baby. Take him all over; teach him carefully the way the People should lead their lives." The Messenger picked him up and they traveled around the earth.

Seven years later they returned to the Grandfathers. By then He was a young man. The Grandfathers noticed that this boy was very honest. He understood everything that was taught. One of the grandfathers took a drum and started singing. Each of the grandfathers instilled within the boy a teaching telling him "These are the ones you will take with you, and share with the Peoples."

The boy, because of all the time he had spent with the Grandfathers, was now an old man. So he returned to the Earth and gathered all the people around and shared his story of the journey to the seven grandfather's lodge. He explained how to use the gifts and that it was now up to the people to try to follow the path of a good and healthy life using the seven grandfather's teachings.

He shared each of these teachings and explaining that they must be used with the rest, and that you cannot have wisdom without love, respect, courage, honesty, humility and truth. You cannot be honest if you only use one or two of these, or if you leave out one. And to leave out one is to embrace the opposite of what that teaching is.



The Beaver teaches us WISDOM

The ability to make decisions based on personal experience and knowledge and to cherish that knowledge is to know WISDOM. We can acquire more knowledge by being open to others and applying these teachings to our own lives, and in turn it is also about the ability to value your own knowledge and share it with others.

The building a strong foundation in our lives is about the teachings shared with us by the creator and how we in turn use and share these gifts in our lives. The Beaver's example of using his sharp teeth for cutting trees and branches to build his dams and lodges expresses this teaching. If he did not use his teeth, the teeth would continue to grow until they became useless, ultimately making it impossible for him to sustain himself. The same can be said for human beings. One's spirit will grow weak if it is not fulfilling its use. When used properly however, wisdoms shared help bring about a peaceful and healthy life.



The Eagle teaches us LOVE.

Love must be unconditional. To feel true love is to know the Creator. Therefore, it is expected that one's first love is to the Creator, the Great Spirit. Creator is considered the parent to all children, and the giver of human life. Love given to the Great Spirit is expressed through love of oneself, and it is understood that if one cannot love oneself, it is impossible to love anyone else.

To know LOVE is to know true peace. To be able to get along with others, sharing and being kind, willing to show that you care for others/self through sharing, being helpful and understanding the feelings of others; doing something that makes the day better for someone and to be accepting of each other's differences.



The Buffalo teaches us RESPECT.

Respect is the condition of being honored. The Buffalo, through giving its life and sharing every part of its being, showed the deep respect it had for the people. No animal was more important to the existence of People than this animal, and its gift provided shelter, clothing and utensils for daily living. Native people believed themselves to be true caretakers of the great herds, and developed a sustainable relationship with the Buffalo resulting in a relationship that was a true expression of respect.

To honor all of the Creations is to have RESPECT. Respect for yourself. To treat others how you would want to be treated. Making sure your interactions with others are positive by showing positive manners, speaking kindly and honoring a person's human right to be who they are and accepting feedback as helpful and considering different outlooks on things.



The Bear teaches us COURAGE.

Courage is the ability to face danger, fear, or changes with confidence and bravery. The Bear provides many lessons in the way it lives, but courage is the most important teaching it offers. Though gentle by nature, the ferociousness of a mother Bear when one of her cubs is approached is the true definition of courage. To have the mental and moral strength to overcome fears that prevent us from living our true spirit as human beings is a great challenge that must be met with the same tenacity and intensity as a mother Bear protecting her cub. Living of the heart and living of the spirit is difficult, but the Bear's example shows us how to face any danger to achieve these goals.

We learn to deal with challenges positively without worry about the outcome, to work through and give all aspects of your life your best effort, and being able to accept responsibility for your behavior. Be willing to be a role model by standing up for your values/beliefs. Accepting challenges (conflicts) and learn from them.



The Sabe teaches us HONESTY.

Honesty is speaking and acting truthfully and thereby remained morally upright. Long ago, there was a giant called Kitch-Sabe who walked among the people to remind them to be honest to the laws of the creator and honest to each other. The highest honor that could be bestowed upon an individual was the saying "There walks an honest man. He can be trusted." To be truly honest was to keep the promises one made to the Creator, to others and to oneself.

The Elders would say, "Never try to be someone else; live true to your spirit, be honest to yourself and accept who you are the way the Creator made you."

HONESTY in facing a situation is to be true to self. It is not backing down when the situation seems too hard and you know that it needs to be dealt with to make your life better. By looking at what you do and realizing how it affects you and others either positively or negatively and to approach life situations and challenges with an open mind and heart.



The Wolf teaches us HUMILITY.

Humility is being humble and not arrogant. Recognizing and acknowledging that there is a higher power than man and it is known as the Creator is to be deemed truly humble. To express deference or submission to the Creator through the acceptance that all beings are equal is to capture the spirit of humility. The expression of this humility is manifested through the consideration of others before ourselves. In this way, the Wolf became the teacher of this lesson. He bows his head in the presence of others out of deference, and once hunted, will not take of the food until it can be shared with the pack. His lack of arrogance and respect for his community is a hard lesson, but integral in the Aboriginal way.

HUMILITY is to know yourself as a sacred part of Creation, to be able to know that we are equal regardless of age, race or sex. Humility is being able to be assertive, positively making your needs known, without becoming angry or withdrawn and being able to listen to others with an open and non-judgmental mind.



The Turtle teaches us TRUTH.

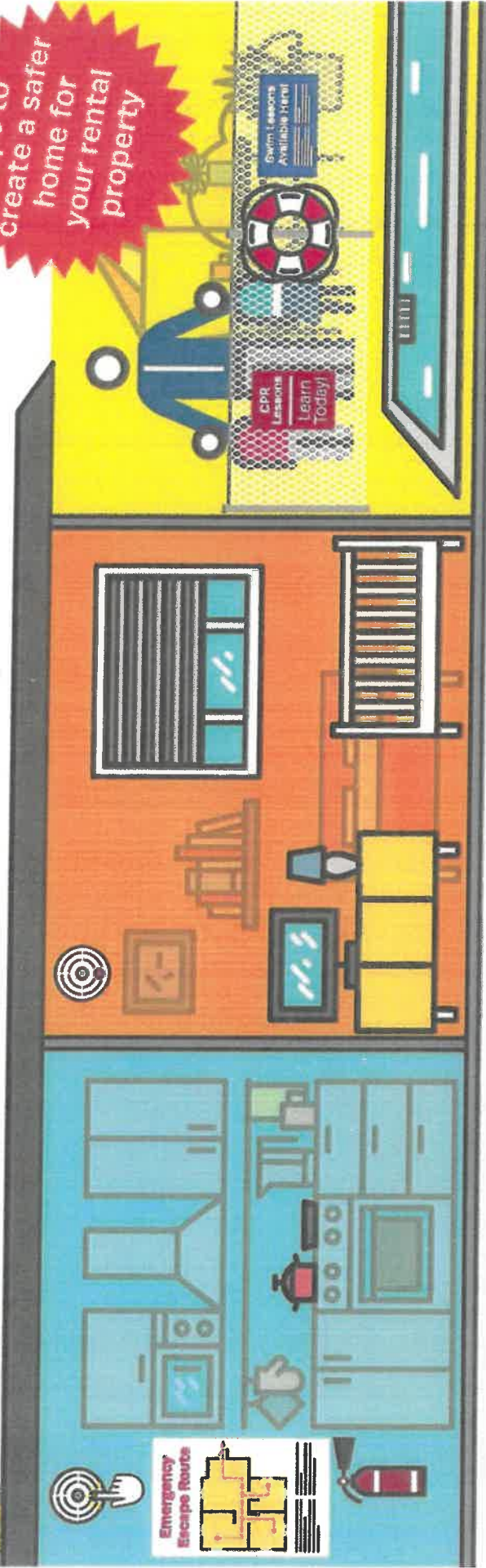
Truth is to know and understand all the seven teachings have been given to us by the Creator and we are to remain faithful to them. To know truth is to know and understand all of the original laws as they were shared with us. It is said that in the beginning, when the Creator made man and gave him the seven sacred laws, the Grandmother Turtle was present to ensure that the laws would never be lost or forgotten. On the back of a Turtle are the 13 moon, each representing the truth of one cycle of the Earth's rotations around the sun. The 28 markings on her back represent the cycle of the moon and of a woman's body. The shell of the Turtle represents the body real events as created by the Higher Power, and serves as a reminder of the Creator's will and teachings.

TRUTH is to know all of these things. Be true to yourself and your fellow man. Be able to speak the truth. This is considered the final and last teaching because to live this teaching, one must achieve and understand the first six teachings. By being honest with those around you with your feelings and behaviors; by loving yourself and others; by respecting others with what they say and do; by being humble – knowing that everyone around you deserves your respect as you theirs; by being brave when facing new challenges and by accepting your own and others wisdom.



Provide a Safe Home Away from Home

Tips to create a safer home for your rental property



Fire Safety

- Install working smoke and CO alarms.
- Smoke alarms should be on every level of the home, outside each sleeping area, and inside every bedroom.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) alarms should be on every level of the home outside sleeping areas.
- Keep fire extinguishers within easy reach.

Child Safety

- Avoid deadly tip overs, anchor TVs and furniture to the walls.
- Make sure cribs meet required federal safety standards.
- Keep cleaning supplies in a locked cabinet or out of reach of children.
- Go cordless or eliminate any dangling cords on window coverings.
- Protect children from a deadly gap between the interior and exterior doors of home elevators.

Pool Safety Tips to Protect Kids

- Install a fence at least four feet high around the entire perimeter of the pool or spa with self-closing and self-latching gates.
- Ensure all pools and spas have drain covers that meet federal standards.
- Install an alarm on the door leading from the house to the pool.
- Have life-saving equipment such as life rings or reaching poles available for use.

Keep the address of the home visible in case of emergency



For more information visit: www.poolssafety.gov

www.anchorit.gov

www.cpsc.gov

www.nfpa.org

The name and figure of Sparky® are registered trademarks of the National Fire Protection Association

10
Tips

Get Ahead of the Winter Freeze

It's not too early to begin preparing for the heating season. Check these 10 tips off your list and get ahead of the winter freeze.

- Our **furnace has been inspected and serviced** by a qualified professional during the last 12 months. *(A furnace should be serviced at least once a year.)*
- Our **chimneys and vents have been cleaned and inspected** by a qualified professional. I have checked for creosote built-up. *(Not cleaning your chimney is the leading cause of chimney fires from built up creosote. This service needs to be done at least once a year.)*
- Our wood for our fireplace or wood stove is **dry, seasoned wood**.
- Our **fireplace screen is metal or heat-tempered glass**, in good condition and secure in its position in front of the fireplace.
- We have a **covered metal container** ready to use to dispose cooled ashes. *(The ash container should be kept at least 10 feet from the home and any nearby buildings.)*
- Our children know to stay at least **3 feet away** from the fireplace, wood/pellet stove, oil stove or other space heaters.
- Our portable space heaters have an **automatic shut-off**.
- Our portable space heaters will be **plugged directly into an outlet** *(not an extension cord)* and placed at least three feet from anything that can burn; like bedding, paper, walls, and even people. *(Place notes throughout your home to remind you to turn off portable heaters when you leave a room or go to bed.)*
- We have **tested our smoke alarms** and made sure they are working. *(You need smoke alarms on every level of the home, inside each sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. For the best protection, the smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.)*
- We have **tested our carbon monoxide alarms** and made sure they are working. *(Carbon monoxide alarms should be located outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.)*



Name of Organization Here

Contact Information Here



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169