



FACT SHEET

Empowering American Indian people through culturally based education, counseling, advocacy, and leadership development.

The Division of Indian Work (DIW) is the oldest direct-service organization for American Indians in the Twin Cities. DIW operates a family of programs to help urban American Indian adults and youth succeed. Our headquarters sits in the heart of the Phillips and Powderhorn neighborhoods of Minneapolis — the center of the city’s American Indian population. DIW recently celebrated its 56th Anniversary of service to the community.

year founded:	1952
our family of programs:	Strengthening Family Circles Youth Leadership Development Program Horizons Unlimited Healing Spirit Recovery Maintenance Services
volunteers:	200 annually
service area:	Serving American Indians from 52 tribal affiliations across Minnesota, with a special emphasis on urban American Indians
annual budget:	\$3 million
major revenue sources:	Tribal 10 percent Corporate Foundations 20 percent Individuals 2 percent Government Contracts 42 percent Religious Organizations 2 percent United Way 12 percent Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches 4 percent Other 8 percent
staff members:	34 (86 percent American Indian)
board members:	19 (65 percent American Indian)

In partnership with the
greater minneapolis council of churches

UNITING PEOPLE OF FAITH—SERVING PEOPLE IN NEED



SNAPSHOT: Our Impact

helping kids achieve

We encourage well-rounded success by providing American Indian youth with after-school academic tutoring, cultural speakers, pregnancy prevention curriculum, and summer recreational and cultural activities. By connecting Native youth to their culture, we help them improve in school and build leadership skills.

DIW Initiative: **Youth Leadership Development Program**

fostering stability for youth

We offer a neighborhood home for American Indian youth ages 13-17, living in long-term foster care. The youth live with caring foster parents who help them focus on school, their culture, and independent living skills. In addition, we connect Native elders to urban youth to teach boys and girls (ages 9-17) the traditions of powwows. Currently, 20 American Indian youth participate.

DIW Initiative: **Healing Spirit**

feeding hungry people

We run a food shelf especially for low-income urban American Indian families. We currently serve about 12,500 people annually, half of whom are children.

DIW Initiative: **Horizons Unlimited**

nurturing healthy families

We provide home visits and prenatal, parenting, and nutrition classes to 230 current and expectant American Indian mothers and fathers who want the best for their children. We also offer two reduced-rent apartment complexes for young American Indian families who can't find safe, affordable housing. Parents living there either work or attend school and take part in weekly parenting classes. In addition, we train Native doulas to help expectant parents deliver healthy babies. Finally, we offer culturally sensitive domestic abuse counseling, advocacy, and support groups to battered women and their children healing from violence. An anger management curriculum also helps men and women change the way anger is expressed and responded to.

DIW Initiative: **Strengthening Family Circles**

reaching out on the road to recovery

We help urban American Indians who have completed chemical dependency treatment but who need help maintaining their sobriety. We train recovery coaches and match them with individuals or families. Clients take part in weekly talking circles; monthly cultural ceremonies, such as the sweat lodge; and drum, dance, and regalia-making classes.

DIW Initiative: **Recovery Maintenance Services**

