

Partnering with Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Programs to Support Tribal Governments and Tribal Organizations' Prevention Efforts

What is the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Program?

The CBCAP program is the key Federal legislation addressing prevention of child abuse and neglect. It was established by Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Amendments of 1996 (CAPTA), and most recently reauthorized by the CAPTA Reauthorization Act in December of 2010 (P.L. 111-320).ⁱ

The purpose of the CBCAP programs is: (1) to support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and coordinate initiatives, programs, and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect and to support the coordination of resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and (2) to foster understanding, appreciation and knowledge of diverse populations in order to effectively prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.

In fiscal year 2016, \$39,764,000 were appropriated for CBCAP and distributed to states and territories under a formula grant. In addition, Title II of CAPTA specifies that one percent of the available funding is to be reserved to fund child abuse prevention programs and activities for Tribesⁱⁱ, Tribal organizations, and migrant programs. Programs are selected using a competitive grant process for a five-year period.ⁱⁱⁱ



Who Manages the CBCAP Program at the Federal Level?

The Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN) at the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for overseeing and managing the CBCAP program. OCAN staff also work closely with the ACF Regional Office staff that provide a secondary review of the CBCAP State applications and annual reports. In addition, OCAN provides support for funding a National Center for CBCAP operated by FRIENDS, that is dedicated to providing training and technical assistance to the State Lead Agencies (SLA) and tribal and migrant grantees on the requirements of the CBCAP program. For more information, visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/cbcap-state-grants>.

Who Manages the CBCAP Program at the State Level?

The CBCAP Program is managed by a State Lead Agency (SLA) in all 50 States, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico. Each year, the Governor designates a lead entity to administer the CBCAP program funds. In some states, the child welfare agency is the identified SLA while in others, it is another state agency or a non-profit organization. To locate your SLA, visit <http://www.friendsnrc.org/state/state-resources-contacts>. The amount each state has available for the CBCAP program varies.

What is the Target Population for CBCAP Programs?

CBCAP programs should have some primary prevention activities available to the general population such as public awareness and education about preventing child abuse and neglect. In addition, programs should also target secondary prevention services to families that are at-risk of abuse or neglect. These families include:

- Parents (all, new, teens, etc.)
- Parents and/or children with disabilities^{iv}
- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Members of underserved or underrepresented groups
- Fathers
- Homeless families and those at risk of homelessness
- Unaccompanied homeless youth
- Adult former victims of child abuse and neglect or domestic violence



What Activities Are Authorized by the Legislation?

CBCAP programs are authorized to fund child abuse prevention programs in their service area that provide a multitude of services and supports. These services and programs can include:

- Comprehensive support for parents
- Promote the development of parenting skills
- Improve family access to formal and informal resources
- Support needs of parents with disabilities through respite or other activities
- Provide referrals for early health and development services
- Promote meaningful parent leadership.

CBCAP Programs can also finance the development of a continuum of preventive services through public-private partnerships, financing the start-up, maintenance, expansion, or redesign of child abuse prevention programs, maximizing funding through leveraging funds, and financing public education activities that focus on the promotion of child abuse prevention.

Are Tribal Governments and Tribal Organizations Eligible for this Funding?

Yes. There are two ways that Tribal governments and Tribal organizations can access these funds 1) through the CBCAP Grants to Tribes, Tribal Organizations and Migrant Programs and 2) through the CBCAP Community-based Grants Program.

- a) CBCAP Grants to Tribes, Tribal Organizations and Migrant Programs** - The primary purpose of this funding is to support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and coordinate initiatives, programs and activities in tribal and migrant communities to prevent child abuse and to strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect.^v Some examples of programs that may be funded include, but are not limited to, voluntary home visiting, respite care, parenting education, mutual support, family resource centers, domestic violence services, and other family support services. While there is flexibility in what applicants can propose, there are a number of key expectations, including: implementing evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices that reflect the unique cultural characteristics and needs of their communities (could be existing ones that will be adapted or culturally specific practices that are indigenous to the Tribal people); supporting an evaluation of the programs and services funded by the grant; and, developing stronger linkages with the CBCAP SLA funded under Title II of CAPTA.

Former and current Tribal grantees have developed unique approaches to address child abuse and neglect prevention efforts that reflect the culture of their communities. While grantees may choose different evaluation approaches, they all share similar program outcomes. Examples of outcomes include: increased knowledge of parenting skills, access to support services within the community, implementation fidelity, cultural competence, parental empowerment and development, and improvements in children's behavior in response to positive parenting. For more information about previously funded CBCAP Tribal and Migrant Programs, visit <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/management/funding/funding-sources/federal-funding/cb-funding/cbreports/tribal/>. You can also visit <http://www.friendsnrc.org/tribal-and-migrant-grantees>.

In **Minnesota**^{vi}, the MN Children’s Trust Fund, housed within the Department of Human Services, is the designated SLA. The Department of Human Services’ Framework for the Future includes working with the Tribes. To achieve their vision, the department has prioritized the focus on: Healthy People; Stable Families; and Strong Communities. To carry these out, it has developed strong partnerships with Minnesota’s 87 counties and 11 federally recognized tribes. The MN SLA funds the Parent Support Outreach Program (PSOP) which provides early intervention supports and services to at-risk families before they become involved in child protective services. In addition to counties, the Leech Lake and White Earth Bands of Ojibwe receive an allocation for this program because they participate in Minnesota’s American Indian Child Welfare Initiative. As part of this initiative, child welfare responsibilities including responding to reports of child maltreatment for Native children living on these reservations were transferred from seven counties to these two tribes. The PSOP has been available statewide since July 2013. The intent of this early intervention program is to help assure culturally-specific supports and services are provided to American Indian families who are disproportionately over-represented in Minnesota’s child welfare system.

b) CBCAP Community-based Grants – Each SLA determines how CBCAP funds are used in their state based on a statewide needs assessment process. Because funding is limited, findings from the needs assessment helps the SLA determine how funding can be used to make the biggest impact. While all CBCAP funding flows through the SLA, the disbursement of funds varies from state-to-state. Some SLAs award grants or contracts to eligible providers through a competitive grant process, while others have agreements with providers or local jurisdictions to oversee dispersal of the funds. Tribal governments and Tribal organizations interested in providing services to address primary and secondary prevention

of child abuse and neglect in Tribal communities should contact their SLA to learn more about the criteria for accessing CBCAP funds in their states. To locate your SLA visit, <http://friendsnrc.org/state>.

Why Consider Applying for State CBCAP Funds?

Tribal governments and Tribal organizations have firsthand knowledge of the unique needs of Tribal children and families and knowledge of culturally-responsive services that effectively meet those needs. The CBCAP program provides Tribal governments and Tribal organizations an opportunity to seek funding to implement such services to prevent the abuse and neglect of Tribal children. Currently, only a few Tribal governments and Tribal organizations have accessed state CBCAP funding (see Minnesota and South Dakota insets for examples). Reasons for this may include the inexperience of SLAs in working with Tribal governments and Tribal organizations and a lack of awareness of culturally-appropriate outreach to and programming for Tribal communities. Increased collaboration between Tribal governments, Tribal organizations and SLAs will help address this. While it is not guaranteed that the



Tribe or Tribal organization will be granted funding, the benefits to consider when applying are notable, including opportunities to increase awareness of unmet needs in Tribal communities, improve collaboration with the SLA and other public and private agencies and to enhance access to culturally-responsive services to address child abuse and neglect in Tribal communities.

Consider the following:

- Set aside time to meet with the CBCAP SLA to talk about the needs of your Tribal communities, better understand the focus of CBCAP SLA programming, address barriers to the Tribal governments and Tribal organizations accessing the funding, and foster increased opportunities for culturally-specific programs and services to prevent child abuse and neglect among Tribal families and communities.
- Relationship building and sharing of information can help increase your success at accessing these funds, but will require ongoing efforts, as it is not uncommon for the contact person in a CBCAP SLA to change frequently.
- Whether you apply for funding or not, CBCAP SLAs would welcome Tribal governments and Tribal organizations participation in workgroups, on advisory committees and Child Abuse Prevention Councils. Active collaboration between Tribal governments or Tribal organizations and SLAs can enhance statewide needs assessments, and the overall direction of child abuse prevention programming in the state, so the needs of Tribal families and communities are addressed.
- Your advocacy and guidance to SLAs will increase the likelihood that Tribal children and families who are underserved will receive culturally-specific support and services tailored to meet their needs.



Steps you can take to Link with the CBCAP SLA

- Reach out to the CBCAP SLA to find out what programs and services are funded and the process for applying. Find your SLA contact at <http://www.friendsnrc.org/state/state-resources-contacts>.
- Ask the CBCAP SLA for names of Tribal governments or Tribal organizations that have successfully received contracts for child abuse prevention programs and reach out to them for more information about the funds and the requirements for accessing them.
- Contact and work with the CBCAP SLA to build a relationship, address the barriers to the Tribe accessing the CBCAP Program funds and ensure the SLA is contracting for culturally-specific outreach, programs and services for Tribal children and families living throughout the state.
- Reach out to CBCAP Grants to Tribes, Tribal Organizations and Migrant Program grantees to find out more about the program and fully understand how this potential funding source can provide child abuse prevention for Tribal children and families. Information on these grants can be found at <http://www.friendsnrc.org/tribal-and-migrant-grantees>.
- Ask the CBCAP SLA or CBCAP Tribes, Tribal organization, or Migrant program to assist you in your planning by understanding their requirements for evaluation and implementing evidence-informed and evidence-based programs.

South Dakota

CBCAP funding makes it possible for South Dakota's Division of Child Protection Services to contract with Great Plains Psychological Services in Sioux Falls to provide Positive Indian Parenting. This evidence-informed program, developed by the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA), is designed to strengthen and support Native American families to prevent child abuse and neglect. The eight-week class connects elements from traditional Indian parenting with skills and information utilized in contemporary parenting practices. A licensed professional counselor who is Native American and was trained in the program to provide the training to parents conducts this practical, culturally sensitive training program for Indian parents, or parents of Indian children.

In 2012, the Division of Child Protection Services sponsored a Positive Indian Parenting train-the-trainer session based on input from the Tribal child welfare staff. The training was offered to all the tribes. The Tribal representatives that attended were from the Crow Creek, Lower Brule and Rosebud Indian Reservations. As part of a broader state strategy, the Division of Child Protection Services, through a state/Tribal consultation group, meets quarterly to collaborate and communicate with representatives from South Dakota tribes to get input and discuss program issues related to the coordination of programs and services on the reservation.

In addition to Positive Indian Parenting, the Division of Child Protection Services contracts with other agencies to offer Boys Town's Common Sense Parenting classes throughout the state, including Indian reservations. Some professionals who are Native American have been trained to conduct these classes. The Division of Child Protection Services' ICWA Program Specialist maintains regular communication with the Tribal Directors and Tribal CPS Directors so they are aware of the dates, times and locations of Common Sense Parenting classes.



Resources to Support CAPTA and CBCAP programs

Child Abuse Prevention Month: April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. For more information on Child Abuse Prevention Month and to download free resources, visit the Child Welfare Information Gateway <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/>.

Conference: The Children’s Bureau also sponsors a biennial conference at which professionals and volunteers discuss a broad range of policy, research, program and practice issues concerning the prevention, intervention, and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Roundtable discussions, poster and plenary sessions and workshops bring together many disciplines and perspectives to foster new working relationships, exchange information on research, and review practice issues and model programs.

FRIENDS website: To learn more about the CBCAP program, visit the FRIENDS website at www.friendsnrc.org. Examples of what you can find:

- State Resources such as their applications and annual reports (<http://www.friendsnrc.org/state-resources>);
- Prevention programs at work in local communities ([CBCAP Prevention Video](#)) and ([Building Community Building Hope](#)); and
- FRIENDS Online Learning Center <http://friendsnrcelearning.org/> for eLearning courses, such as CBCAP 101 and Effectively Engaging Tribes, for ideas and suggestions for linking with the CBCAP SLA.

Endnotes

ⁱ <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/resource/cbcap-state-grants>

ⁱⁱ Federal recognized

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/index.cfm?switch=foa&fon=HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-CA-1119>

^{iv} <http://www.copyright.gov/legislation/pl108-446.pdf>

^v <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/cbcap-state-grants>

^{vi} Information obtained from, Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grants, State of Minnesota Application/ Report, Federal Fiscal Year 2014, found at <http://www.friendsnrc.org/component/jdownloads/download/57-2015-state-cbcap-report/38-2015-minnesota-zip>



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