

2015



Tiospaye Sakowin
Woonspe na Woapiye Otipi

PO Box 100
Porcupine, SD 57752
www.villageearth.org

TECA WOASNIYE WICOTI

A Lakota Youth Healing Camp on the Pine Ridge Indian
Reservation

[A REQUEST FOR SUPPORT]

Since December 2014, there have been five completed suicides on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and numerous attempts and ideations previous to that and ongoing. We understand this as a tragic message from our youth that life is not worth living. As adult relatives, we seek to instill in our youth the Lakota belief that every individual has a purpose on earth and that resiliency to confront life's challenges can be achieved. Through this camp, learning, recreational and healing activities will be offered as a way to give life to the values, gifts and teachings provided by Tunkasila (Grandfather/Creator) for the healing of our youth.



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TO: Our Relatives, Friends and Benefactors
FR: Tiospaye Sakowin Woonspé na Woapiye O'tipi (a program of Knife Chief Buffalo Nation and Medicine Horse Society)
RE: Request for Support – Lakota Youth Healing Camp on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
DATE: February 28, 2015

Mitakuyepi,

As a Lakota community-based organization, we are seeking your support to implement a healing opportunity for our youth through a *Teca Woasniye Wicoti* (Youth Healing Camp) on April 2-6, 2015 in Porcupine, SD on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. This is sponsored by the Tiospaye Sakowin Woonspé na Woapiye O'tipi (Seven Extended Families Education and Healing Center), a Lakota community-based organization centered in Porcupine, SD a collaborative effort of Knife Chief Buffalo Nation Society and Medicine Horse Society.

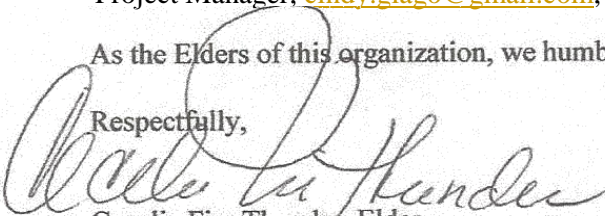
Since December 2014, there have been five completed suicides on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and numerous attempts and ideations previous to that and ongoing. We understand this as a tragic message from our youth that life is not worth living. As adult relatives, we seek to instill in our youth the Lakota belief that every individual has a purpose on earth and that resiliency to confront life's challenges can be achieved. Through this camp, learning, recreational and healing activities will be offered as a way to give life to the values, gifts and teachings provided by Tunkasila (Grandfather/Creator) for the healing of our youth that includes;

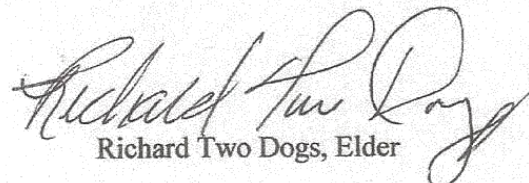
1. **Wacante Ognaka**—to have a warm, compassionate environment for youth.
2. **Woapiye**—traditional healing for their spiritual wounds from the trauma, grief or loss
3. **Wopakinte**—spiritual purification from the negative residue left by any trauma.
4. **Woyuskin**—to provide a happy, fun and accepting environment.
5. **Lakol Caswicutun Pi** - to provide an opportunity for those youth who do not have a spirit name to receive one as a way to reinforce their Lakota cultural identity.
6. **Wicozani**—to provide an opportunity for wellness screenings.
7. **Wowasake**—to provide an opportunity to achieve resiliency

Our organization partners with Village Earth, Inc., (www.villageearth.org), a non-profit organization that provides fiscal agent services and other support. The employer identification number is 84-1243878. Checks or money orders should be made out to: Village Earth Inc., For Benefit of (FBO) Medicine Horse Society or Knife Chief Buffalo Nation Society. For more information, contact Cindy Giago, MSM, Project Manager, cindy.giago@gmail.com, 605-791-4565 or Cell 605-391-4197.

As the Elders of this organization, we humbly seek your support in whatever manner is possible for you.

Respectfully,


Cecelia Fire Thunder, Elder


Richard Two Dogs, Elder



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Proposal for Teca Woasniye Wicoti (Youth Healing Camp)

I. Fiscal Agent information

Village Earth, Inc.

For Benefit of (FBO): Medicine Horse Society or Knife Chief Buffalo Nation Society

Re: Teca Woasniye Wicoti

100 Children's Lane~PO Box 100~ Porcupine, SD 57752

Employee Identification Number (EIN): 84-1243878

Attn: Dave Bartecchi, FE

Checks should be made out to "Village Earth" For Benefit of (FBO) Medicine Horse Society or Knife Chief Buffalo Nation Society

II. A brief history of the organization, mission and primary programmatic focus:

Tiospaye Sakowin is a collaborative program of Medicine Horse Society and Knife Chief Buffalo Nation Society, both of which operate under their fiscal agent Village Earth (a nonprofit organization with established 501c3 status). Collectively this program and its partnering societies provide a foundation of 20 plus years working with Lakota elders and traditional healers to revitalize and strengthen the Lakota life ways and laws through education, healing and collaboration. Our primary programmatic focus is to empower the Lakota Tiwahe (families) in reclaiming their Lakota identity. This is achieved through integrating the Lakota Customary, Natural, and Spiritual laws within the educational process, and to revitalize and implement the Lakota language through education and practice. It is the goal of Tiospaye Sakowin to strengthen the cultural identity of the Lakota Oyate through linking Lakota philosophy, culture and language.

Annually this organization works with community leaders, families and Lakota Oyate to provide healing opportunities to over 50 youth per annum. 50 youth per year reflects those youth who address unresolved trauma and emotional issues during these camps, then continue throughout life better equipped to address other issues. With financial support from organizations such as your own, it is our intent to increase- the youth camps to include Teca Waoasniye Wicoti as well as an additional Young Woman's camp. These camps are uniquely designed to address specific needs of the age and gender of the participating youth. They are as follows:

- Teca Woasniye Wicoti (Youth Healing Camp)



- Wakanyeja Wicoti (Children's Camp)
- (x2) Wikoskalaka Yuwita Pi (Lakota Gathering of Young Women)
- (x2) Lakota Koskalaka Wica Yuwita Pi (Lakota Young Men's Gathering)

Tiospaye Sakowin is a grassroots organization based out of Porcupine, SD and submits this proposal entitled *Teca Woasniye Wicoti* (Youth Healing Camp) to host a significantly propelling camp opportunity for Native American youth on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. As a Lakota community-based organization, we are seeking your support to implement this healing opportunity for our youth through on April 2-6, 2015 in Porcupine, SD on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

III. Description of the project and who it will serve:

Teca Woasniye Wicoti will service 24 Native American youth (12 males and 12 females) ages 12-17, who have experienced trauma, loss and/ or grief. Since December 2014, there have been five completed suicides on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and numerous attempts and ideations previous to that and ongoing. As previously stated in the letter from our elders, we understand this as a tragic message from our youth that life is not worth living. As adult relatives, we seek to instill in our youth the Lakota belief that every individual has a purpose on earth and that resiliency to confront life's challenges can be achieved. While attending this camp participants will experience learning, fun and healing activities to give life to the values, gifts and teachings provided by Tunkasila (Grandfather/Creator) for the healing of our children, including:

- **Wacante Ognaka**—to have a warm, compassionate environment for youth who have experienced trauma, grief and loss. All youth are treated as relatives and addressed as such.
- **Woapiye** –to offer an opportunity for the youth to begin or strengthen their healing through traditional healing.
- **Wopakinte**—to offer an opportunity for the youth (and their family if they wish) to receive a spiritual purification of the negative residue left by the trauma they have experienced.
- **Woyuskin**—to provide a happy, fun and accepting environment
- **Lakol Caswicatun Pi**- to provide an opportunity for those youth who do not have a spirit name to receive one as a way to reinforce their Lakota cultural identity
- **Wicozani**—to provide an opportunity for wellness screenings
- **Wowasake**—to provide an opportunity to achieve resiliency

The participants must be members of or have tribal ties to the Dakota, Lakota and Nakota Sioux nations which include the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Yankton Sioux Tribe, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, Lower Brule Sioux Tribe and Standing Rock Sioux



Tribe, as the camps foundation is based on Lakota Life Ways, culture and most importantly spirituality.

Participant must be between the ages of 12-17 years of age and have emotional needs that will be benefited from attending. Family members are encouraged to participate with their youth. This may include a trusted adult sponsor. Some programs, schools and organizations may feel the need to support their youth to the camp and are encouraged to do so. This camp will begin on the evening of April 2 and youth may be picked up or taken home on the morning of April 6, 2015. This camp will take place in Porcupine, South Dakota at the Tiospaye Sakowin Building, 3 miles south of Sharps Corner on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation.

IV. Specific and measurable objectives to be accomplished:

- A. By April 6, 2015, twenty four youth will have received educational and cultural teachings through traditional spiritual healing and methods.
- B. By April 6, 2015, twenty four youth will have participated in 7 traditional ceremonies including womanhood and manhood ceremonies, receiving a Lakota name, healing from trauma ceremony and direction of life path ceremony.
- C. By April 6, 2015, twenty four youth will each have a "Wokpan" (spiritual toolkit) to assist as a post-vention resource.
- D. By April 6, 2015, twenty four youth and families will receive a community resource manual that contains tribal and off reservation service providers.
- E. By April 6, 2015, twenty four youth will have received mental health pre and post screenings.
- F. By April 6, 2015, Twenty four youth will have established a relationship with camp mentors to maintain post-vention care plan.

V. Summary of how project activities will be implemented:

The *Teca Woasniye Wicoti* is built upon the Lakota life way teachings and ceremonies which allow the youth to start healing emotionally, physically and spiritually. There are seven natural laws that these teachings and ceremonies encompass.

7 Natural Laws:

- 1. **Waunsila** (having compassion for all creation)
- 2. **Wowahwala** (walking humbly)
- 3. **Waakiya** (helping others)
- 4. **Wacanteognaka** (putting/keeping people in your heart)
- 5. **Wocekiye** (prayer)
- 6. **Woyuonihan** (respecting others)
- 7. **Wicoicage** (putting the future generations first)



Initial Registration is completed (see attachment A); Tiospaye Sakowin volunteers collect the registration forms and contact participants. Participants and their parents/guardians will complete the application process which includes the application, initial assessment and survey. This application will include their clothing and shoe size, whether they have a Lakota name or not and other pertinent information needed to help Tiospaye Sakowin prepare for our youths participant.

Mentors are paired with the youth through the duration of the camp. All Mentors attend a structured training that is also hosted by Tiospaye Sakowin called “Lakota Mental Health First Aid Training” (see attachment B) where they are taught the necessary elements of addressing trauma, abuse and implement cultural indigenous healing interventions. All Mentors are also trained in CPR and First Aid as well. In addition, the youth participants will have access to and receive teachings from Lakota Elders that either serve on the Tiospaye Sakowin Board of Directors, are Tiospaye family members or who may be elders from the community participating in the *Teca Woasniye Wicoti* to provide wisdom, encouragement and support to our youth.

Teca Woasniye Wicoti is set up to mirror a Tiospaye (extended family) governing which allows for all to work together. The youth of the camp engage and participate in gender appropriate teachings and ceremonies. Each of the activities and ceremonies engage the youth at different levels and allow the youth to work together in their healing experience, thus creating a small community approach.

Ceremonies

- **Inipi-** Purification Lodge
This ceremony cleanses the body, spirit and mind.
- **Lowanpi-** Doctoring ceremony
This ceremony is conducted to address deeper emotional, physical and psychological.
- **Lakol Caje Icu Pi-** Lakota Name
Help to anchor him/her to the earth and is also ceremonially. Prayers are made for that person using their spirit name; it is believed that the Lakota spiritual entities recognize us by our spirit names and that when we pass from this world, our ancestors will call us and guides us to their world using our spirit name.
- **Isanti Tawica Lowanpi-** They Sing for her that Lives Alone
Young women’s transition into Womanhood
- **Wanasa-** Buffalo Kill, Manhood Ceremony
1 of the 4 rights of becoming a young man
- **Wapunkeska-** Grounding Ceremony- Females
Ties our young women to the earth; it lays down a path for their future
- **Wopakinte-** Spiritual Cleansing
This ceremony signifies wiping away the spiritual residue left by the intergenerational trauma that is transferred from our ancestors to the youth and well as the youth’s own historical trauma. Without a “Wopakinte”, our youth can become burdened and become



vulnerable. These cultural interventions along with other interventions can prevent transmission of negativity and can lead to a renewed sense of strength.

Activities/Teaching

- **Oinajin Topa-** Stages of Life, teaches their spiritual place in life
- **Wotakuye-** Protocol/Lakota Kinship, Ceremonial Protocol establishing kinship ties
- **Wokpan-** Spiritual Tool Kit, Sage for smudging, shell and prayer
- **Ti Ikciya-** Setting up Tipi, teaches knowledge and significance of the tipi
- **Oka Unspe Wicakiyapi-** Drumming and Singing, learning ceremonial songs from mentors
- **Wicahpi Wicoiye-** Star Knowledge, ceremonial connection and guidance
- **Itazipa Kaga-** Bow Making, teaches the significance of bringing back the bow
- **Sunka Wakan Oyate To Woonspe-** Traditional Equine Therapy, Healing
- **Uncagleska-** Talking Circle, end of day reflection on feeling and experience



VI. An estimated budget for the proposed project.

Tiospaye Sakowin Education and Healing Center TECA WOASNIYE WICOTI Budget (Youth Healing Camp) Costs Estimate for April 2-6, 2015	
Stipends	Projected Budget
Cook stipend: 300.00 per cook x 2 cooks per camp	\$600.00
Monetary donation to Percy for bringing horses	\$200.00
Honorarium for Wakan Iyeska	\$500.00
Travel	
Gas for Truck to haul tipi poles and tipi covers	\$80.00
Gas for those who go shopping for food and supplies	\$100.00
Gas for transporting horses – (Percy White Plume)	\$100.00
Gas to transport youth with no transportation	\$100.00
Equipment	
Portable toilets – 4 x 50.00/day = 200.00 x 4 days	\$800.00
Supplies	
Wood for Inipi: 2 nights, estimate \$200.00	\$200.00
Sweet chop/hay for horses - \$200.00	\$200.00
Fabric for Inipi and Lowanpi for Wopakinte, Woapiye – 10 yards each color (blue, red, yellow, white) x 4 colors = 40 yards x 3.00/yard	\$120.00
A set of new clothing for each youth for Wopakinte: 50.00/youth x 20	\$1,000.00
20 Medicine wheels x 20.00 each (for those that do not have names)	\$400.00
20 eagle feathers/plumes needed for Lakol Wicacaje Icupi	\$0.00
First Aid Kits x 3	\$300.00
Leather and sinew needed for Wokpan – \$54.00 per half cowhide leather +16.00 shipping + Spool of sinew \$20	\$90.00
Arts and Crafts Supplies 400.00	\$400.00
Printing (Application, Assessments, referral)	\$200.00
Supplies for Camp (Pens, pencils, journals)	\$100.00
Miscellaneous camp supplies (paper ware, utensils, cups, facial tissue, towels and toiletries, etc.)	\$200.00
Items	
Intervention Ceremony Supplies	\$160.00
Thank You Ceremony Supplies	\$150.00



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1 Buffalo for a hunt	\$1,000.00
Lakota Naming Ceremony Supplies	\$300.00
Giveaway for public Naming ceremony	\$500.00
Food/snacks – 25.00/day x (24 Youth +10 mentors+10 elders) 44 Participants 1100.00/day x 3.5 days	\$3,850.00
Field Trip Activity TBD (24 Youth +10 mentors+10 elders)= 44 Participants x \$7.95 per activity	\$350.00
Grand Total	\$12,000.00



VII. Attachments

A. Camp Flyer

Tiospaye Sakowin Education and Healing Center



TECA WOASNIYE WICOTI

(Youth Healing Camp), Porcupine, SD, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
April 2 –6, 2015
Tiospaye Sakowin Building, (brick building across from old Oblaye Store)
Porcupine, SD

The Pte Oyate (buffalo nation) care for and protect their young by putting them in the center of the herd. Our young relatives, age 12-17, who have experienced trauma, loss and/ or grief are invited to the center for a healing camp in the community of Pahin Sinte, Porcupine, SD. Youth will experience learning, fun and healing activities to give life to the values, gifts and teachings provided by Tunkasila (Grandfather/Creator) for the healing of our children, including:

- **Wacante Ognaka**—to have a warm, compassionate environment for youth who have experienced trauma, grief and loss. All youth are treated as relatives and addressed as such.
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Adult family members welcome to participate!

We invite schools, organizations and individuals to provide sponsorship, any amount appreciated.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Address: _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____

Youth Name: _____ Age: _____ DOB: _____
 Lakota Name: Yes ___ No ___ If yes, print Lakota name here: _____

Special conditions/circumstances (allergies, health issues, etc.) Yes ___ No ___ If yes, list here: _____
 Who will accompany youth?
 Name _____ Relationship _____ Cell Phone: _____

***Once registration is confirmed, an official application form and attached consents, assessments, agenda and a "What to Bring" list will be provided. These forms must be signed and returned to program upon arrival.

Note: Space is limited and priority will be given to youth out of home placement or who at risk of harm to self. Fill out the form scan and email to the address below, or fax to the number listed below.

Contact Info: Cindy Giago, MSM-Project Manager
Phone: 605-791-4565

Mobile: 605-391-4197
Email: medicinehorsesociety@gmail.com



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B. Lakota Mental Health First Aid Flyer

Lakota Mental Health First Aid

A Lakota Training Opportunity brought to you by
Tiospaye Sakowin Woonspe na Woapiye Otipi
(Seven Extended Families Education and Healing Center)
March 13-14, 2015 and March 26-27 2015
Porcupine, SD, Tiospaye Sakowin Building, (brick building across from old Oblaye Store)



Tiospaye Sakowin Woonspe na Woapiye Otipi (Tiospaye Sakowin), is a grass roots organization dedicated to providing Lakota cultural education and healing opportunities as needed and requested.

Tiospaye Sakowin will be offering a 2 day training course in Lakota Mental Health First Aid. This training will be held in Porcupine, SD at the Tiospaye Sakowin Woonspe na Woapiye Otipi (a brick building 3 miles south of Sharps Corner). Join us to learn the Lakota Cultural Perspective on how to apply mental health first aid.

This training is intended for youth, parents, family members, community members and service providers who work in the areas of mental health, law enforcement, counseling, social service, education, or who are school staff, counselors, social workers, youth program staff, juvenile detention staff and all others who are in interested. **Organizations and schools are encouraged to sponsor a youth (age 12-17), parent or community member to attend.**

Volunteer Learning Facilitators: Hmuya Mani, Richard Two Dogs and Sina Ikikcu Win, Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs

Registration fee: \$250.00
Make checks or money orders payable to:
Village Earth Inc.
Attention: Tiospaye Sakowin Woonspe na Woapiye Otipi
PO Box 797, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522
USA

Registration Form:
Name _____ Title: _____ Organization: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____ Fax: _____

Please scan and email registration form to Cindy Giago at: medicinehorsesociety@gmail.com or fax to: 605-867- 2517

Check one session date: _____ March 13-14, 2015 _____ March 26-27, 2015
Certification of Completion, refreshments and noon Lunches are included in registration fee.

Contact Info: Cindy Giago, MSM-Project Manager

Mobile: 605-391-4197
Email: medicinehorsesociety@gmail.com

Website: VillageEarth.org; tasunkewakan.org;



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C.