



Ain Dah Yung (Our Home) Center

# 2024 Annual Report

OUR HOME, OUR FUTURE

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# From our CEO

Boozhoo, Friends and Relatives,

**2024 was a year of restoration and growth, a year where *Our Home* became the foundation for building *Our Future*.** After years of pandemic-related limitations, Ain Dah Yung Center returned to full program capacity and expanded into new areas of care that will shape our impact for years to come.

This year, our work was defined by the initiatives that strengthened our continuum of care:

- **We restored full capacity at our Emergency Shelter and Youth Lodge**, ensuring American Indian youth once again had consistent, culturally grounded spaces of safety.
- **We expanded cultural healing practices across every program**, from talking circles and powwows to beadwork and medicine gardening, reaffirming that culture is the key to resilience.
- **We launched Integrated Care for High-Risk Pregnancies (ICHRP)**, a groundbreaking initiative supporting American Indian mothers with holistic prenatal and parenting care.
- **We deepened family advocacy through Oyate Nawajin**, where family advocates walked alongside parents and caregivers to preserve culture, strengthen bonds, and keep families together.
- **We invested in mental health and wellness**, ensuring young adults and children alike had access to culturally specific therapy and case management.

Behind every initiative are the youth and families who find strength, connection, and hope through ADYC. A young mother welcomed her child into the world surrounded not by fear, but by community care. A family involved with child protection found their way back to cultural pride and unity. A young adult, once homeless, stepped into permanent housing with confidence and a vision for their future.

These are the successes that shape our work.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to building *Our Future*, a future where every American Indian youth and family thrives in safety, wholeness, and cultural pride.

With Gratitude, Miigwech, Pidamayaye, Pinigigi (thank you)



**Sheri Riemers, CEO**  
White Earth Nation of Ojibwe

# 2024 Impact at a Glance



## 43 youth sheltered

Emergency Shelter

- Avg stay: 28 days | Avg age: 15



## 7 youth housed

Beverley A. Benjamin Youth Lodge

- Avg stay: 24 months



## 45 youth lived at MOADY

Permanent Supportive Housing

- Range of stay: 24–60 months

### Street Outreach

# 2,200

youth contacts made across the Twin Cities

Survival supplies, transportation, and safe connections delivered

### Health & Wellness

# 24

children received mental health care via Ramsey County & ADYC case managers

# 40

MOADY residents received therapy services

### Prevention & Leadership

**52** youth participated in Ninijanisag cultural education & leadership

**11** youth engaged in the Wotakuye Kinship Program with 3 program graduates in 2024

**60** youth supported through Zhawenimaa Safe Harbor

### Family Advocacy

**181** hearings monitored under ICWA compliance

**20** families with **48** children supported by **2** Family Advocates



# Who We Are: Our Home

Meaning “Our Home” in Ojibwe, Ain Dah Yung Center provides a healing place within the community for American Indian youth and families to thrive in safety and wholeness.

Our continuum of care is rooted in cultural identity and community connection. From emergency shelter to permanent housing, therapy to legal advocacy, ADYC creates space for American Indian youth and families to heal, belong, and thrive.



**30%** of adults experiencing homelessness in Minnesota are Native American, despite making up only 2% of the state's population.

This disparity highlights why Ain Dah Yung Center's culturally grounded programs are vital, ensuring our youth and families have a safe place to heal, grow, and belong.

(SOURCE: WILDER RESEARCH, MINNESOTA HOMELESS STUDY, 2023)

# Programs & Services: Housing & Stabilization



## Ain Dah Yung (Our Home) Emergency Shelter

The Emergency Shelter is the **only** American Indian youth shelter in the Twin Cities and the only East Metro shelter open 24/7/365 for youth ages 5–17. In 2024, we served **43 youth** with an average age of 15 and an average stay of 28 days. During their time at ADYC, 100% of youth stayed enrolled in school and received academic support. Beyond meeting basic needs, the shelter emphasizes cultural healing, youth participated in monthly talking circles, powwows, beadwork, smudging, and tending to our traditional medicine garden.

## Beverly A. Benjamin Youth Lodge

This transitional living program provides housing and support for youth ages 16–21 for up to 24 months. In 2024, **7 youth** were supported with an average length of stay of 24 months. All residents developed academic and self-sufficiency plans and, when eligible, enrolled in mainstream benefits such as health coverage. The Youth Lodge is a bridge to adulthood that blends daily life skills, academic achievement, and cultural identity.

## Mino Oski Ain Dah Yung (Good New Home) PSH

Opened in 2019, Mino Oski Ain Dah Yung (MOADY) provides permanent supportive housing for American Indian young adults ages 18–24 who have experienced homelessness. MOADY includes 42 units of housing and offers comprehensive wraparound services, including case management, transition coaching, and workforce development. In 2024, **45 residents** were housed, with a range of stay between 24–60 months. **40 residents** also received direct mental health care. Staff walk alongside residents from application to economic stability, supporting successful transitions into traditional housing.

## Street Outreach

Our Street Outreach team is part of the StreetWorks Collaborative and Youth Services Network, connecting with youth experiencing homelessness throughout the Twin Cities. In 2024, outreach staff made over **2,200 contacts**, providing survival supplies, transportation, access to health care, and pathways to shelter and housing.

# Programs & Services: Youth & Family Services



## Ninijanisag (Our Children)

This prevention and leadership program engages American Indian youth ages 8–21 in cultural education, mentorship, and healthy living activities. In 2024, **52 youth** participated regularly in drumming and dancing, storytelling, language learning, retreats, and leadership development opportunities. Ninijanisag helps youth build cultural pride and resilience to navigate life's challenges.

## Oyate Nawajin (Stand with the People)

Oyate Nawajin works with American Indian families who are at risk of or currently involved with child protection. The program provides culturally based case management, family and court advocacy, and opportunities for cultural preservation. In 2024, **20 families** with **48 children** were supported through family retreats, drum and dance, seasonal gatherings, and traditional healing practices. Families are empowered to strengthen bonds, preserve traditions, and remain connected to community.

## Indian Child Welfare Legal Advocacy/Compliance (ICWLAC)

Our ICWLAC program ensures that the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA) are upheld. In 2024, staff monitored **181 court hearings**, working to protect the rights of American Indian families and prevent the separation of children from their culture and community.

## Zhawenimaa (Safe Harbor)

Zhawenimaa, a Safe Harbor program, meaning “They Are Loved Unconditionally” in Ojibwe, provides trauma-informed, culturally specific services for youth experiencing or at risk of sexual exploitation. In 2024, **60 American Indian youth** were served across our Emergency Shelter, Youth Lodge, MOADY, and Street Outreach programs. Staff offer safety planning, advocacy, and healing through Native traditions and teachings.

## Wotakuye (Kinship Program)

Wotakuye, a Kinship Program, builds “circles of support” for youth through extended family, mentors, and trusted adults in the community. In 2024, **11 youth** were engaged, and **3 successfully graduated** the program. Wotakuye provides consistency and belonging for American Indian youth navigating instability, anchoring them in relationships that affirm their identity.

## Integrated Care for High-Risk Pregnancies (ICHRP)

Launched in 2024, this new initiative brings together healthcare providers and cultural practitioners to support American Indian mothers through high-risk pregnancies. The program addresses not only medical needs but also cultural, emotional, and spiritual well-being, ensuring holistic care for mothers and their babies.

# Programs & Services: Clinical Health & Wellness



## Youth & Family Therapy

Licensed therapists provide individual, family, and group counseling services embedded in cultural frameworks. In 2024, **40 MOADY residents** and **24 children** received therapy services, helping youth process trauma, build coping skills, and strengthen family connections.

## Suicide Prevention

ADYC delivers suicide prevention and postvention services rooted in Native traditions. Staff are trained in QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer), ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training), and CALM (Counseling on Access to Lethal Means). These services help build protective factors within our community and ensure culturally appropriate support during crises.

## Ramsey County Children's Mental Health

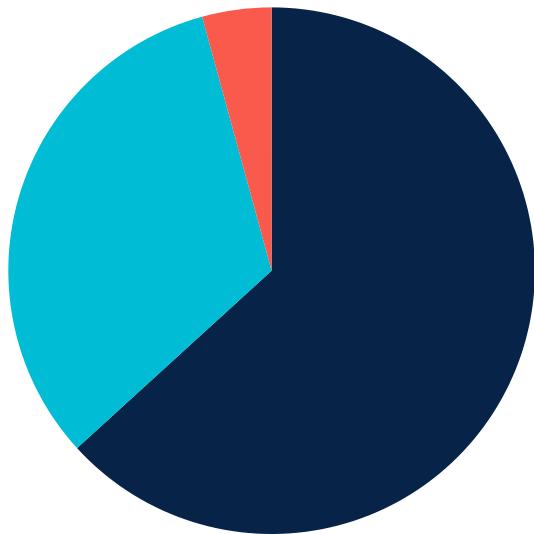
Through partnership with Ramsey County, ADYC provides case management to American Indian children with severe emotional and behavioral needs. In 2024, **24 children** received support, connecting families to resources while incorporating cultural care into treatment plans.

**~50%** of Native Americans experiencing homelessness endured four or more childhood traumas, such as family violence, addiction, or separation from parents.

Ain Dah Yung Center helps break these cycles by providing safety, cultural connection, and healing for our youth and families.

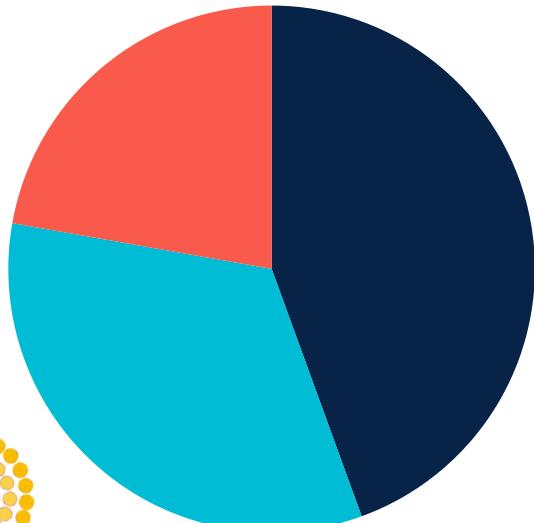
(SOURCE: WILDER RESEARCH, MINNESOTA HOMELESS STUDY, 2023)

# Financials: Investing in Our Future



**Revenue: \$4,063,863**

- Foundation and Contributions: \$1,281,049
- Government Grants: \$2,483,584
- Program Service Revenue: \$168,137



**Expenses: \$4,201,996**

- Salaries & Benefits: \$2,652,510
- Professional Services: \$232,988
- Program Expenses: \$916,706

**Net Income: (\$138,133)**

# Donors & Partners

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

### PIPESTONE CIRCLE (\$5,000+)

Mary Doug & Nancy Andrews Family Fund  
Burns Family Charitable Endowment Fund  
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6 anonymous donations

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10 anonymous donations

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Deanna Morrow  
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Shirlee Schuette  
Art Stoeberl

## FOUNDATIONS

### \$100,000+

Pohlad Family Foundation

### \$50,000 - \$99,000

Constellation Fund  
Sauer Family Foundation  
Target Foundation

### \$25,000 - \$49,999

3M Community Fund  
Carlson Family Foundation  
F.R. Bigelow Foundation  
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation  
Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation  
Robert E and Edith M Grissinger Foundation  
Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation  
San Manuel Band Of Mission Indians  
The Minneapolis Foundation

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Ameriprise Financial Foundation  
Andersen Corporate Foundation  
Hardenbergh Foundation  
HRK Foundation  
Securian Financial Foundation  
Social Venture Partners  
Women's Foundation Of Minnesota  
Xcel Energy Foundation  
Anonymous

### \$0 - \$9,999

3M Impact Local USA  
C. H. Robinson  
Comcast NBCUniversal Foundation  
Fazendin Realtors Foundataion  
Foundation For Development Of People  
Medtronic Foundation  
Waub Aijjaak Press & Foundation  
Wilderness River Foundation

### IN-KIND DONORS

3M Impact Local USA

# Donors & Partners

## TRIBAL & COMMUNITY

### \$100,000+

Greater Twin Cities United Way

### \$25,000 - \$49,999

Native Voices Rising

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence NRCDV  
National Urban Indian Family Coalition  
The House Of Hope Presbyterian Church  
White Earth Tribal Council

### \$0 - \$9,999

21st Century Bank  
American Indian Family Center  
Awaken Covenant Community  
Church of Saint Frances Cabrini  
Corporate Technologies  
Inspirity  
Metropolitan State University  
Unitarian Universalist Church  
Volunteers In Corrections

### IN-KIND DONORS

Awaken Covenant Community  
Backpack Project MN  
Church of Saint Frances Cabrini  
Division Of Indian Work, Interfaith Action  
Dunkin Donuts  
Feeding Saint Paul  
Grace Hospice  
Heading Home Ramsey - Youth Advisory Board  
Hennepin County Outreach & Community Support (OCS) Department  
Keys Cafe & Bakery  
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  
Manitobah Mukluks  
META Platforms Technologies LLC  
Metro State University  
Pet Haven  
Ramsey County - IWCA/Social Services  
Saint Paul Public Schools  
Saint Paul Public Schools - Project REACH  
Saint Thomas More  
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community  
The House Of Hope Presbyterian Church  
Tickets For Kids  
Women Of Nations

## GOVERNMENT FUNDING

### COUNTY GRANTS

Brown County  
Hennepin Children & Family Services Dept  
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota:StreetWorks FHPAP  
Rice County  
Stevens County  
Ramsey County (RC)  
Ramsey County (RHEA)  
Ramsey County (RC):Children's Mental Health  
Ramsey County (RC):RC Nokomis Circle  
Ramsey County (RC):RC Shelter  
RC Tran Sys Together SJ-TST00030  
SPRCPH Title V MCH Block PH001333  
Washington County

### UNITED STATES FEDERAL GRANTS

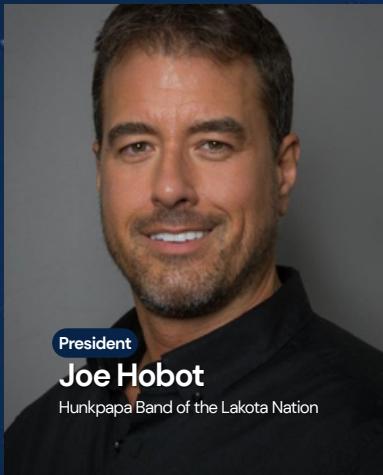
Arizona State University ASU:ASU  
Parenting in Two Worlds  
FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency:  
FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency:FEMA EFSP Phase 41  
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota:StreetWorks FYSB  
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence NRCDV  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):U.S. DHHS BCP  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):U.S. DHHS SAMHSA

### STATE OF MINNESOTA GRANTS

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota:StreetWorks Homeless Youth Act  
OEO HYA  
MN DEED Construction Grant 4AINDAHYC9800  
MN MDH Improving Outcomes 225098  
MN Department of Health (MDH):MN MDH Safe Harbor  
MN Department of Health (MDH):MN MDH Suicide Prevention  
MN Department of Health (MDH):MN MDH Tobacco  
MN Department of Human Services (DHS):MN DHS Chemical Dependency (State CD)  
MN DHS Child Safety 244338  
MN DHS HHSSA HYA 233101  
MN Department of Human Services (DHS):MN DHS Housing Support Supplemental Services  
MN DHS ICHRP Perinatal 255687  
MN Department of Human Services (DHS):MN DHS ICWA Early Intervention  
MN Department of Human Services (DHS):MN DHS ICWA Special Focus  
MN Department of Human Services (DHS):MN DHS ICWA Urban Primary  
MN Department of Human Services (DHS):MN DHS OEO HYA  
MN Department of Human Services (DHS):MN DHS Safe Harbor Shelter/Housing  
MN Dept of Education:MN CACFP Shelter Food (CLICS)



# Board of Directors



# Our Future, Together

Every American Indian youth who finds shelter, every family who reconnects, and every child whose culture is honored — this is the impact your support makes possible.

Together, we are restoring tradition, building resilience, and shaping futures.

*Our Home* is strong, and with you, *Our Future* is bright.

Miigwech — thank you.



# Contact Us



Call us at:

**651-227-4184**



**AIN DAH YUNG CENTER EMERGENCY  
SHELTER & BUSINESS OFFICE**  
1089 Portland Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104

**BEVERLEY A. BENJAMIN YOUTH LODGE**  
1212 Raymond Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108

**MINO OSKI AIN DAH YUNG**  
769 University Avenue West  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104

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