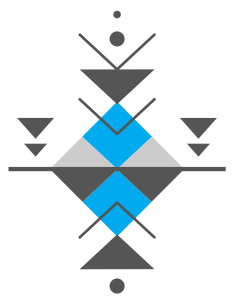


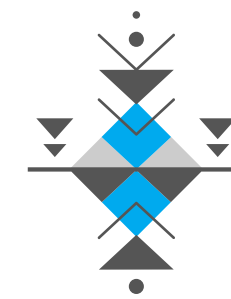


FR1ENDS of the
CH1LDREN



Friends of the Children

Buffalo Circle: Using Traditional Concepts of Kinship In a Western Mentoring Model



Presenter



Tasha R. Mousseau JD

Pejuta Cangleska Win

Wichita, Kiowa, Caddo, Hunka Oglala Lakota

Chief Officer of Advancement and Tribal Relations

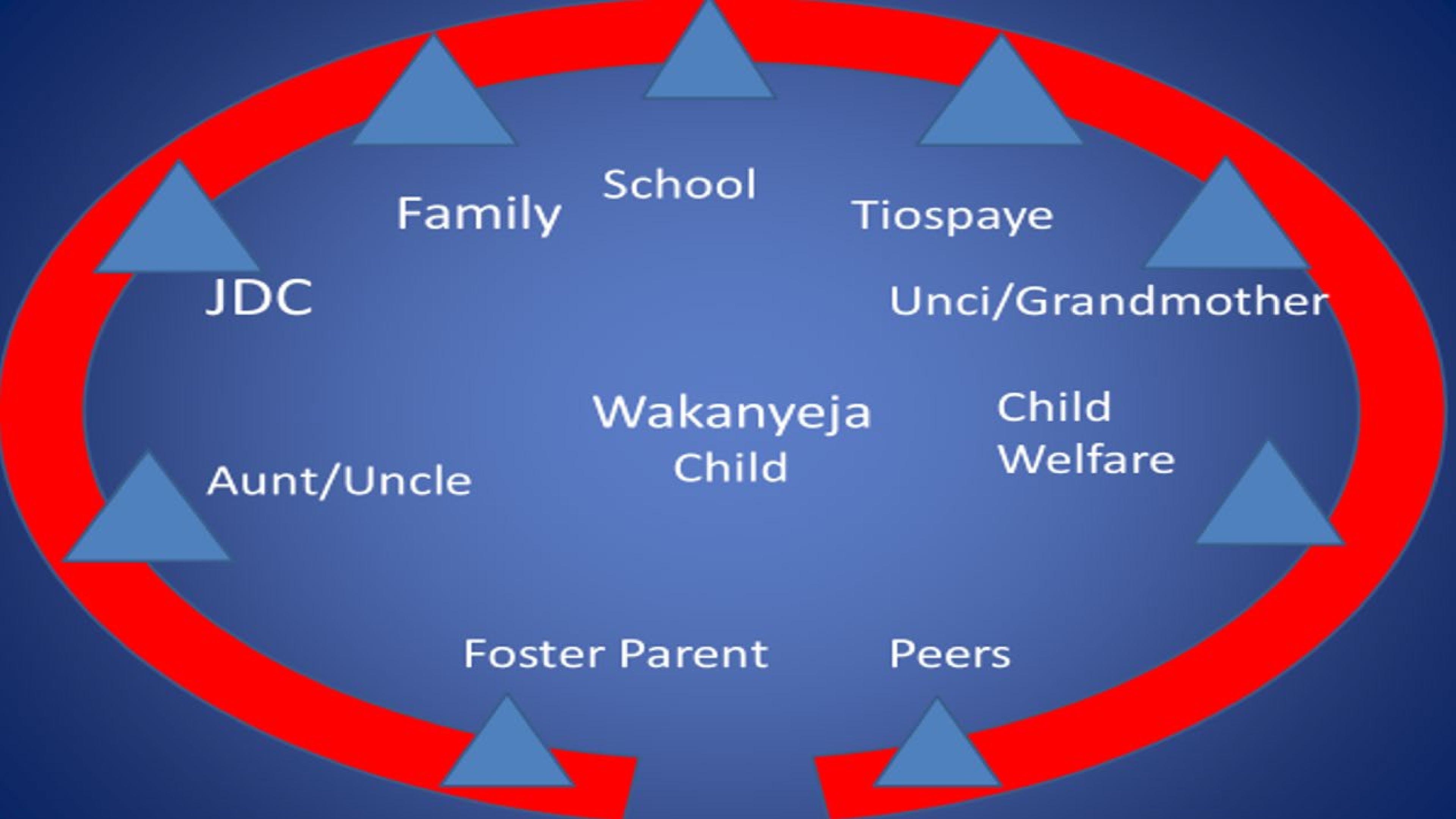
Friends of the Children – National

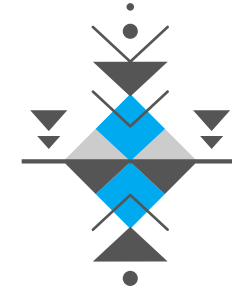
Lakota Female	English Kinship Relations	Lakota Male
Unci	Grandmother	Unci
Tunkasila	Grandfather	Tunkasila
Ina	Mother [and her sisters]	Ina
Ate	Father [and his brothers]	Ate
Tunwin	Aunt [father's sisters, father's brother's wife, and mother's brother's wife]	Tunwin
Leksi	Uncle [mother's brother, mother's sister's husband, and father's sister's husband]	Leksi
Cepansi	Female cousin [daughters of mother's brothers and father's sisters]	Hankasi
Sicesi	Male cousin [sons of mother's brothers and father's sisters]	Tahansi
Cuwe	Older sister [and older daughters of mother's sisters and father's brothers]	Tanke
Tiblo	Older brother [and older sons of mother's sisters and father's brothers]	Ciye
Tanka	Younger sister [and younger daughters of mother's sisters and father's brothers]	Tanksi
Misun	Younger brother [and younger sons of mother's sisters and father's brothers]	Misun
Sicepan	Sister-in-law [a woman's husband's sister or her sister's husband; a man's wife's sister or his brother's wife]	Hanka
Sice	Brother-in-law [a woman's husband's brother or her sister's husband; a man's wife's brother or his sister's husband]	Tanhan
Cunksi	Daughter [and daughters of a woman's sisters or a man's brothers]	Cunksi
Cinksi	Son [and sons of a woman's sisters or a man's brothers]	Cinksi
Tojan	Niece	Tonjan
Toska	Nephew	Tonska
Uncisi	Mother-in-law	Uncisi
Tuncan	Father-in-law	Tuncan
Wakanyeja	Child	Wakanyeja
Takoja	Grandchild	Takoja

Lakota Kinship Exercise



This representation of the extended kinship model is based on the work of Richard Two Dogs and is shared with his permission.





Model

12 years+ No Matter What

- ❖ Paid Professional Mentor
- ❖ Youth ages 4-6 with greatest risk factors & lowest protective factors
- ❖ Consistent Presence
- ❖ 2 Gen Approach





Impact

IT WORKS



83% of youth graduate high school

Although 50% have parents who did not have the support necessary to graduate



93% avoid the juvenile justice system

Although 60% have parents who have been impacted by the criminal justice system



93% avoid the juvenile justice system

Although 60% have parents who have been impacted by the criminal justice system



98% avoid early parenting

Although 85% have parents who started parenting during their teens.

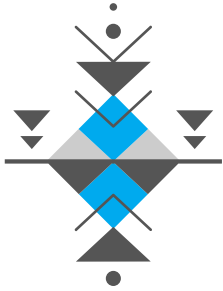
92% enroll in post-secondary education, serve our country, or enter the workforce

Invest in the Community

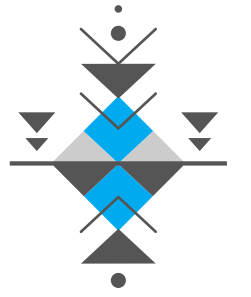
\$1 = \$7

For every \$1 invested in Friends of the Children, the community benefits over \$7 in saved social costs. Helping one child saves the community \$900,000.

Where We Work



CHAPTER DIVERSITY: TRIBAL, URBAN, RURAL



- ❖ Klamath Falls/Chiloquin
- ❖ Western Montana/Flathead Reservation
- ❖ He Sapa/Rapid City/Pine Ridge Reservation
- ❖ Eastern Montana
- ❖ Twin Cities
- ❖ Fargo-Moorhead



Growth in Indian Country



- Acknowledgment of and Respect for Tribal Sovereignty
- Acknowledgement and respect for inter-tribal communities
- Alignment of Values
- Shared Goals
- Culturally Grounded vs. Culturally Adapted
- Culturally Responsive
- Reflective of Community Specific Culture



Partnering with Tribal Communities



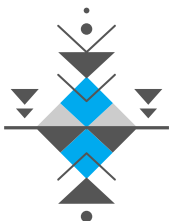
Approach





Oglala Sioux Tribe

- Community Advisory Board
- Board of Directors Representation
- Job Creation
- School Partnerships
- ICWA/CPS State of Emergency Declaration
- ICWA Taskforce
- Introduction of State ICWA Legislation

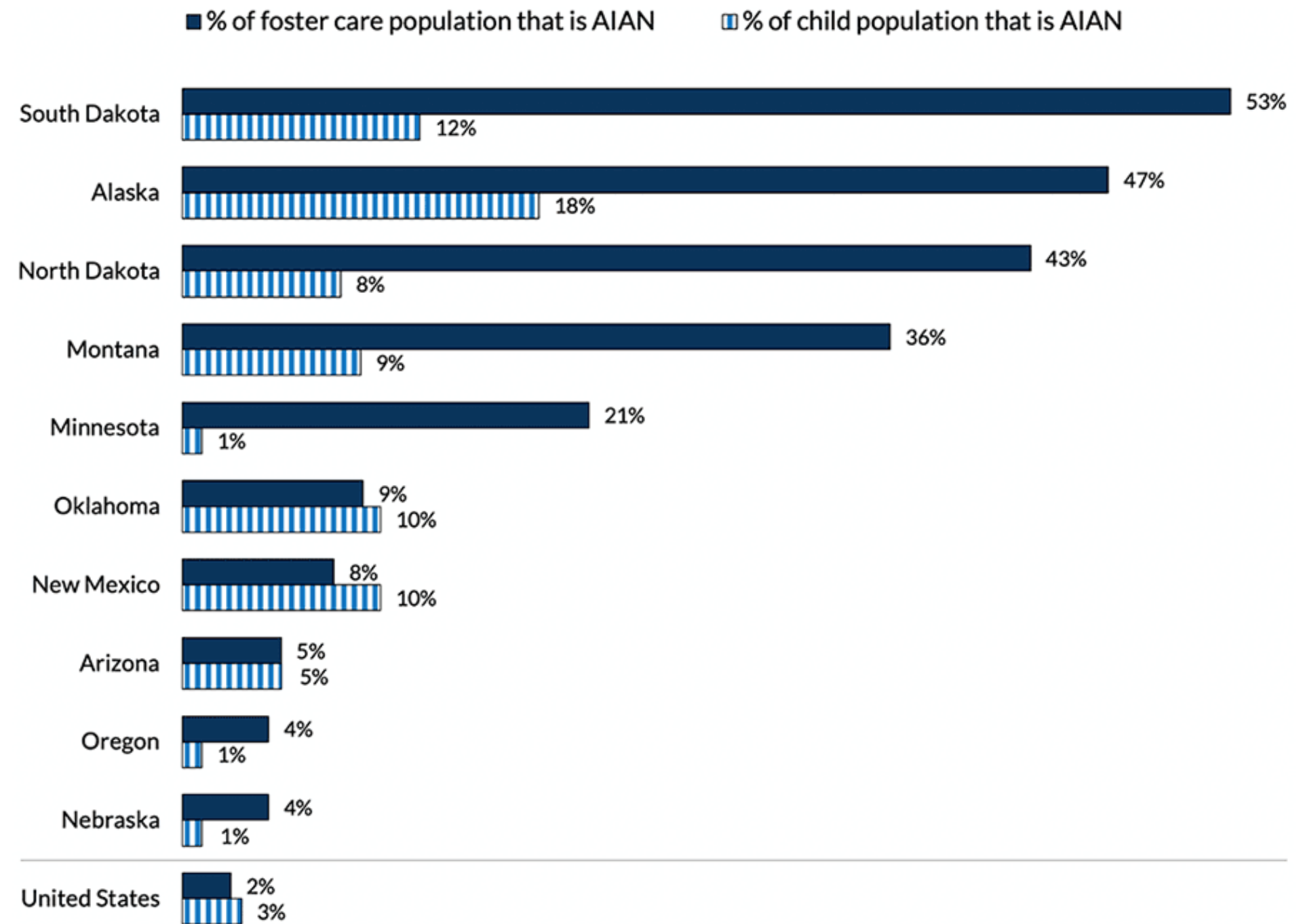


Activity



South Dakota Foster Care

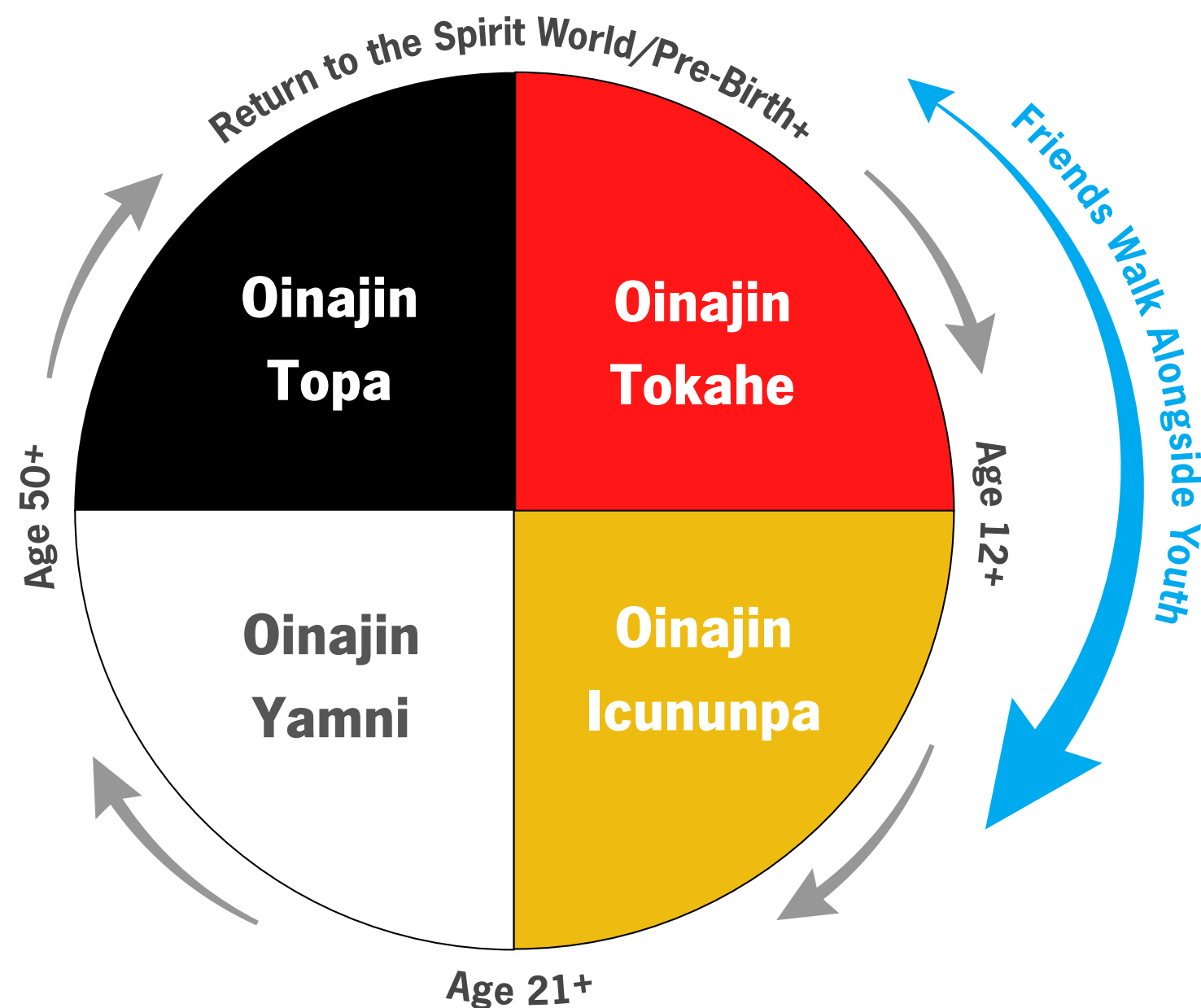
Percentages of AIAN children among the foster care and child populations, for the 10 states with largest proportion of AIAN children



Source: Williams, S.C. (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States. Child Trends. <https://cms.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>

Friends of the Children – He Sapa

Combining Evidence-Based Research with Practice-Based Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being



Follows youth nearly half of the *Oinajin Topa* (four stages of Lakota life)

- ❖ Grounded in Lakota values and philosophy
Naming ceremonies, making of relatives, coming of age ceremonies, healing camps
- ❖ Friends walk alongside youth
- ❖ Incorporating family and strengthening family kinships
- ❖ Integrating culture and language

Culture and language serve as protective factors for Indigenous youth.

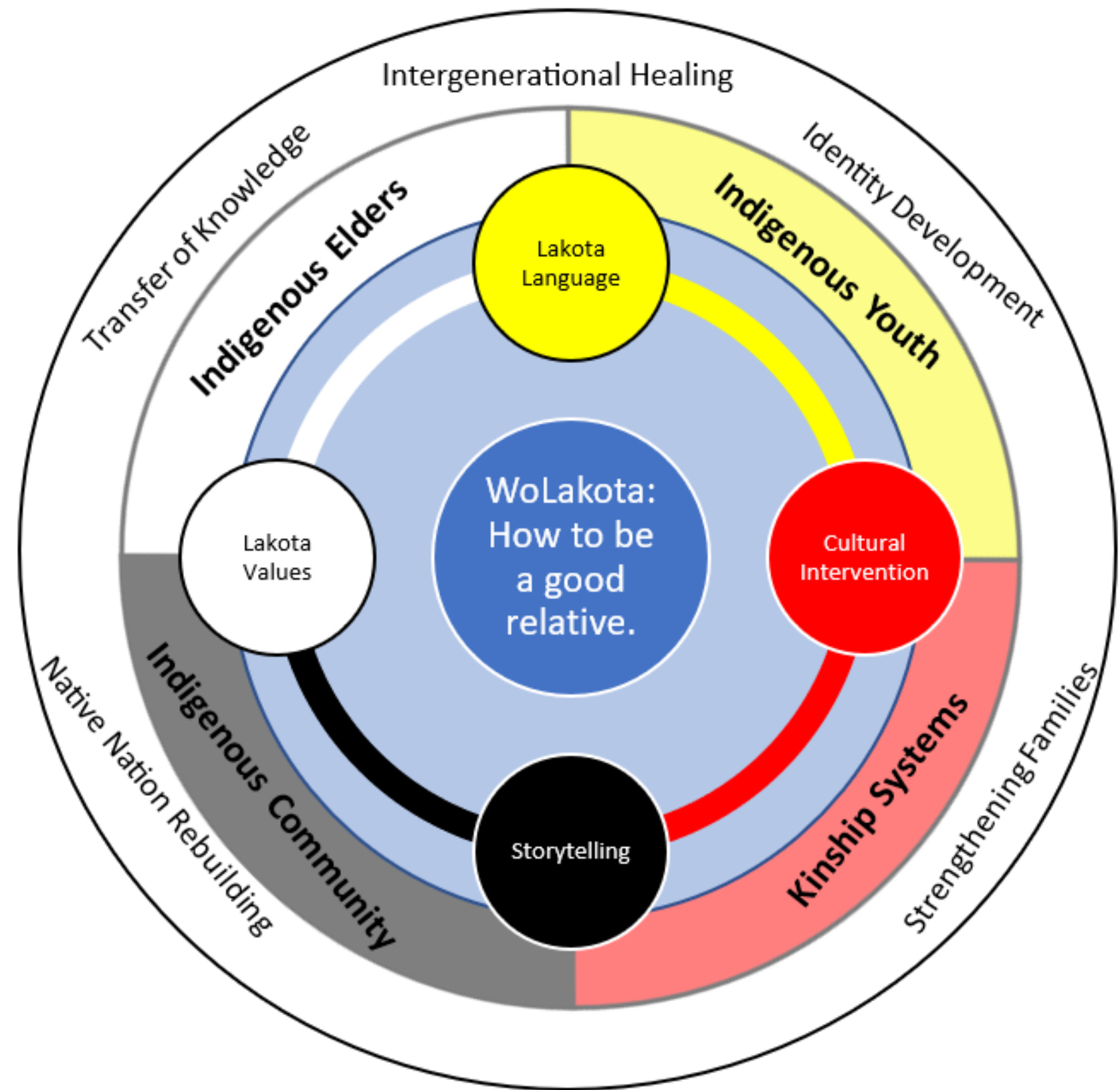
Moccasins on the Ground



Cultural Interventions



Cultural Responsiveness



Working with the community, by the community...

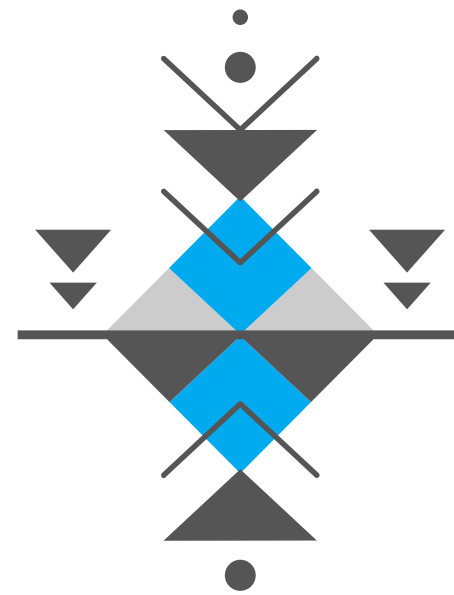
Mending the Sacred Hoop

- 83% of youth graduate high school
- 93% avoid the justice system
- 98% avoid early parenting
- 92% enroll in post-secondary, serve our country, or enter the workforce

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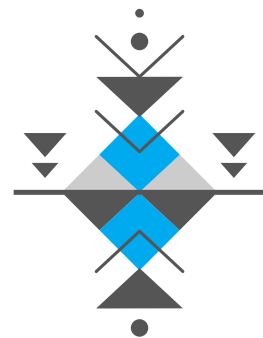


Questions?

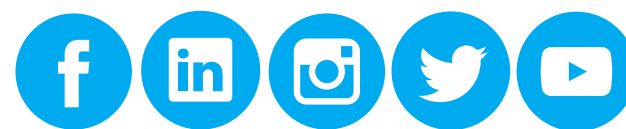


FR1ENDS of the
CH1LDREN

THANK YOU!



www.friendsofthechildren.org



@friendsnationa