

A Program of OJJDP

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Committed to working with you to change the narrative for Native Youth



Before We Get Started

- This project was supported by Grant #15PJDP-21-GK-04048-MUMU awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.
- The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessary reflect those of the Department of Justice.





The 7th Generation **National Tribal** Mentoring Program Jeri Brunoe **Stephanie Autumn**

History of the 7th Generation Mentoring Program



The Seventh Generation approach to mentoring was inspired by the Maza Tiopa Mentoring Program, which created a mentoring program for children of incarcerated parents. The Maza Tiopa Mentoring Program was based on the traditional culture and kinship relations of the Lakota people.

The Seventh Generation project expanded this model so that any American Indian or Alaska Native tribe or community could create a similar mentoring program, reflecting their culture, kinship relations, values, and history.

The Maza Tiopa Mentoring Program was a project of Wakanyeja Pawicayapi Inc., a nonprofit located in Porcupine, South Dakota, on the Pine Ridge Reservation. The Seventh Generation National Tribal Mentoring Program was funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice.

Session Objectives

- Increase knowledge on a mentoring framework that braids traditional values and kinship into its program design.
- Increase knowledge on a mentoring kinship framework that utilizes youth and adult group sessions to reconnect youth with their families, extended families, and community.
- Increase knowledge on a mentoring model that provides youth and families opportunities to identify and select a mentor from their family or community and create adult and youth cultural learning goals.





The vision of the Seventh Generation Mentoring
Program is to build lasting relationships between
Native youth and caring adult mentors in the following ways:

- Build trusting and caring relationships through one-on-one mentoring and the group cultural activities.
- Enhance the cultural identities of youth by integrating cultural values and practices into all group mentoring activities.
- Strengthen social and emotional health.
- Increase sense of belonging in school and community.



13 Moons – 13 Mentoring Sessions

Importance of Traditional Teachings & Stories

Creation Stories

Kinship: Natural World

Kinship: Being a Good Relative

Kinship: Within the Nation & Community

Kinship:
Honoring the
Responsibilities

Kinship: In the Digital Society





13 Moons – 13 Mentoring Sessions

Kinship Ceremonies

Kinship in the Linear World

Kinship & the Arts

Sustaining Kinship

Reflections



Mentoring Session Framework

Each Group Session has the following components:

- Welcome, Opening, Introductions (20 minutes)
- Kinship Session Activity (90 minutes)
- Closing (10 minutes)

Total time of each 7th Generation mentoring session is 2 hours.









7th Generation Mentoring Training

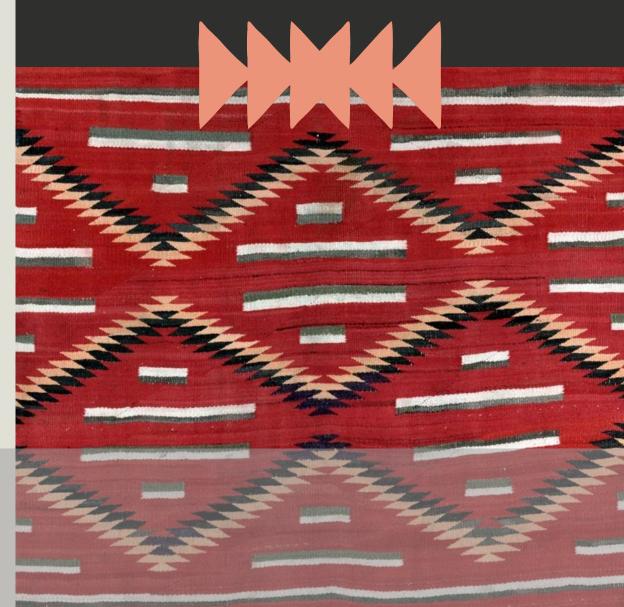
In the fall of 2024, the Tribal Youth Resource Center will provide a virtual training on the 7th Generation Mentoring Program to everyone registered at this meeting. You will receive an invite at the end of August.

Upon registration, participants will receive the three-part online learning event agenda and the newly revised 7th Generation Mentoring Handbook.

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"Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life. Seek to make your life long and its purpose in the service of your people."

- Chief Tecumseh



Post-7th Generation Mentor Training

TYRC Coaching:

- Resource Mapping other mentoring programs in the community
- Needs Assessment (online, social media, snail mail)
- Develop informational materials on the 7th Generation Mentoring Program and share internally and with other programs, parents, caregivers, youth
- Network with other local and regional networks about interest in possible partnerships

Any Questions?





TABLE DISCUSSION

1. Strengths of the mentoring model?

2. Challenges of the mentoring model?

More about the Mentoring Model



The 7th Generation Mentoring sessions were designed with specific goals in mind:

- ❖ To take place once a month However, this schedule may be altered to reflect local seasonal activities and needs.
- ❖ Each session takes about 2 hours, which includes 30 minutes devoted to the opening and closing of the session and 90 minutes for activities. The time may also vary depending on the number of participants.
- ❖ The sessions were purposely written to be general in nature. This allows them to be adapted for the culture and circumstances of the community in which they will be held.





Contact Us

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We are grateful for your spirits, heart and strength to continue the work for our 7 generations to come!



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