Mission: Traditional Ojibwe values will guide our efforts to promote the spiritual, emotional, physical and cognitive wellness of the children, families, and community we serve.

Red Cliff Early Childhood Center
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Approved by PC: 2-7-11
Approved by TC: 2-22-11
Red Cliff Early Childhood Center

Mission Statement

Traditional Ojibwe values will guide our efforts to promote the spiritual, emotional, physical and cognitive wellness of the children, families, and community we serve.

Program Purpose, Goals and Objectives

PURPOSE I: SPIRITUAL WELLNESS (A Belief in the Interconnectedness of All Things)

Izhitchige Bezhig: MANIDOOWAADIZI MINOCHIGEWINAN (Debweyendum da biinji-aanikoosidoong akina gegoo)

Goal One: To strengthen the cultural identity of each child and their family by enhancing their knowledge of Ojibwe language, history, family, and relationship with Mother Earth.

Objective 1.1: Enhance age appropriate comprehension and use of the Ojibwe language in the Early Head Start (EHS) Program by continuing daily language immersion in Amik room with eight (8) 1-2 year old children, and beginning daily language immersion with a new group of eight (8) infants in the Wabooz room, using the Red Cliff Early Childhood Ojibwe Language Assessment tool.

Objective 1.2: Through weekly meetings, home visits, and supplemental learning opportunities, enhance the level of Ojibwe language understanding and use by parents/families of Amik and Wabooz children, as demonstrated by quarterly Ojibwe language assessments.

Objective 1.3: Research, identify, develop, and create a plan to support and sustain long-term Ojibwe language immersion, including expansion to Head Start and elementary grades.
PURPOSE II: EMOTIONAL WELLNESS (Balancing All of Our Emotions)

Izhitchige Niizh: MAMAAJIWIN MINOCHIGEWINAN (Dibaabishkodjigaade akina gimamaajiwinan)

Goal Two: To implement mental wellness programming that promotes emotional health resulting in enhanced relationships for children, parents, staff and community.

Objective 2.1: Support the integration of Touchpoints into practice through:
   a) provision of monthly reflective practice calls with Brazelton Touchpoints faculty;
   b) monthly discussion of principles and assumptions during staff meetings; and
   c) posting visual reminders of principles and assumptions in staff areas.

Objective 2.2: Provide screening for maternal depression to at least 80% of expectant and newly delivered mothers receiving EHS Home-Based services.

Objective 2.3: Pilot a culturally appropriate Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Prevention/Intervention Project, currently being developed by the Red Cliff Gizhaawaso (Protect One’s Young) Community Advisory Board, with ten (10) young women in the community ages 16-21 during the summer of 2011.

PURPOSE III: PHYSICAL WELLNESS (Attending To Our Physical Selves-Our Bodies)

Izhitchige Niswi: ZOONGIZIWIN MINOCHIGEWINAN (Ayaa oamaa giinawind i’iw zoongiziwin giinawind gii niyawminan)

Goal Three: To develop programming and services which promote healthy habits through increased opportunities for physical activity and improved nutritional services resulting in improved health outcomes for children and their families.

Objective 3.1: Increase opportunities for all center-based children to participate in gross motor and proprioceptive activities every 60 minutes throughout the day during waking
hours as part the new “Let’s Move! In Indian Country” initiative designed to combat childhood obesity.

Objective 3.2: In collaboration with the Red Cliff Health Center, offer dental varnish services to 100% of EHS home-based children ages 9 months and up.

Objective 3.3: Seek $750,000 in public or private grant funds to expand current facility to allow for additional 0-3 classroom space, replacing modular units with stick built, and retrofit parking areas.

PURPOSE IV: COGNITIVE WELLNESS (Having Clear Thoughts)

Izhitchige Niiwin: GIKENDAMOWIN MINOCHIGEWINAN (Ayaang biiniteg inendamowinan)

Goal Four: To promote programming and services focused on cognitive development of children by enhancing teacher support strategies.

Objective 4.1: Improve the quality of teacher-child interactions in the Instructional Support Domain of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), resulting in an average score of 4 in that domain, as measured by the Education Manager’s CLASS observations.

Objective 4.2: Upload the Nandagikendan curriculum to the Teaching Strategies Gold activity library, adding a minimum of 3 activities in each development and content area, in the Infant, Toddler and Twos, and Preschool levels.

Objective 4.3: 65% of five year old children entering kindergarten will meet or exceed the Red Cliff ECC Kindergarten Readiness Goals.