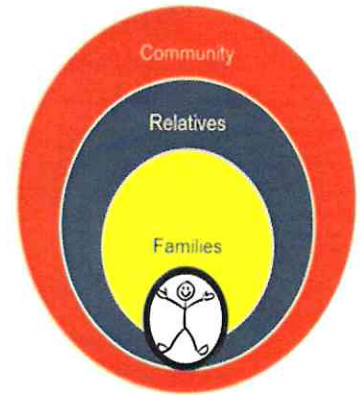


About ICWA Courts

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Courts

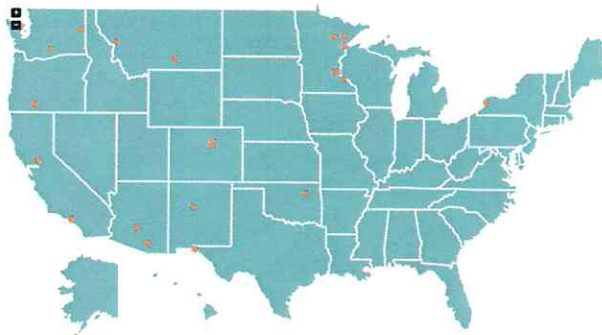
The five principles of ICWA Courts that frame the “gold standard of child welfare” are:

1. Judicial leadership;
2. ICWA data collection;
3. ICWA training (spirit and letter of law);
4. Tribal stakeholder collaboration; and
5. Gold Standard lawyering and social work.



ICWA Court Map

Below is a map of the current ICWA Courts. For more information about these courts or to be added to the map, please see the contact information below.



Promising Outcomes:

- 📍 Quicker time to reunification with caregivers
- 📍 Children are placed with relatives at earlier stages of CHIPS/TPR Case
- 📍 Increased tribal presence
- 📍 Parents at hearings more frequently and earlier in the stage of the case
- 📍 Increased collaboration and relationship building
- 📍 Authentic engagement with tribes
- 📍 Enhanced inclusive and diverse cultural practices
- 📍 Decrease in continuance requests due to lack of availability or compliance with ICWA

ND ICWA Efforts Roadmap

2009-2012

UND/CIP ICWA Compliance Audit –

Research team reviewed findings and orders in CHIPS/TPR cases in Odyssey.



2016

Final UND/CIP ICWA Compliance Audit Report

Multi-year audit helped to clarify areas in need of improvement.



2016

ICWA Implementation Partnership Grant Awarded

Grant partners included the Native American Training Institute, tribes, courts and child welfare.



2019

QEW Recruitment and Training

Native American Training Institute (NATI) provided training to increase QEW presence in court hearings.



2021 -2023

Adoption of ICWA in North Dakota Century Code

NDCC 27-19.1



2015

UND/Casey Family Program Audit

Research team reviewed Grand Forks County Social Services files for ICWA compliance.



2016

Creation of ND ICWA Hard Card and Desk Reference Guide

Hard Card and Bench Guide was widely circulated and continues to be utilized by stakeholders.



2018

ICWA Inquiry Form

Creation of a universal ICWA inquiry form to be utilized statewide by caseworkers when reaching out to tribes.



2020

ICWA Family Preservationist (IFP)

IFP model developed and implemented.



2023

2nd ICWA Implementation Partnership Grant Awarded

