



CARING ACROSS THE BOUNDARIES

INFORMATION SHEET

WHAT IS CARING ACROSS THE BOUNDARIES?

Caring Across the Boundaries is an interactive **workshop** that facilitates **collaboration** between First Nations child and family services agencies and the voluntary sector. The program was developed in response to research which found that First Nations children and youth on reserve have almost no access to the broad range of prevention and quality of life services provided by the voluntary sector (FNCFCS, 2003).

A key finding of the research was that both First Nations child and family service providers and voluntary sector agencies want to ensure First Nations children and youth are able to access culturally appropriate voluntary sector supports. Identified barriers to collaboration expressed by voluntary sector and First Nations agencies include:

- Lack of time
- Lack of networking opportunities
- Hesitancy to initiate contact
- Lack of funds
- Lack of knowledge, information and understanding about each other

During the Caring Across Boundaries workshop, participants work together to identify strategies to surmount these barriers. This activity quickly reveals that the vast majority of the hurdles cited can be readily overcome.

Goals of the Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to help First Nations and the voluntary sector learn more about each other in a safe, supportive environment and begin breaking down barriers to collaboration. The training provides space for participants to make new connections, network and create joint visions of future collaboration.

Participants

The program is intended for individuals working for non-profit, public service, philanthropic and government agencies engaged in activities related to child, youth and family service and individuals working with First Nations social service agencies both on and off-reserve. Training is offered in 1.5 day workshops consisting of a half day primer session and a full day collaboration session.

CONTACT:

FIRST NATIONS CHILD AND FAMILY CARING SOCIETY OF CANADA

CAB: Coordinator
Suite 1001-75 Albert
Ottawa, ON K1P 5E7

Telephone: 613.230.5885 x. 29
Email: jalderman@fncfcs.com