



INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

between

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court

and

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Human Services

TITLE

An Agreement between the Leech Lake Human Services Division and Tribal Court to Collaborate on a Comprehensive Wraparound Behavioral Health Response Model with Anishinabeg Lifeways as the foundation.

BACKGROUND

To address the devastating effects of drug and alcohol abuse and improve delivery of mental health services for Leech Lake Band members, internal departments have been implementing new ways to provide resources and services to youth and families. As part of this effort, in early 2010 the Tribal Court applied for and received federal funding to provide mental health services and case management services to tribal members as part of its Restorative Justice Program. At the same time, the Human Services Division was building upon existing services, developing a comprehensive Behavioral Health Program providing Adult Rehabilitative/Mental Health Services (ARMHS); Children's Therapeutic Support Services (CTSS); Children's Mental Health Targeted Case Management (CMS-TCM); and 0-5 Services. In April 2011, the Leech Lake Tribal Council declared a state of emergency due to the epidemic of prescription drug abuse on the reservation and directed divisions to collaborate and share resources to address the problem.

Even before the Tribal Council's declaration, the Tribal Court and Human Services had already begun collaborating to design a Comprehensive Wraparound Behavioral Health Response Model featuring Anishinabeg Lifeways as the foundation. An Interagency Workgroup met to develop this system, which was to include:

- regular meetings to review cases and create/update service plans;
- cultural-specific, trauma-informed and strengths-based services;
- FASD education/awareness;

- coordinated data collection and information sharing to avoid duplication of services and eliminate gaps;
- pooling of service providers from Human Services and Tribal Court to leverage resources and build capacity; and
- a centralized billing process to ensure sustainability of programming through third-party billing.

After these initial meetings were held, the Tribal Court’s focus turned to internal development of grant programs, creating the Court’s Restorative Justice Program, *Bamenim Anishinaabeg* (“*Care for The People*”). During this same time, Human Services continued to develop its Behavioral Health Program. Regular monthly meetings have been scheduled between the Human Services Director and Tribal Court Judge responsible for the Restorative Justice Program, and a larger workgroup consisting of Human Services and *Bamenim Anishinaabeg* staff will convene on a bi-monthly basis. To achieve coordination of services and facilitate open communication and collaboration between the Tribal Court and the Human Services Division, a written memorandum of understanding is necessary.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA) between the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court and Human Services Division, is to clarify roles and responsibilities of each division and support work of the Directors and the staff workgroup. Activities will enhance collaboration between the divisions in order to leverage existing resources and improve outcomes for those receiving services.

SCOPE OF WORK AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Scope of Work – Human Services Behavioral Health Program shall be primarily responsible for providing Adult Rehabilitative/Mental Health Services (ARMHS); Children’s Therapeutic Support Services (CTSS); Children’s Mental Health Targeted Case Management (CMS-TCM); and 0-5 Services for Leech Lake Band members residing on or near the Leech Lake Reservation. The Addictions and Dependency Program will provide Rule 25 Chemical Dependency Assessments upon referral by the Tribal Court/Restorative Justice Program.

Scope of Work – The Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program shall be primarily responsible for providing services for a specified target population identified in the Court’s grants: specifically, youth involved in Juvenile Delinquency Cases (as defined by the Leech Lake Judicial Code, Title 4); participants in the Leech Lake-Cass County Wellness Court; youth participating in the Tribal Court’s Juvenile Diversion Program in collaboration with Cass County; and youth participating in the Juvenile Re-Entry Demonstration Project.

Service Coordination - The Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program and Human Services Programs shall coordinate in a manner that ensures the provision of continuous

covered behavioral and chemical health services that are consistent with treatment goals and identified needs for persons who are receiving services.

Information Sharing - The Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program and Human Services Behavioral Health Program, Indian Child Welfare, and Addictions and Dependency Program (the “Human Services Programs”) shall share information about clients receiving services from the programs to avoid duplication of services and to ensure that appropriate services are being obtained. Each program will obtain appropriate releases from clients receiving services from that program to allow for such information sharing. The Human Services Programs and the Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program will ensure that representatives from each program participate in the Interagency Workgroup; and supervisors and/or other staff from each program will meet with each other at regular, predetermined times to coordinate services for clients.

Centralized Billing – The Human Services Programs and the Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program will utilize a centralized billing process to ensure program sustainability and build capacity. The Programs agree that all activities qualifying for third-party billing conducted by the Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program will be billed through the Human Services Division billing representative, and that these activities will be coded such that income generated from these activities will be placed in an account established for and designated for the Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program.

Cultural competency – The Human Services Programs and Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program agree that all services will be culturally-informed and will:

- Utilize the experience and skill of culturally-informed elders and community members to inform programming needs and policy;
- Solicit input and consultation from community members to develop relevant outreach strategies and review, plan, provide, evaluate and improve service delivery to Anishinabeg children and families;
- Identify and implement strategies to address disparities in access and utilization of behavioral health services;
- Recruit and retain strategies to attract culturally competent staff;
- Implement methods to ensure that persons and families’ cultural preferences are assessed and included in the development of treatment plans;
- Periodic training and in-service support to improve the overall implementation of culturally competent service practices; and
- Evaluate and incorporate strategies to improve cultural competency within the overall service design of behavioral health programs.

Key Points of Contact

The following staff are identified as key points of contact for the Human Services Programs and the Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program. These staff are representatives and are authorized to act on the Agency's behalf.

For Tribal Court Restorative Justice Program:

Name: Korey Wahwassuck
Title: Associate Judge
Agency: Leech Lake Tribal Court
Address: 6530 Hwy 2 NW
City, State ZIP: Cass Lake, MN 56633
Phone: (218) 335-4446
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For Human Services Division:

Name: Rose Robinson
Title: Director
Agency: Leech Lake Human Services
Address: 6530 Hwy 2 NW
City, State ZIP: Cass Lake, MN 56633
Phone: (218) 335-8295
Fax: (218) 335-
E-mail: rose.robinson@llojibwe.org

Financial/Management Contact

The budget/financial contact for this agreement is:

Name: Michelle Selner
Title
Agency: Leech Lake Human Services
Address: 6530 Hwy 2 NW
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Phone
Fax
E-mail: michelle.selner@llojibwe.org

EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION

This agreement shall be effective immediately upon the date of the last signature below and shall remain in effect until terminated by any party. Each party can terminate this agreement by providing written notice of intent 30 days in advance of the termination date.

EFFECT OF AGREEMENT

This agreement is an internal agreement and is not intended to confer any right upon any private person.

Nothing in this agreement shall be interpreted as limiting, superseding or otherwise affecting any division’s normal operations or decisions in carrying out its duties. This agreement does not limit divisions from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other entities.

APPROVALS

Approved for the Human Services Division:

Date	Name: Rose Robinson Title: Director Human Services

Approved for the Tribal Court:

Date	Name: Korey Wahwassuck Title: Associate Judge Tribal Court