

EARLY CHILDHOOD TRIBAL COALITION

Mission Statement:

*Center Tribal Voices, Nurture Our Future,
Build Stronger Communities Through Early Education*

Coalition Goals:

- Building a sustainable, tribal-led coalition that can continue advocating for the needs of Native children and families.
- Expanding access to culturally relevant early childhood education programs that incorporate Indigenous languages, traditions, and practices.
- Advocating for policy change to ensure equitable funding and resources for Native communities.
- Promoting Indigenous languages and cultural traditions as an integral part of early childhood education.

Who: Members of the Early Childhood Tribal Coalition self-identify as American Indian and/or Alaska Native and are either doing early childhood work or have relevant experience and are currently working within rural or urban tribal communities in Montana (including parents, caregivers and elders).

What: Our mission is to nurture a successful early childhood tribal coalition in Montana.

Why: We believe in the power of collective action to create positive change for young children and native families. By centering tribal voices, we can address systemic challenges and champion the well-being of our children.

Principles and Values:

1. **Equity:** We prioritize equitable representation and participation of families and providers from each Montana tribe, ensuring that all voices are heard and valued.
2. **Awareness:** We aim to bring awareness to the unique needs and experiences of tribal communities, engaging families to share their lived experiences and advocate for policies that reflect their needs.
3. **Collaboration:** We foster collaboration, utilizing diverse perspectives and expertise to develop inclusive and effective solutions.
4. **Cultural Safety:** We honor and respect the cultural heritage and traditions of Native families, recognizing their expertise, strengths, and resilience.
5. **Accountability:** We are committed to accountability and transparency in our actions, utilizing appropriate tools to develop a clear understanding of early childhood experiences and identify areas for improvement.

We aim to create a supportive and nurturing environment where every Native child and family has the opportunity to thrive.

We strive to ensure Montana's early childhood system uplifts the perspectives, expertise, and experiences of tribal families and early childhood leaders.

The Early Childhood Tribal Coalition will help share knowledge and expertise by supporting and centering voices of tribal families and early educators in Montana.

Join us in building a stronger, more inclusive early childhood coalition across the state. Together, we can ensure that the voices of tribal families and early childhood leaders are heard and valued.

How to Get Involved

Joining is simple!

Scan this QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/ECTC-agreement> sign up for updates, get info about participating in upcoming coalition meetings, and contribute your expertise.



Together, we will shape policies that reflect the diverse needs of Montana's tribal communities and promote equitable early childhood development statewide.

Contact Us

Have questions or want to learn more? Email Callie at calliep@zerotofive.org or call 406-516-1115 ext. 102. We look forward to collaborating with you to create positive change for Montana's youngest learners and their families.

CALLIE PARR

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