

Working with Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQ Youth

Resources for Tribal Child Welfare, April 2020

Two-Spirit is a modern overarching term intended to convey a broad array of indigenous gender diverse traditions. Expressions of Two-Spirit identities vary tremendously from Tribe to Tribe and within each Two-Spirit person. While the gender presentation, sexuality, social and ceremonial roles are diverse across Indian Country, a shared understanding of Two-Spirits is that it is a socially embedded, spiritually grounded identity; there are duties and responsibilities to community that accompany being a Two-Spirit person.

Native LGBTQ and Two-Spirit Webinar Series

This two-part webinar series discusses the historical roles and identities of Two-Spirit & Native LGBTQ people, how historical and intergenerational trauma has impacted this community, and the efforts to bring back balance, beauty, and acceptance.

- [Walking in Two Worlds: Understanding the Two-Spirit Native LGBTQ Community](#)
- [Supporting Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ+ Youth](#)
- [Creating Safe & Welcoming Spaces for Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ+ Youth \(Webinar Handout\)](#)

Two-Spirit Societies

A list of Two-Spirit societies in the US and Canada. These local and virtual communities offer support and can connect TSLGBTQ+ youth with local services and spiritual leaders that are inclusive.

Sharing Our Lived Experiences

These tip sheets are dedicated to Two-Spirit and American Indian/Alaska Native LGBTQ children and youth whose lives are impacted by the child welfare system.

- [8 Tips for Understanding Two-Spirit/LGBTQ Journey for Native Youth in the Child Welfare System](#)
- [22 Tips for Caring for Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQ Youth](#)

Walking in Two Worlds: Supporting the Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQ Community

What it means to be Two-Spirit, various definitions, tips on how to be a good ally, and potential challenges and barriers that may be experienced by those who identify as Two-Spirit or Native LGBTQ are included within this educational guide.

(Please seek printing permission from The Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition.)

Native Youth Sexual Health Network

An organization by and for Indigenous youth that works across issues of sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice throughout the United States and Canada. Offers a Two-Spirit Mentor Support Circle.

Standards of Care for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex, and Two-Spirit American Indian/Alaska Native Youth

NICWA developed this 2013 newsletter as part of their *Honoring Innovations Report* series designed to offer best practice ideas for system of care communities.

A Place in the Middle

Hawaiian children and their teacher tell a powerful story of ancient traditions that they're keeping alive and the valued place for those that embrace their masculine and feminine traits. Free film and downloadable discussion guide.

Celebrating Our Magic: Resources for American Indian/Alaska Native transgender and Two-Spirit youth, their relatives and families, and their healthcare providers

A comprehensive toolkit created by Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board.



Capacity Building
CENTER FOR TRIBES