American Indian Center of Indiana, Inc.

History

Ø July 1, 1992 – The Indiana American Indian Manpower Council Inc. (IAIMC) was established under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Labor with the assistance of the Milwaukee Area American Indian Manpower Council to administer the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). A volunteer Board of Directors governed the Indiana American Indian Manpower Council Inc., which were eighty percent American Indian.

Ø July 1993 – IAIMA began to administer its own program.

Ø 1994 – IAIMC broadened its vision and expanded its educational and training programs to include health/wellness, substance abuse, childcare, and cultural arts programs. A business association was also formed at this time.

Ø 1998 – IAIMC officially changed its name to the American Indian Center of Indiana Inc. (AICI) serving the American Indian population on Indiana.

Ø 1998 – AICI became a member of the Indians Minority Health Coalition (IMHC) and received funding from the Indiana State Department of Health for its health program.

Ø 2000 – AICI received funding from the Administration for Native American (ANA) to develop a two and five year strategic plan on how to improve the infrastructure of AICI.

Ø 2001 – Evansville Office Opened
Ø 2001 – Through corporate sponsorship, AICI provided over fifty food baskets to American Indian families during Thanksgiving.

Ø 2002 – A newsletter, Native Pathfinder, was published as means of communication with the American Indian people in the greater Indianapolis area and the state of Indiana.

Ø 2002 – Received funding from SmokeFree Indiana and the Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Agency to organize a statewide forum on tobacco cessation. Guest speaker and facilitator Mr. Lawrence Shorty from the Native American Tobacco Initiative at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill assisted AICI and guests in developing a culturally competent strategy to get our people back to respecting tobacco and improving health of the Nations.

Ø 2002- Hired licensed real estate broker to assist in locating a building that AICI will purchase as a new center.

Ø January 2003 – moved to new location at 1026 S. Shelby St. Indianapolis, IN 46203.

Ø February 2003 – open house at new location.

Ø May 2003 – established computer lab for participants for GED preparation classes and typing skills classes. Participants have DSL internet access to conduct employment related activities.

Ø June 2003- Financial Audit & IMHC Began
November 2003 – Developed a website to provide improved access to program services and to provide community with information and events calendar.

2004- No documentation available (past records disappeared)

2005- Closed Evansville Office

2006-No documentation available (past records disappeared)

2007- Closed Peru Office

August 2007- Relocated AICI within the John H. Boner Community Center @ 2236 E. 10th St., Indianapolis, IN., 46201. Organizational re-structuring began to reduce overhead costs.

August 2007-Signed MOU with DWD/Work One/ Center of Workforce Innovations, Inc. located in NW Indiana. Statewide regionalization began to serve the entire American Indian Community within the AICI designated service areas.

August 2007-Began efforts to increase volunteerism and partnerships with community and statewide organizations.

September 2007-On-Site Review/Visit from U.S. DOL-Indian & Native American Programs Federal Project Officer for the WIA Program Grant of Washington, D.C.

December 2007- Signed agreement with Indiana Minority Health Coalition, Inc.(IMHC).

January 2008-IMHC agreement slated to begin---delayed due to obstacles with funding.

Also, AICI Board of Directors Retreat held @ Eiteljorg Conference Room.
Ø March 2008-Signed MOU with the state of Indiana Department of Workforce Development and all of their state partner agencies to allow AICI to operate WIA services within all statewide designated service area regional offices.

Ø July 2008- DOL/WIA -2- year comprehensive service plan (CSP) approved for the funding period of 7/1/08 through 6/30/10.

Ø September 2008- Annual Meeting/Election of New Officers Held

Ø October 2008-Report given stating AICI Volunteers increased from -2- to -25- people.

Ø November 2008- AICI given donations for Holiday baskets and toy drive.

Ø December 2008- Projections for 2009 were given by the new board of directors to increase in actively working on the continuation of raising funds to lessen the dependency of obligated funding streams. Scheduling a AICI Board Training Retreat 01/17/09.

In conclusion, over the past twelve (16) years the American Indian Center of India Inc. has successfully accomplished program and projects, which have been accomplished in Indiana by American Indian people for American Indian people. The enthusiasm of our people and the energy put forth by everyone indicates the ability to continue providing these services to American Indians in Indiana through an established and credible organization the American Indian Center of Indiana Inc. has become.