



Youth Fire Intervention Program



Mission

Reduce the incidence of youth-set fires on Tribal lands by establishing a continuum of care to help youth learn their responsibility to protect their families, communities and natural resources from fire.

Program elements include

- ◆ Establishing a community coalition of Tribal agencies to address the needs of the youth.
- ◆ Conducting trainings to identify and assess the severity of a youth's firesetting behavior.
- ◆ Collecting data on the incidence of youth-set fires.
- ◆ Offering a diversion program that requires youth to complete community services projects to earn back the trust of the Tribal community.
- ◆ Educating youth about fire safety, fire survival and the serious legal, financial and social costs of setting fires in Indian Country.
- ◆ Providing a website for current literature and program materials relating to the prevention and intervention of youth-set fires.

Positive Results

Economic-reduce threat of fire and the loss of life, Tribal property and natural resources.

Cultural-protect sacred lands and respect ceremonial traditions and sites.

Liveable communities- Provide communities where people can live, learn, work and play. safe from wildfire.

Background

The youth fire intervention program began as a response to the alarming number of youth-set fires across Indian Country. The BIA and Tribes have reported nearly 800 wildfires caused by children in 2012. These fires destroyed homes and community buildings; natural resources providing income for tribes and damaged sacred and ceremonial sites. In 2012, the BIA developed a contract position to coordinate and develop resources and services for youth misusing fire and their families.

Partners

- Tribal Council
- Wildland Firefighters
- Investigators
- Fire Prevention Officers
- Law Enforcement Officers
- Educators
- Counselors
- Social Service Workers
- Community Members
- Tribal Court Services



For more information:

<http://www.bia.gov/nifc/prevention/yfip>