

# Coming Together to Heal Our Tribal Communities

Bay Mills to host third annual VAWA and ICWA training



BRIMLEY, Mich. — Picking up where last year’s training left off, Bay Mills Indian Community sets out to host its third annual [Noojimo’iwewin: A VAWA and ICWA Training](#), Aug. 4-6. The event is hosted both in-person at the Bay Mills Horizon Center and online via Zoom. Once again, this timely training focuses on issues of child welfare, domestic violence, and community healing. [Registration](#) is free and still open!

The pandemic showed us that online trainings are effective and BMIC is committed to finding new, creative ways to connect. This year, all training participants have the opportunity to engage in a multitude of ways using [Whova](#). Whova is an interactive event networking platform that houses easy-to-use features, some of which we have become familiar within these virtual times, such as Q&A with speakers and a group chat box throughout the event. Taking things to the next level, Whova encourages each attendee to build their unique profile to share personal and professional interests. Whova also offers Community Discussion Boards where attendees can subscribe to connect in smaller group chats tailored to specific social groups or topics. Plus, private chats can be sent at any time, not only between attendees, but to speakers too.

All the while, Whova’s features for engagement and networking are integrated with the platform we have all grown partial to: Zoom. As we come together in these ways - in-person, via Zoom, and through Whova - we remain connected and committed to healing communities from trauma.

As Bay Mills President Whitney Gravelle notes: “Since time immemorial, Tribal courts have found innovative ways to provide justice for their communities. Bay Mills Indian Community strives to offer training encompassed with the Anishinaabe teaching of ‘noojimo’iwewin,’ which means healing others, and healing the heart, mind, as well as the body of illness.”

The training covers a variety of topics including: Intimate Partner Violence, Working Collaboratively to Support Victims, Legal Updates from Indian Country, The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Epidemic, Violence against Children, Secondary Trauma and Self-Care, Tribal Courts and Programs, and Working with Victims of Sexual Assault. Speakers include local advocates, service providers, tribal judges, attorneys, and more. This course is approved for 9.25 (including 1.25 Elimination of Bias) Minnesota Continuing Legal Education credits and this course is approved by the NASW-Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative for 9 credits. This training is a multi-disciplinary training for advocates to implement effective service and advocacy strategies in cases involving child welfare, domestic violence, or both.

Registration is free and still open to applicants. You may [register here](#). Those who will attend in-person must [book their room](#) by at the Bay Mills Resort & Casino by Tuesday, July 27 using the training room block information. If you have any questions, please contact Neoshia Roemer at [neoshia@whitenergroup.biz](mailto:neoshia@whitenergroup.biz). This training is made possible by the Office of Tribal Justice’s TJS funding and organized by [The Whitener Group](#).