



# STRENGTHENING HOME FIRES

## About Miskanawah

**Miskanawah** (mis-con-a-wah, meaning "Pathways" in Cree) is our philosophical framework that is rooted in Indigenous teachings, ceremonies and guidance from Elders. These traditional values and beliefs have tremendous healing potential and are embedded within our service delivery practices. As its name implies, this approach guides individuals and families in building pathways to and within the community, strengthening their natural supports, and engaging in healthier ways of living.

Miskanawah is a multi-service organization, offering programs for children, youth, families, and community.

## Location

### Miskanawah East

2335 30 Ave NE  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2E 7C7

## Hours

### Monday - Friday

8:30AM - 4:30PM  
Closed on Statutory Holidays

## Contact

**Phone:** 403-247-5003  
**Fax:** 403 286 1163  
**Email:** [info@miskanawah.ca](mailto:info@miskanawah.ca)  
**Website:** [miskanawah.ca](http://miskanawah.ca)

Operated by Miskanawah, **Strengthening Home Fires (SHF)** is a new **Scattered Site Supportive Housing** program that will support Indigenous youth to identify, access, secure, and maintain housing.

SHF is founded on the understanding that colonization, trauma and systemic discrimination are major causes of homelessness for Indigenous peoples, and that strengths-based, trauma-informed and culturally-grounded approaches to working with Indigenous youth are critical to their success and wellbeing. The program name "Strengthening Home Fires" communicates the overarching goal of creating a safe and stable place to call home.

In addition, SHF will provide support to non-Indigenous homeless serving agencies to strengthen their capacity to service Indigenous youth through cultural connections and activities, such as: engaging in partnerships and outreach support, invitation to participants from other agencies/programs to take part of cultural and ceremonial activities; workshops and group-based cultural programming; healing opportunities and ceremonies; cultural awareness, competency, and humility training.

## Who is Eligible?

Indigenous (**First Nations, Inuit, Metis, Status, or Non-Status**) youth aged **14-24** who are homeless and in need of supports, and non-Indigenous youth who are open to supports that are grounded in Indigenous cultural teachings.

SHF will connect youth facing variable complexities and barriers (low to high) to housing, and will work with participants for as long as they need, or until they are ready to transition to an adult/family-serving program.

All referrals to SHF will be made at the **Youth Placement Committee** beginning January, 2023.

## Who to Contact?

### Dawn Boustead

Program Manager  
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