

# Strengthening Home Fires

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 help bolster their capacity to service Indigenous youth through culture through activities such as: partnerships and outreach efforts, invitation to participants from other agencies/programs to participate in cultural and ceremonial services; 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 (youth who are non-indigenous who are open to supports that are grounded in Indigenous Cultural teachings).

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

All referrals to SHF will be made at **Youth Placement Committee** starting in December 2022.

## Who to Contact?

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