



Community & Tribal Liaison

F5 Project is seeking members to become Community & Tribal Liaisons for a new initiative, in partnership with Southcentral Foundation (SCF). This initiative provides a therapeutic living community called Nu'iju Healing Place (NHP) within the James River Correctional Center (JRCC).

What is Nu'iju Healing Place (NHP)?

- The NHP is a spiritually rooted, culturally shaped community located within a correctional facility. It offers a comprehensive residential environment designed to address trauma and as a result, challenge negative core beliefs. The NHP is for the person who wants to journey toward living fully and well, in a good way, through embracing cultural and spiritual values. NHP is grounded in the strengths and wisdom of Alaska Native and Native American culture that recognizes the impact of trauma on all dimensions of health and believes that healing, “a return to our true self,” is possible.

The Model

- The Nu'iju Healing Place is a 12-month comprehensive residential program using a culturally rooted, trauma informed Therapeutic Community model to reduce prison recidivism. Participants are known as ‘residents’ or ‘family members’ and live together in a supportive community environment, participating in healthy living skill building training with topics including but not

Cultural Values

- North Dakota has sought permission from tribes throughout the state for this project. Input and guidance from cultural subject matter experts is essential throughout the life of the project to ensure that cultural values and the experiences of indigenous peoples can inform decision making and design. NHP recognizes that a person’s culture and traditional values are a great strength and a foundation of resilience. Indigenous values bring strength and create common ground through mutual respect, creating community, and valuing diversity.

The role of Tribal Liaisons and Community Liaisons

- Potential Tribal and Community Liaison members are identified as a member of a tribe or community with a passion to restore individuals, families and communities to wellness. TL/CL members are Natural Helpers in the community and should represent a wide variety of perspectives.

Recommended candidates include: *Tribal council members, an elder in the community, tribal culture keepers, a teacher or educator, a behavioral health or mental health representative, and/or community members committed to their own healing journey.*



Positions

- Positions are available for two years or up to the life of the grant. In addition to these positions, stipends are available for Community Service Coalition members (CSC) for monthly meetings as well as funds for individuals who participate in focus group interviews.

Overview of Responsibilities and Expectations

Liaison Criteria

- Willing and able to make a 2 year commitment
- Willing and able to attend regularly scheduled meetings
- Willing to be active in attending trainings in Alaska and North Dakota

Expectations of Liaison

- All Liaison members must attend 4 trainings in the initial year:
 - 1 Arrigah House (AH) and 1 Advanced Leadership Education and Training (ALET) - in Alaska
 - 1 Trauma-Informed for Justice Involved Individuals and Therapeutic Community – in North Dakota

Duties of the Liaison positions will include:

- Serving as a Cultural Subject Matter Expert (SME)
- Assisting F5 Project and SCF in a two-year process, providing expertise and guidance to adapt curriculum for the population and inform the work of the project
- Serving as a member of the ND Community Service Coalition (CSC), attending monthly meetings;
- Responding to verbal and written inquiries in a timely manner; etc.
- Convene, populate, and participate in Community Service Coalition (CSC) meetings.
- Participate in tribal and community connections for development of re-entry services.
- Be a connection point to F5 Project's reentry and community services for tribal members
- Attending Alaskan based Family Wellness Warriors (FWW) trainings and suggesting key stakeholders, tribal leaders and tribal council members to attend FWW training;
- Serve as F5 's liaison to other relevant tribal members.
- Report on program activities quarterly for reporting to the funder on grant performance.
- Participate in community awareness workshops.

Virtues

- Members demonstrate a commitment to core principles:
 - Belief that change is possible
 - Belief that Native American and Alaska Native culture are a great strength of communities
 - Elders should be involved to guide
 - Men are considered part of the solution



- Those who harm can be restored to a healthy style of relating
- There is a need to eschew the terms victim and perpetrator - maltreatment is cyclical and often those who harm others were themselves harmed earlier in the cycle
- Families heal together and can change a family across generations.

Termination

- The CSC is encouraged to determine a policy for the number of unexcused absences/ lack of participation and what is cause for dismissal.
- If members are unable to maintain an active role in the committee, they are recommended to step down and suggest an alternate.

Native Preference:

Under P.L. 93-638, as amended, the company pursues a policy of Native preference in hiring, contracting, and training.

About F5 Project

Started by a former inmate in 2016, F5 Project was founded to help individuals struggling with incarceration, mental health and addiction by providing resources and services to help obtain employment, housing, health care, and other basic needs. By empowering individuals to create meaningful change in their lives through support and grace, F5 Project restores purpose for individuals, fosters healing, and rebuilds stronger communities.

To Apply: Please send both a cover letter and resume to Jeff Vanlaningham at jeff@f5project.org