Mino-bimose'idiwag Benefits to Students

Undergraduate students can participate in a 120-hour paid mini-internship. These students will complete a training program, service-learning project and spend time shadowing advocates in a tribally run victim services program located within an Indigenous community throughout the Upper Peninsula.

MSW first-year and BSW advanced-year students may apply to the Mino-bimose'idiwag Social Work Fellowship, in which they will complete a 400 hour field placement with a tribal victim-services agency. Individual students will be awarded up to $3000 per semester to support the costs associated with completing the internship program.

Mino-biose'idiwag will host professional development workshops for students and regional professionals, provided by qualified and established consultants. Regional tribal victim service agencies will be able to share opportunities to recruit NMU students for field placements or employment.

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Contact Us

Social Work Department
2400 Suite Jamrich Hall | 906-227-2706|
wpt@nmu.edu
https://www.nmu.edu/socialwork/Walking-Path-Together

Center for Native American Studies
112 Whitman Hall | 906-227-1397|
cnas@nmu.edu

Northern Michigan University
1401 Presque Isle Ave. Marquette, Mi 49855
nmu.edu

Special thanks also to the Hannahville Indian Community, Bay Mills Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Land Acknowledgment

Northern Michigan University is located in beautiful Marquette, Michigan, upon the ancestral homelands of the Anishinaabe Nation. Anishinaabe people are among the First Peoples of the Great Lakes. Marquette is known to the Anishinaabe as Gchi-namebinin Ziibing, which refers to a life-sustaining river.
The Social Work Department and CNAS, in conjunction with the Mino-bimose'idiwag project, seek to support and connect interested students with rural tribal communities for internship placements. The programs also seek to advance education in Native American Studies and work with victims of crime in Indigenous communities with an emphasis on Great Lakes Indigenous perspective.

Addressing the challenges

The three key challenges addressed through the Mino-bimose'idiwag are:

I. the rural nature of the region creating distance between tribes and major universities with accredited programs
II. the importance of remaining connected to communities of origin for Native American students
III. financial barriers exacerbated by poverty and economic disparities that are endemic in rural Native American communities

The Goal

Educational Pathways

- Native American Community Services associate (2-year degree)
- Social Work major (4-year degree)
- Native American Studies major (4-year degree)
- Native American Community Service minor (with a 4-year degree)
- Masters of Social Work degree

Online program offerings | Online course offerings

For more information on any of these programs email wpt@nmu.edu

Mino-bimose'idiwag Interns and Fellows will

- Foster positive connections in their community through collaboration with clients, other employees at the agencies, and their fellow interns
- Continue to grow their interpersonal and communications
- Demonstrate effective and reflective writing
- Collaboratively design and complete a practical learning plan with the support of their agency supervisor and instructor
- Develop and enhance cultural humility and sensitivity with Indigenous communities

The Mission

Mino-bimose'idiwag's mission is to empower victim services in rural Tribal nation communities by fostering a critical understanding of Indigenous ways of knowing and engaging supportive pathways to higher education.