



**Children and Family Services Division**

(701) 328-2316  
Toll Free 1-800-245-3736  
Fax (701) 328-3538  
ND Relay TTY 1-800-366-6888

Jack Dalrymple, Governor  
Carol K. Olson, Executive Director

August 22, 2012

Mr. Tom Sullivan, Director  
Administration for Children and Families  
Denver Regional Office  
999 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
South Terrace, Ste. 499  
Denver, CO 80202

Mr. Sullivan:

The North Dakota Department of Human Services (State) has received your email dated August 14, 2012, regarding child abuse on the Spirit Lake Reservation. Based on the information you provided, the situations you report appear to be within the jurisdiction of the tribal child protection agency. The State is forwarding your email to Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services (SLTSS) for follow up.

Please note that the North Dakota Department of Human Services Children and Family Services Division has repeatedly offered to provide technical assistance to SLTSS to help the Tribe better serve children. Although SLTSS has not taken advantage of our offer to provide technical assistance, we continue to let Tribal officials know that our offer stands. Technical assistance has also been offered through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Administration for Children and Families.

The State is committed to the safety and well-being of every child in North Dakota. We stand ready to assist SLTSS and to work with partner agencies to ensure children are safe in their homes and communities.

Sincerely,

Tara Muhlhauser, J.D.  
Director, Children & Family Services Division

cc: Tim Purdon, U.S. Attorney  
Sue Settles, BIA  
Bryan Samuels, ACF Commissioner  
Mark Little Owl, Director, SLTSS