

## **Indian Child Welfare Fact Sheet**

- Poverty is the #1 cause for child abuse and neglect in Indian Country
- Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Mental Health/Depression follow.
- 85% of all child welfare cases are neglect, compared to 65% of mainstream society.
- Child Abuse and sexual abuse are somewhat lower than mainstream society- rural whites in poverty have highest rates of child abuse.
- 25% of child abuse/neglect reports are substantiated in mainstream society compared to 50% being substantiated in Indian Country.
- 8% of those substantiated in mainstream society are placed out-of-home while 30% of those substantiated in Indian Country are placed out-of-home.
- Indian children are substantiated 2 times as often and are placed three times as often.