

# Child & family services



## SUPPORT SERVICES

Prevention services are available to children, youth, families, and expectant parent(s). The aim is to build on the strengths and resilience of families, and support connections to resources, community and culture that promote family unity and well-being.



**In Whatì, 43.6%** of CFS services were prevention focused agreements.

**In Behchokò, 77.1%** of CFS services were prevention focused agreements.

Changes to child and family services have been monitored since the opening of the Tłıchq Highway, November 30, 2021.

The highway opening coincided with COVID-19, followed by 2023 fire evacuations. Data should be considered within this context.

## Location of services

Community Social Services Workers follow placement priorities to ensure every effort is made to maintain the connection between a child/youth and their family, community, and culture.

In cases of substantiated maltreatment, families are provided the option of a Plan of Care Agreements (POCA), a less intrusive approach than a formal court process.

**In Whatì, 56.4%** of CFS services were through POCA's.

**In Behchokò, 17.2%** of CFS services were through POCA's.



**In Whatì**

**86.4%** of children/youth receiving services continued to live **within** their family of origin home, and **2.3%** were cared for **outside** of their home community.



**In Behchokò**

**82.2%** of children/youth receiving services continued to live **within** their family of origin home, and **3.7%** were cared for **outside** of their home community.

## Court ordered service

When supports and services for parents do not adequately address safety concerns, a child may be placed in the temporary or permanent care and custody of the Statutory Director to preserve their safety and well-being ("court ordered services").



**Whatì**  
**No services**

delivered by CFS were through court ordered services.



**Behchokò**  
**5.7%**

of service delivered by CFS were through court ordered services.

While Behchokò has **6%** of the territorial child/youth population, **16%** of territorial prevention and protection services are delivered to children/youth in Behchokò.



## PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The Tłıchq Government's Department of Community Wellness programs (CWPD) supports various programs and workshops in relation to the Healthy Families/Healthy Babies, Families and Community Program.

In 2023, parenting workshops, crafting projects, and budget-friendly cooking programs facilitated by program coordinators and healthy family workers supported and empowered young parents. The parenting worksheets provided tools and resources for child brain and social development, activities for fine-motor skills and resources for parent relationship building.

In Behchokò and Whatì, the CWPD facilitated four Youth Life Skills and Visioning workshops that focused on:

- Clearing limiting belief systems and developing self-esteem and self-care,
- Discovering connection to inner stillness,
- Understanding mindfulness to empower social skills,
- Career development, career planning, and life purpose,
- Exploring culture and traditions, and
- Family values alongside community and capacity building.

## Extended Support Services Agreements (ESSA)

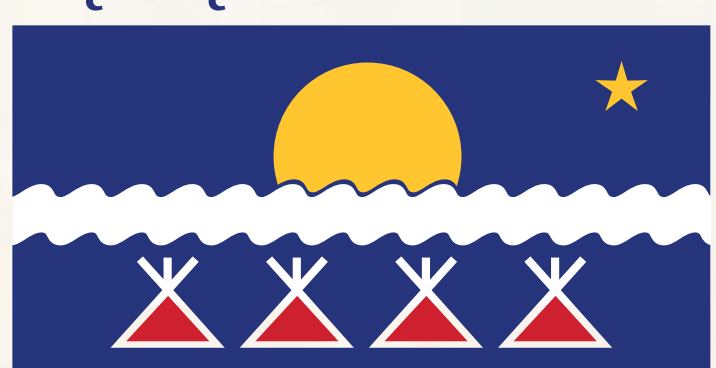
Extended Support Services Agreements (ESSAs) support young persons in their transition to adulthood between the ages of 19-23. The youth may choose to opt in or out of ESSAs at any time.



In 2022-2023, Behchokò and Whatì did not have any youth that aged out of care who were eligible for an ESSA.



Tłıchq Ndek'áowo



Tłıchq Government

The Tłıchq Highway Socio-Economic Working Group was established in 2019 to monitor the impacts of the new highway on overall health and well-being in Whatì and Behchokò. With representatives from the community governments of Whatì, Behchokò, the Tłıchq Government and the Government of Northwest Territories, the working group releases progress reports once per year. This series of posters — on child & family services, community safety, cultural well-being, early childhood education & student support, economic well-being, and health & well-being — highlights what the working group has found.

SOURCES: TG AND GNWT | PHOTOS: TG AND FIRELIGHT