



Aanjibimaadizing helps to empower participants with an acquired purpose or occupation that will contribute to the well-being of their community and family. Through this, we are able to offer a variety of services to our community and work closely with other organizations to help all ages embrace their culture and overcome barriers to sustainability:

## 477 Services

### Employment Services

Employment services focus on assisting clients who are entering, transitioning, dislocated, underemployed, or looking to retain employment identify their employment goals and create a plan to achieve them. Employment services may include, but will not be limited to: career counseling, job readiness training, resume building, job referral, supported or subsidized work placements, internships, and job retention services.

#### Adult Work Experience (WEX) Program

The Work Experience (WEX) Program is a 720-hour on-the-job work experience training program structured to promote self-sufficiency through the development of appropriate work habits and job skills.

#### Adult Partial Subsidy Program

Participants who demonstrate that they are work ready and who are hired into career oriented, long-term, stable employment may arrange to have the first 720 hours of their new employment subsidized. These subsidies are paid to the employer, not the employee. A contract with the employer is required that specifies the terms of agreement for the employer and Aanjibimaadizing.

#### Community Services to Elders

Aanjibimaadizing has Community Service Crews in all reservation districts that provide lawn mowing, yard maintenance, limited outdoor home maintenance and walkway snow removal for all Elders living in one of the Reservation Districts. These crews support work readiness skills for clients.

#### Community Service Work Program

The Program may offer a community service work option for clients that have community service requirements. This option operates with WEX workers and is supervised by the Community Service Leader.

#### Displaced Workers

A displaced worker is defined as an eligible worker who has been permanently laid off, or has received a notice of layoff or termination from employment due to the firm's failure or plant closure. Displaced workers are eligible for additional employment and education services, including retraining for new or different employment and biannual stipend if eligible.

#### Education and Training

A variety of educational and training services will be made available to participants. These services will include, but will not be limited to, remedial education, instructional workshops, tutoring, skill enhancement, occupational training and/or certification, and higher education. Training will be focused on client needs identified in their Employment Development Plan (EDP) and individualized for each client. Training completion incentives may be available as well as support services (hotel, transportation, special equipment, etc.) if needed.

#### Employment Entry Assessments

Clients that are participating in WEX, SNAP, or Educational Trainings are required to complete Employment Entry Assessments that assist with developing employment goals.

#### Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Aanjibimaadizing has entered into an agreement with Milaca Community Education to provide oversight for staff to become volunteer Adult Basic Education (ABE) tutors. Adult Basic Education will assist clients in increasing their reading and math skills.

#### Driver's License Assistance

Aanjibimaadizing can assist with obtaining a driver's license and navigating the reinstatement process.

#### Career Training and Development

Aanjibimaadizing regularly provides work and family related trainings and tutoring. These include courses such as, GED Preparation, Driver's License Exams, Budgeting, Parenting, Food Handling, Communications, and CPR/First Aid. Job training classes such Automotive Technician, PCA, and CNA Classes are offered annually. Other area training opportunities are promoted as well.

#### Healthy Families Initiative

The Program recognizes the vital role of having healthy participants. Aanjibimaadizing defines health as mental, physical, spiritual, and social-emotional. Financial well-being and self-sufficiency are critical to healthy families. Aanjibimaadizing will provide family centered educational opportunities supporting this. Opportunities for families may include, but are not limited to:

- Cultural events
- Parenting classes
- Family events with an educational component
- Workshops
- Training

#### Post-Secondary Education Support

If eligible, Aanjibimaadizing may provide a limited amount of assistance with educational expenses including tuition, books, tools and fees.

#### Small Business Development

A limited amount of funding will be available for small business development. The amount awarded is dependent on the business plan created and the amount of supportive service dollars the client has used, with a maximum amount of \$1000.00.

#### Adult Support Services

Adult Support Service payments are single payments to vendors to assist participants in overcoming specific, immediate and essential family stabilization or employment related barriers. 477 Clients can apply for Support Services for GED, Training, Education, New Employment (full or part-time), and Auto Assistance (insurance/repairs). The expenses MUST be directly related to education or employment. Any support service that assists a client in obtaining or retaining employment may be considered. There are limits on the amount of support services that can be received.

- Documents needed for employment, such as a birth certificate or social security card
- Interview Clothing
- New employment support such as clothes, gas or food
- Specialized Clothing for Employment
- Car repairs, tires or insurance
- Some mileage reimbursement, gas assistance, or mass transit costs
- Driver's license testing and reinstatement fees
- Training costs
- Certificate fees, licensures and dues
- Incidental Work or Education Expenses
- Moving and relocation costs



### Vehicle Savings Match

The program may match a minimum of \$500 and a maximum up to \$1500 of client savings for a vehicle down payment or purchase.

### Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Cash Assistance (has additional eligibility requirements)

Tribal TANF Cash Assistance makes monthly cash payments to families with minor children (must have children under the age of 18 living in home) based on family size and composition. These benefits require participating adults to agree and to follow a case plan designed to move them away from assistance and to self-reliance. Cash Assistance has a 60-month lifetime limit. TANF Emergency Assistance may also be available for qualified families.

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP and SNAP E&T)

SNAP is a county-run, federal program that helps Minnesotans with low incomes get the food that's needed for sound nutrition and well-balanced meals. The program provides support to help stretch your household food budget.

### SNAP Education

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) is the educational component of SNAP. It helps people lead healthier lives. SNAP-Ed teaches low-income families or individuals — particularly those using or eligible for SNAP — about good nutrition and how to make their food dollars stretch further and be physically active.

### Child Care Assistance

Childcare is a barrier for many participants obtaining and retaining work. Childcare assistance is available for families who are employed or enrolled in educational programs and meet eligibility requirements. Clients must apply with the county for Childcare Assistance first.

### Child Care Provider Training

Aanjibimaadizing can assist with required training (Pediatric First Aid/CPR, Preventing Abusive Head Trauma (AHT), Preventing Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SUIDS) and AHT) for child care providers in the area.

### Facilitated Services

Aanjibimaadizing offers facilitated services to help connect clients to other support services within the community. Case Managers may refer clients to Facilitators to assist them in meeting their goals to obtain and retain employment. Often these services support client needs that are social, health, and mental health related. Facilitated services offers a more targeted support for employment, training and self-sufficiency.

### Specialized Intensive Services

Participants who possess multiple barriers, are participating or are eligible to participate in the TANF program, exhibit substance abuse tendencies, have mental health issues, or who have exhibited a long-term dependency on public assistance may be determined to be in need of specialized intensive services.

### Housing

#### Homeless Prevention

Persons including individuals, unaccompanied youth, or families with children who lack a permanent place to live continuously for a year or more or at least four times in the past three years may be eligible for homeless prevention support.

#### Zakab Biinjina Transitional Housing

This is supportive -but temporary- housing meant to bridge the gap from homelessness to permanent housing by offering structure, supervision, support, life skills, education, and training. Zakab Biinjina is safe and

sober housing - a critical component for clients in transition.

### Shelter and Utility Assistance

Aanjibimaadizing offers shelter and utility assistance as funding programs become available.

### Emergency Assistance

A limited amount of assistance may be available for certain emergencies, such as those that are disaster (weather) related.

### Non-recurring Short-term Benefits

Non-recurring short-term benefits are available in a fiscal year for participants experiencing an extreme financial hardship

### Aanji.org Website

The website of Aanjibimaadizing, this website has information about our program and links to resources for our clients.

## Youth

### Ge-niigaanizijig

Ge-Niigaanizijig works to develop skills in the 4 pillars of youth programming Ojibwe Culture, Community, Career, and Education. Regularly scheduled activities inspire and motivate our youth to embrace a traditions-based lifestyle free of chemicals, anti-social behavior, and dependency year around. These activities are offered to all eligible reservation service area youth ages kindergarten through twenty (20).

### Youth Activities

Elementary Youth Mentors support youth grades Kindergarten to Grade 6. Children must have started kindergarten to attend programming. Youth Mentors will focus on fostering healthy relationships, supporting the student academically, community projects, and Anishinaabe culture. Youth Mentors provide programming in all Districts except Urban.

### Teen Activities

Teen youth will be supported by two (2) separate programs: 'Healthy Circles' and 'Career Exploration' in all districts. Youth will participate in 'Healthy Circles' to learn about financial literacy, healthy life choices, support education and high school graduation, and build self-sufficiency.

### Education

Youth who attend Ge-niigaanizijig programming must also be attending school or classes. This would include alternative learning centers, GED, or local schools; unless they have graduated. Students must attend school for a full day, or the scheduled class time on the same day they attend Ge-niigaanizijig or Career Exploration.

Passing grades are required components of the Ge-niigaanizijig Program. Youth who do not have a minimum of a 2.0 GPA, or who are failing any of their classes will meet with their youth mentor to set goals to help them pass classes.

Incentives are given for academic success and achievement. This incentive program recognizes participants for earning honor roll status, perfect attendance, and grade improvement of grades on a quarterly basis. All students in Kindergarten through 4-year College graduation may earn these incentives. Teens who graduate high school, college, or a technical school may also receive an incentive.

### Youth Support Services

Eligible youth ages kindergarten through twenty (20) who live in households that meet 477 eligibility requirements and are enrolled in school may receive supportive services for items that help them further their education or employability.

- Birth Certificate or school required documents
- New employment clothing and supplies
- Driver's Education costs



- Athletic or academic program fees and supplies
- Special tutor costs (such as individual music lessons)
- School sponsored leadership, education or cultural camp costs, including tuition, travel and supplies.
- Limited College Expenses

**Youth Career Exploration Program**

Eligible youth, ages sixteen (16) through twenty (20) and whose family meets 477 eligibility requirements, may participate in the Youth Career and Work Exploration Program. Youth are given an incentive for actual hours worked. To be eligible you must be in school, making satisfactory attendance and grades. The type of work and the number of hours worked per week depend on the needs of the worksite supervisor.

**Youth Sports**

The Ge-Niigaanizijig program supports youth in sports through camps, clinics, and other related activities.

**Youth Facilitated Services**

Youth facilitated services offers a more targeted support for youth who need assistance with meeting education goals, or social, health, and mental health supports. This is done in coordination with parents and their youth mentor.

**Summer Youth Internship**

Internships are designed to help students prepare for future careers, while building a sound work ethic, professional relationship with leadership in supervisory roles, creating a career and academic portfolio, and an opportunity to get paid. Some interns may earn high school or college credit. This is an opportunity to start building healthy work habits, work experiences, career/academic portfolio, as well as form professional relationships through leadership, while preparing young adults for life after high school or college.

**Ojibwe Culture & Language**

**Cultural Services**

Aanjibimaadizing supports the advancement and retention of Ojibwe language and culture. A language and culture focus serve as the nucleus of greater cohesion within family units, as both financial stability and a sense of cultural belonging are essential to the ongoing stability and health of MLBO families. As components of this goal, cultural services will include, but are not limited to: the creation of Ojibwe language resources and activities, internships with elders or other Ojibwe experts, ceremonies, cultural camps, sugar bush, wild ricing, and resources and activities that promote Ojibwe language and culture.

**Ojibwe Rosetta Stone**

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has partnered with Rosetta Stone to create a language learning platform for our Ojibwe Language to empower our community, to maintain our identity, and to help us be successful. Clients who are eligible may receive incentives for completion of each unit.

**Ojibwe Books**

Some tribes have no living fluent speakers. The MLBO is working to see that we create another generation of speakers. Dozens of band members contributed to the project – providing stories, transcribing, editing, and creating illustrations – to publish 5 books in Ojibwemowin.

**Ojibwe Culture Resource Website**

This website was created by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Aanjibimaadizing Program to preserve, protect, and share the history of their people, culture, traditions and language.

**477 Service Eligibility**

In addition to completing an application, to be eligible for services offered by Aanjibimaadizing...

- An eligible household must include at least one adult who is an enrolled member of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe; or if residing within the Reservation Service Area, a first generation descendent of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe; or an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe. Proof of Tribal Membership is required.
- Eligible households must reside within one of our federally approved service areas, which include the counties of Aitkin, Anoka, Benton, Chisago, Crow Wing, Hennepin, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine and Ramsey. Proof of residency is required.
- Selective Service registration for males (over the age of 18) is required.
- Income eligibility is based on the household income with specific types of income excluded. Clients must fall below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines to qualify for most services. Per cap is reported, but not counted for many of the services offered. Some income is also disregarded. Applicants must provide 2 months of income statements.
- There may be additional eligibility standards for various services.

An employability development plan that is signed and dated is also required. This is completed with a case manager after application and required documentation is received.

**How to Apply**

Applications are online at <https://aanji.org/>.

Aanjibimaadizing has offices in the Urban area, District I, District II, and District III. Clients can also call or email.

<b>DI</b> 43500 Migizi Drive Onamia, MN 56359 320-532-7407	<b>DII</b> 201 W Hwy 210 Su. 100 McGregor, MN 55760 218-768-5330	<b>DIII</b> 45749 Grace Lake Road Sandstone, MN 55072 320-384-6240	<b>URBAN</b> 1404 E Franklin Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55404 612-746-4800
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TO STAY UP TO DATE ON EVENTS, BE SURE TO FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

*Our Mission: To assist our fellow Anishinaabe with education, training, work experiences, cultural participation, and support services to be prosperous and change their life.*