



The Dena'ina Wellness Center and Na'ini Family and Social Services buildings near the Kenaitze Tribal Courthouse.

How has substance abuse affected you?

The Kenai Peninsula faces a drug and alcohol epidemic, with high rates of methamphetamine and heroin use. Rates of substance-impaired driving offenses also are high. Recidivism rates, meaning relapses in criminal behavior, are high as well. Children are being removed from homes and families are breaking apart because of substance abuse.

The Henu Community Wellness Court aims to address those issues by healing individuals and families, improving community ties and strengthening relationships.

Henu Community Wellness Court

About Us

The Henu Community Wellness Court is a post-plea, pre-sentence jail diversion program for adults who face legal trouble stemming from substance use, particularly those with open Child In Need of Aid (CINA) cases. Participants maintain consistent weekly contact with their probation officer and court team, participate in frequent random drug screenings, and complete substance abuse treatment as well as any needed mental health treatment.

The court takes a rehabilitative rather than punitive approach, giving participants resources to get to the root of their issues.

Our primary goals are to reduce recidivism rates and improve the lives of our participants, building a safer and healthier community.



Henu Community Wellness Court

A collaboration between the Kenaitze Indian Tribe and Alaska State Court System

Contact

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HENU COMMUNITY WELLNESS COURT
508 Upland St., Kenai, Alaska 99611





Henu Community Wellness Court in session in the Kenaitze Tribal Courthouse.

What is this court?

The Henu Community Wellness Court is a collaboration between the Kenaitze Indian Tribe and the Alaska Court System. It is a drug and alcohol court that focuses on a person's entire wellness, going beyond substance abuse treatment. Among the court's many focuses are:

- Treating and healing substance abuse
- Restoring ties to the community
- Restoring relationships with family and friends
- Increasing a person's self-sufficiency
- Breaking the cycle of recidivism
- Keeping children in their homes or returning them faster
- Giving back to the community

The phases of Henu

- **Trust Phase:** Orientation and assessment
- **Belonging Phase:** Education and service planning
- **Living Well Phase:** Skill development and feedback
- **Restorative Phase:** Maintenance and transition

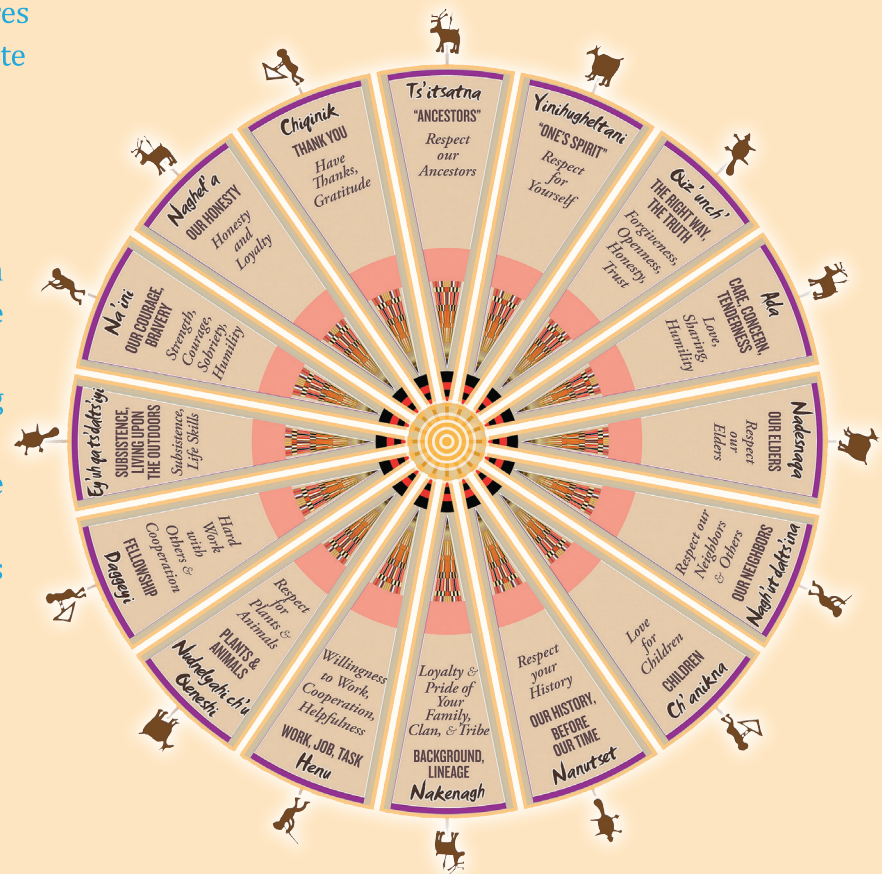
In total, the phases take a minimum of 18 months to complete. This ensures participants experience complete healing and restoration.

Expectations

- Attend regular meetings with Probation Officers and the court team
- Complete frequent drug screenings
- Receive substance abuse treatment
- Participate in support groups
- Make a Life Change Plan
- Give back to the community
- Become a mentor
- Attend alumni events

Henu means work or job in the Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina language. Henu embodies the willingness to work, to be helpful and to cooperate.

Our goal is to encourage health, wellness and sobriety. By doing so, we hope that participants will live a true life and follow *Yaghelich datl'* – *Walking in Beauty*.



Kenaitze Indian Tribe Traditional Values