Overview

This bill establishes a pilot grant program to provide transitional housing and education, counseling and other reentry services to Native American women who are discharged from the Shakopee state prison.

1. Native American women reentry pilot grant program.

   Subd. 1. Reentry pilot program. Requires the commissioner of corrections, with the assistance of the commissioner of children, families and learning, to develop and administer a program to provide transitional housing and services to Native American women who are discharged from the Shakopee state prison.

   Subd. 2. Eligibility for grants. Sets forth eligibility criteria for local organizations that seek grant money under this program. The program must:
   - be a Native American program
   - provide weekly case management sessions
   - provide education on financial, social and basic living skills
   - be able to initiate and continue counseling in healthy living, chemical dependency, anger management, domestic violence, family abuse, and posttraumatic stress
   - provide services to prepare the women for work or school
   - provide cultural experiences and education, including instruction in traditional parenting, where appropriate
   - assist the women in restorative justice projects that give something back to their community.

   Subd. 3. Eligibility for services. Sets forth eligibility criteria for Native American women seeking transitional housing or services under this section. The women must:
   - be Native American, identify with Native American culture, have Native American children, or identify her children as Native American
complete an intake process
complete an interview to discuss her background, goals, expectations and the rules and
expectations of the program
be willing to participate in restorative justice project and
be accepted into the program.

Subd. 4. Report to legislature. Requires the commissioners of corrections and children,
families and learning to submit an evaluation report to the relevant legislative committees by

2 Appropriations.

Subd. 1. Corrections. Provides a one-time unspecified appropriation from the general fund to
the commissioner of corrections for grants to provide the reentry services described in section 1.

Subd. 2. Children, families and learning. Provides a one-time unspecified appropriation from
the general fund to the commissioner of children, families and learning for transitional housing
for women who participate in the reentry program.