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About Sina Okigwa (Paints Robe)

A Lakota-governed South Dakota nonprofit (EIN 99-1602892) providing cultural education, wellness, mental health, and land-based programming to Lakota communities. Built by relatives, for relatives. Mitákuye Oyás'iŋ. **sinaokigwa.org**

Sina Okigwa (Paints Robe) Earns 501(c)(3) Status, Launches Website

Lakota-governed nonprofit behind the Healing with Horses Camp can now accept tax-deductible gifts

RAPID CITY, S.D., Sept. 17, 2026 — Sina Okigwa (Paints Robe) has been recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, effective August 2026, and has launched its website, sinaokigwa.org, where supporters can now make tax-deductible donations.

Incorporated in 2024, the nonprofit formalizes work its leaders have carried in Rapid City and on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation for more than a decade.

"This work is generations old. What's new is the container," said Dr. Monique Apple, DSW, LCSW, Co-Executive Director. "Federal recognition lets us carry it forward on our own terms."

Programs include:

- **Šuŋkawakȟaŋ Uŋ Wičozanikte (Healing with Horses Camp)**, a youth camp at Lakota Homes in North Rapid City, covered by the Rapid City Journal, KOTA, NewsCenter1, and the Lakota Times
- **Wednesday Cultural Nights** at the Oyate Center: ribbon skirts, beadwork, ledger art, moccasin making, and singing for girls
- **Lakota singing and drum**, lacrosse, hand games, and coming-of-age ceremonies

"Our young people are learning to ride, to sing, and to know who they are," said Delaney Apple (Wookiye Tokahe), Co-Executive Director. "That's healing."

Donations fund horses, camp supplies, food, and stipends for the elders who teach. In-kind gifts and volunteers are also welcome.

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