



**MN Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition**  
**St. Paul, MN**  
**[www.miwsac.org](http://www.miwsac.org)**

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## **Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program**

**One Day Institute**  
**March 15<sup>th</sup> , 2019**  
**Chicago IL**



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**St. Paul, MN**  
**[www.miwsac.org](http://www.miwsac.org)**



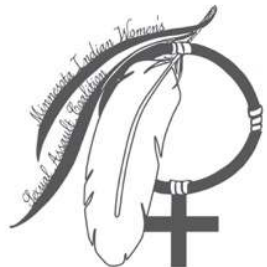
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# Sexual Assault Advocacy



# Defining Sexual Assault

*“The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.” -2011 Uniform Crime Report*

SA is an aggressive act and motivated by power and control.

Always involves a lack of consent.



# Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women

More than 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native women (84.3 percent) have experienced violence in their lifetime. This includes :

- 56.1 percent who have experienced sexual violence.
- 48.8 percent who have experienced stalking.
- Overall, more than 1.5 million American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime.

NIJ Report May 2016



# Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women

Overall, more than 730,000 American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in the past year.

- More than 1 in 3 American Indian and Alaska Native women (39.8 percent) have experienced violence in the past year. This includes:
  - 4.4 percent who have experienced sexual violence.
  - 11.6 percent who have experienced stalking.

NIJ Report May 2016



# What it means to be an advocate

A bias supporter of victims who have experienced or are experiencing sexual violence

- ✓ Believe the victim
- ✓ Non judgmental
- ✓ Bound by confidentiality
- ✓ Encouraging and helpful
- ✓ Accompany the victim to:
  - ✓ Ceremony
  - ✓ Hospital
  - ✓ Law Enforcement
  - ✓ Prosecutor office



# What it means to be an advocate

A **bias supporter** of victims who have experienced or are experiencing sexual violence.

- ✓ Informative: What are their choices
- ✓ Identify concerns/solutions
- ✓ Remove barriers
- ✓ Resourceful/Options

- ✓ Good listener
- ✓ Support services are free of charge
- ✓ Safe person to talk to
- ✓ Educate on SA





# What's the Difference?

## Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

- ✓ Two completely different crimes with completely different consequences both socially, legally, and physically (STI's, pregnancy, etc.)
- ✓ Impact may be similar, e.g., anger, guilt, shame.
- ✓ Relationship between the perpetrator and the victim.
  - ✓ A friend or acquaintance
  - ✓ Spiritual advisor
  - ✓ Someone in a position of authority
  - ✓ Intimate partner
  - ✓ Gang
  - ✓ Stranger rape



# Sex Trafficking: Pimps Are Batterers

## Pimps/Traffickers:

- **Isolation:** Keeps from family, friends, society. Only source of support. Not allowing to seek help;
- **Intimidation and threats:** children, other family, animals, self, threats to send explicit photos to social media or family
- **Economic Abuse:** takes money; controls money, gives little if any to victim;
  - *Gets victim to trade sex for money with other buyers, then takes it.*

## Batterers:

- **Isolation:** Keeps from family, friends, society. Only source of support. Does not allow to seek help;
- **Intimidation and threats:** children, family, pets, self;
- **Economic Abuse:** controls the money. Gives little access to money.
  - Takes any money they earn from working;



# Sex Trafficking: Pimps Are Batterers

## Pimps/Traffickers

- **Physical Violence:** Severe beatings, traumatic brain injuries, broken bones, death
- **Sexual Violence:** Rape, sexually degrading their victim.
- **Emotional/Verbal Abuse:** name calling, lies, nothing but a whore, racial insults

## BATTERERS

- **Physical Violence:** Severe beatings, traumatic brain injuries, broken bones, death.
- **Sexual Violence:** Marital/Date Rape, sexually degrading their victim.
- **Emotional/Verbal Abuse:** name calling, lies, calling them a bad parent, telling them they're crazy.



# Intervention with Significant Others

- Information about the process
- Information about the impact on the survivor
- resources for the significant other to find support and healing options.





## Assisting Male Survivor

Men and boys who have been sexually assaulted or abused may have many of the same feelings and reactions as other survivors of sexual assault, but they **may also face some additional challenges because of social attitudes and stereotypes** about men and masculinity.

**Everyone reacts differently in a crisis situation. Do NOT judge.**



## Assisting LGBTQ2S

- Don't assume you can tell if someone is LGBTQ/Two Spirit
- If you don't know what gender pronouns to use, ask
- Be patient with a person who is questioning their gender identity
- Don't tell a person what category or identity they fit in to
- Don't ask a transgender person what their "real name" is
- Don't ask about a transgender person's genitals or surgical status
- Don't ask an LGBTQ/Two Spirit person how they have sex



## Ensuring a Successful Program: Legal Responsibilities

- ✓ How do I know if I'm a mandated reporter?
  - ✓ Review your tribal and state codes
  - ✓ Consult with in-house counsel or tribal lawyers
- ✓ Mandated Reporting Obligations
- ✓ Confidentiality
- ✓ Release of Information Sample Form



# Mandated Reporting

## Who, What, Where, How

### Who is a Mandated Reporter

#### **18 U.S.C. & 1169**

- Family or Child Councilors (un/licensed)
- Supervisors

If you **KNOW** or have **REASONABLE SUSPICION** that a child was abused or actions are being taken or will be taken that are reasonably expected to result in abuse.

### What do you report?

**Child: one who is not married and not 18**

- **“Child Abuse”**: a child is dead, exhibits evidence of skin bruising, bleeding, malnutrition, failure to thrive, burns, any bone fracture, evidences subdural hematoma, soft tissue swelling
- **Condition not justifiably explained**
- **Any case in which a child is subjected to sexual assault, sexual molestation, sexual exploitation, sexual contact or prostitution**





# Child/Teen Victims of Sexual Assault

- Current **reporting requirements** and laws protecting **confidential rights of adolescents to obtain care at rape crisis care centers.**
- When and **where to refer adolescents** for a **forensic medical examination** and sexual assault care for teenagers (and teenagers with disabilities).
- **STI screening, prophylaxis, and treatment should be available on a timely basis.**
- Emergency contraception should be offered to female sexual assault victims if reported within 120 hours of the assault.
- Psychological/emotional support should be offered.



# Barriers To Reporting

- Fear of Retaliation
- Greater Physical Isolation
- Informal Social Controls: Social climate may have the biggest impact on the failure to report in rural area and attitudes about the needs and survival of the family.
- Unwritten roles and rules in families with incest.
- Distrust of Outside Assistance, private matter, rural people tend to be suspicious of strangers
- Perceptions of SA, that's just the way it is



## Small Group Discussion

A person discloses that they have been sexually assaulted:

- Recently
- A while before

- 1. What do you need to consider?**
- 2. What are your options for response?**
- 3. How will you respond to them?**



# Policy

## A Successful TSASP



## Policy a Successful TSASP

- A full description of the topics
- Policy will be accessible and convenient to staff.
- Policy will be a meaningful process involving appropriate staff.
- Policy will be transparent.



## Policy a Successful TSASP

- Topics indicated in your special conditions
  - Confidentiality
  - Safety



# Anti-racism

## A Successful TSASP



# Peer Mentoring and Technical Assistance





## What is Technical Assistance (TA)?

Technical assistance is intended to provide grantees with information, training, support, and resources to enhance their capacity to address violence against women and children while effectively implementing grant goals and objectives.



# Peer Mentoring & Unique Opportunities: Focus of Our Technical Assistance Project

Offer TSASP Grantees access, support, and products that may include the following:

- Sexual Assault 101
- Basic Office Management Skills
- Guidance on Policy writing
- Guidance on Protocol
- Review of Materials
- Substance Abuse/Addiction and Sexual Assault
- Historical Trauma and Responses
- 40 Hour Native Specific Sexual Assault Advocacy Training
- Ensuring your program is accessible



## Peer Mentoring & Unique Opportunities: Technical Assistance Provided

We provide culturally appropriate and relevant technical assistance through a variety of methods:

- ✓ Email and phone consultation
- ✓ Topical monthly conference calls
- ✓ Onsite consultations x 2 per year
- ✓ Referrals to other TA providers or subject matter experts
- ✓ Grantee meetings/training institute
- ✓ Providing opportunities for Peer-to-Peer support and information sharing
- ✓ Review of materials, policies, etc.
- ✓ Peer Mentoring



## Peer Mentoring & Unique Opportunities

- ✓ **Peer to Peer Mentoring Programs:**
  - ✓ **Muscogee Creek Nation**
  - ✓ **Strong Hearted Native Women's Coalition**

- ✓ **40 Hour SA Advocacy :  
Twin City Area, MN**



# Effective Community Outreach Strategies



# Communications Strategy

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- Establish how you and your agency will engage with partners, the community.
- Ensure consistency in the message that people receive from your agency.
- Provide a values-based, proactive way to address issues as they arise in your communities.



# Types of Communication

- Verbal (phone, in-person, etc.)
- Written (Emails, organizational documents, texting, etc.)
- Interviews (TV, radio, phone, social media, etc.)
- Social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Tumblr, Snapchat, etc.)
- Both individual and organizational

# Considerations

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- Pre-incident
- During the incident
- Post-incident
- What will reach your target audience most effectively?





# Outreach of a Successful TSASP

## ✓ Communications

- ✓ Social Media Platforms
- ✓ Event /Gatherings
  - ✓ Health fair
  - ✓ Powwow
  - ✓ Tribal program meetings
  - ✓ Monthly community feast

## ✓ Fact based

## ✓ Considerations

- ✓ Pre-incident
- ✓ During the incident
- ✓ Post-incident

## ✓ What will reach your target audience most effectively?

## ✓ Design, color, style



## Create Partnership with Tribal Leadership

- ✓ Create an annual award to recognize tribal leadership
- ✓ Formalize relationships with Tribal Leaders
- ✓ Reaching out and listening to the needs of tribes



# Effective Community Outreach Strategies

- ✓ Utilize what is available to you
- ✓ Use reliable resources (DOJ, NIJ National Institute of Justice, etc.)
- ✓ Start talking/planning about April SA Awareness month
- ✓ Develop 2 sentence public service announcement
- ✓ Identify one community activity you can do



# Resources

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National Sexual Assault Hotline.....	800-656-4673
Polaris Project (24/7 Trafficking Hotline).....	888-373-7888
National Congress of American Indians.....	<a href="http://www.ncai.org">www.ncai.org</a>
National Sexual Violence Resource Center.....	877-739-3895 <a href="http://www.nsvrc.org">www.nsvrc.org</a>
Vera Institute (Disability Organization).....	202-465-8900
National Indian Country Clearinghouse on Sexual Assault...	<a href="http://www.niccsa.org">www.niccsa.org</a>



# Resources

- **Two-Spirit Websites:**
- Minnesota Two-Spirit Society- [www.mn2ss.org](http://www.mn2ss.org)
- Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits- [www.baaits.org](http://www.baaits.org)
- Native OUT, Phoenix, AZ- [www.nativeout.com](http://www.nativeout.com)
- East Coast Two-Spirit Society: [www.ec2ss.net](http://www.ec2ss.net)
- Montana Two Spirit Society: [www.mttwospirit.org](http://www.mttwospirit.org)
- Love Letter to Two Spirit Survivors of Corrective Rape:  
<http://everydayfeminism.com/2016/02/letter-native-queer-survivors/>



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