

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Tuesday, January 28th, 2020: Conference Introductory

8:00am-5:00pm

Sex Trafficking in Indian Country: Advocacy Curriculum

Bonnie Clairmont (Ho Chunk), Victim Advocacy Program Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute

Kelly Stoner (Cherokee), Victim Advocacy Legal Specialist, Tribal Law and Policy Institute

This session will provide participants with an educational tool developed by the Tribal Law & Policy Institute, ***Sex Trafficking in Indian Country: Advocacy Curriculum***. The curriculum was designed specifically for tribal coalitions to utilize in training tribal victim advocates. It may also be useful for tribal victim advocates and victim service providers to train others within the tribal systems from any number of disciplines and professional backgrounds such as social work, nursing, tribal court, probation, tribal government, psychology, and victim services. Topics covered include identifying sex trafficking, understanding the impact of this crime, and responding to the needs of victims with a victim-centered approach. Once trained, participants will be able to teach others to identify and respond helpfully to the social and legal issues of sex trafficking in tribal communities.

8:00am-12:00pm

National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) Law Enforcement Training

Christine Crossland, United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice

BJ Spamer, NamUs Director University of North Texas Health Science Center

Dustin Driscoll, University of North Texas Health Science Center

NamUs is a free national information clearinghouse and resource center for missing, unidentified, and unclaimed person cases throughout the United States. Law Enforcement Officers will learn how to enter cases into NamUs, the available forensic resources to include DNA and fingerprint analysis, forensic odontology services, analytical research, victim services, and other free resources for investigators, medical examiner/coroner personnel, and how other criminal justice professionals handle these cases. Attendees will be able to register on site with NamUs and discuss ways to resurrect cold cases using today's technologies in the field.

2:00pm-6:00pm

Missing Person's Day Event

*BJ Spamer, NamUs Director University of North Texas Health Science Center
Dustin Driscoll, NamUs Regional Program Specialist*

This event is open to family members of missing persons. The NamUs team will offer one-on-one meetings with NamUs professionals who will review and update case file data (e.g., photographs of the missing), collect dental and medical reports of the missing, and collect voluntary DNA (cheek swab) of family members of the missing. Law enforcement will be on hand to file missing person reports and gather and update information on existing missing person reports.

Wednesday January 29th 2020

10:00am-11:30am

Opening Plenary: Survivors Truths

Survivors

Facilitated by: Bonnie Clairmont, (HoChunk)

This panel will explore some of the misconceptions that exist surrounding commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking. We will learn from survivor advocates who have both personal experience and professional knowledge on this subject.

11:45am-12:30pm

Legislative and Resource Updates

Nicole Matthews (White Earth Anishinaabe)

This session will provide a brief overview of resources and current federal legislation which may impact or be of interest to tribal communities building responses to sex trafficking of American Indian and Alaska Native people.

2:00pm-3:30pm

Walk the “Life” of Sex Trafficking

Valaura Imus (Hopi)

Sex trafficking has risen in Indian Country over the last few years and identified among our Indigenous people. Many tribal communities believe it is not happening within their community and probably so because it is not understood. This presentation will put you into the "life" of a trafficking victim with limited resources, will help you understand the complexities of getting out of the "life" and will provide you insight to improving your services for victims and survivors of trafficking.

SOAR for Native Communities

Elizabeth Pfenning

SOAR for Native Communities equips those serving Indigenous populations to better understand the issues surrounding human trafficking and it's impact on Native communities from a public health approach. This workshop will identify resources relevant to Indigenous populations and will support building trauma-informed and culturally-responsive interventions to human trafficking in Native communities.

Building a Trauma Informed Response to Violent Crime in Indian Country

Leslie Hagen

When human beings experience trauma, their brains respond in a way that may impact the ability to remember details or even to physically flee the traumatic event. Many jurors believe that a person being assaulted will physically fight back against their attacker. And, police and prosecutors have been trained to believe that when an individual experiences a traumatic event (like sexual assault) the brain will record the majority of details the criminal justice system wants to know about the event. If a victim reports being “frozen” during the assault or is unable to provide a detailed report of the assault and the defendant’s actions, the criminal justice system, and ultimately jurors, may begin to doubt the victim’s claim of sexual assault. Other factors like adverse childhood experiences, the use of alcohol, and a history of victimization can also effect the ability to encode memories. This information is critically important for criminal justice systems in the American Indian/Alaska Native populations where victimization rates are very high. This session will cover the science of trauma’s impact on the brain and body. The session will also cover tips and techniques for how police and prosecutors can develop and institute a victim-centered, trauma informed approach to sexual assault cases. An actual Indian country strangulation case will serve as the backdrop for this session and will illustrate what can happen when poor interviewing and reporting writing occur.

NamUs Overview

BJ Spamer

Dustin Driscoll

NamUs is a free national information clearinghouse and resource center for missing, unidentified, and unclaimed person cases throughout the United States. Learn how to enter cases into NamUs, the available forensic resources to include DNA and fingerprint analysis, forensic odontology services, analytical research, victim services, and other free resources for investigators, medical examiner/coroner personnel, and how other criminal justice professionals handle these cases. Attendees will be able to register on site with NamUs and discuss ways to resurrect cold cases using today's technologies in the field.

Lets Talk about it: Sex Trafficking of American Indian and Alaska Native LGBT2S Individuals

Kurt Begaye (Navajo)

Sex trafficking among American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and two-spirit (LGBT2S) individuals is an undiscussed occurrence. Data is also limited or non-existent, which further complicates adequate service and response development. This session will open the discussion on sex trafficking of AI/AN LGBT2S individuals and provide a starting point to addressing this crisis.

Screening for Safety

Katherine Eagle (Anishinaabe)

Often, we have a short time to accomplish several major things with a person in crisis, like build up a relationship and trust with that person, discover their immediate needs, refer them to various service providers, and help de-escalate the immediate situation(s). People are not always able to articulate all their needs or may not realize that there might be help in a particular area or might be afraid that they won't get any help at all if they talk about all the things going on. As service providers, it can be challenging to get a holistic view of a person, especially if they have some complex trauma or life experiences. This workshop is designed to give practitioners (advocates, social workers, attorneys, and others) a chance to practice interviewing and screening holistically, in a trauma informed way. Practitioners will practice offering **options**, building trust, and screening for opportunities to offer relevant options, information, and resources without making decisions for survivors. Workshop participants will gain or improve practical interviewing skills for working with all types of survivors.

3:45pm – 5:00pm

Walk the “Life” of Sex Trafficking

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Sex trafficking has risen in Indian Country over the last few years and identified among our Indigenous people. Many tribal communities believe it is not happening within their community and probably so because it is not understood. This presentation will put you into the "life" of a trafficking victim with limited resources, will help you understand the complexities of getting out of the "life" and will provide you insight to improving your services for victims and survivors of trafficking.

Healthcare Screening Tool for Human Trafficking

Erica Gourneau

The presenter will briefly review what actions or circumstances make up a human trafficking case for both adult and minor victims. Building on a shared understanding of human trafficking, the presenter will discuss the differences between identifying groups or individuals at higher risk for human trafficking victimization and use of screening tools to identify human trafficking victimization. Three human trafficking screening tools will be compared by participants in order to select the best tool for use in their practice. Human trafficking staff training and client resources will also be shared

Investigating and Prosecuting the Non-Fatal Strangulation Case

Leslie Hagen

Many victims of sexual exploitation offenses are beaten or physically assaulted. Some of these assaults include strangulation. Strangulation is one of the best predictors for the subsequent homicide of victims of domestic and sexual violence. VAWA 2013 amended the federal assault statute (18 U.S.C. 113) and added a new federal felony - "assault of a spouse, intimate partner, or dating partner by strangling, suffocating, or attempting to strangle or suffocate." This session will focus on the successful investigation and prosecution of the non-fatal strangulation case. Topics to be addressed include medical evidence, investigative questions and the use of expert testimony at trial. The application of the new federal strangulation crime to strangulation cases in Indian country will also be covered.

Promising Practices in Law and Policy

BJ Spamer and Dustin Driscoll

This presentation will provide a brief overview of the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs), followed by a discussion of promising practices for the investigation of missing person cases. A review of proposed and existing legislation related to missing and unidentified persons will be discussed, along with best practices for utilizing the free resources of NamUs to resolve cases and bring answers to searching families. The effective use of NamUs to identify the number of missing indigenous persons in the United States will be discussed, and an overview of data fields to support the collection of data related to tribal cases will be provided.

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Preserving Victim Dignity: Preventing Victim Intimidation and Overcoming Obstacles in Human Trafficking Advocacy

Thomas Aliberti

From Pepto Bismol to NGO partnerships this presentation focuses on the legal and practical considerations while assisting human trafficking victims through the progress of a criminal case.

Thursday January 30th 2020

9:15am-10:45am

Opening Plenary: Tribes United Against Sex Trafficking (TRUST) Task Force Panel Discussion

Kelly Haffield

This is a panel discussion on the successes and challenges the TRUST Task Force faces in their communities when building a TRUST task force.

11:00am-12:30pm

Sex Trafficking Identification Training and Response: Hotel and Casino Staff (Part 1)

Katherine Eagle (Anishinaabe)

This session will focus on working with Tribal hotel, casino, government, and other enterprise agencies to build an appropriate sex trafficking identification training and response. Participants will explore the core concepts needed for employee training as well as creating practices and policies. This workshop will also examine linkages to other resources such as law enforcement, advocacy, and others.

SOAR for Native Communities (repeat)

Elizabeth Pfenning

SOAR for Native Communities equips those serving Indigenous populations to better understand the issues surrounding human trafficking and its impact on Native communities from a public health approach. This workshop will identify resources relevant to Indigenous populations and will support building trauma-informed and culturally-responsive interventions to human trafficking in Native communities.

Developing a Collaborative Response to Violence Against Women in Indian Country: Federal Prosecution Options

Leslie Hagen

Victimization rates in Indian country are high in many parts of the country, particularly for crimes like sexual assault and domestic violence. In non-PL 280 jurisdictions, the federal government has concurrent jurisdiction with the tribe for many of these offenses. And, even in PL 280 states, the federal government may have jurisdiction to prosecute some intimate partner violence crimes occurring on the reservation. In each of these situations, it is likely that tribal personnel will be the first responders to the crime scene or to meet with the victim. This session will address how the federal government and tribal governments can work

collaboratively to investigate and prosecute domestic violence and sexual assault offenses. The session will cover the elements needed to prove the most commonly charged assault crimes in Indian country, special federal evidentiary rules that apply in sexual assault cases, and laws in the federal system that protect victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Minor Sex Trafficking: Necessity of the Medical Forensic Examination

Jennifer Pierce Weeks

This presentation will illustrate the details of the medical forensic examination and the importance the exam offers for those children that have experience commercial sexual exploitation. The goal of the presentation is to assist clinical and non-clinical community responders who interact with trafficking victims, to understand the urgency of funneling these victims to specialized care. This presentation will illustrate trauma informed components of the medical forensic exam that will help the non-clinical community partner to understand the value of the comprehensive medical forensic examination, regardless if the exam will yield physical or biological evidence.

Don't Buy it Project: It Takes a Whole Community

Sarah Curtiss (Anishinaabe)

In this session, participants will learn about a new resource for engaging native men to create healing communities for relatives harmed by sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. *We Are All Connected: A Resource for Engaging Native Men* was developed in partnership by the Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition (MIWSAC) and Men As Peacemakers ([MAP](#)) as part of the Don't Buy It Project (www.dontbuyitproject.org). Participants will hear a brief history of the Don't Buy it Project and how this new resource for Native communities was developed, then they will try an activity from the *We Are All Connected* resource that demonstrates how Native men and other community members can apply the teachings of their ancestors to today in order to be good relatives to those who have been trafficked.

The Power of Collective Action

Nicole Matthews (White Earth Anishinaabe)

Leanne Guy (Navajo)

Tribal Coalition relatives have been organizing to address gender based violence in their communities for many years. This session will share successes, lessons, and organizing tips in their journeys of collective action in their communities.

2:00pm – 3:30pm

Sex Trafficking Identification Training and Response: Creating a Coordinated Community Response to Trafficking

Katherine Eagle (Anishinaabe)

Participant in this session will explore the idea of using existing practices, resources, and relationships to create protocols and policies to respond to sex trafficking in their communities. The session will cover the steps that get a community ready to write a survivor focused, multi disciplinary, coordinated protocol or policy. Samples and examples of model practices, protocols, and policies will be shared.

Healthcare Screening Tool for Human Trafficking

Erica Gorneau

The presenter will briefly review what actions or circumstances make up a human trafficking case for both adult and minor victims. Building on a shared understanding of human trafficking, the presenter will discuss the differences between identifying groups or individuals at higher risk for human trafficking victimization and use of screening tools to identify human trafficking victimization. Three human trafficking screening tools will be compared by participants in order to select the best tool for use in their practice. Human trafficking staff training and client resources will also be shared

Healing Trauma Through Writing

Corinne Rice (Lakota and Kahnawa:ke Mohawk)

A workshop geared for writers and non-writers. This class will provide prompts and exercises that encourage working through difficult emotions via the art of creative writing and poetry. Whether you feel you are a writer or not, this class will offer an outlet to heal and discover a part of you that paints a picture of emotion with your words. These skills and resources will be sharable and can be brought to your communities.

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This presentation will illustrate the details of the medical forensic examination and the importance the exam offers for those children that have experience commercial sexual exploitation. The goal of the presentation is to assist clinical and non-clinical community responders who interact with trafficking victims, to understand the urgency of funneling these victims to specialized care. This presentation will illustrate trauma informed components of the medical forensic exam that will help the non-clinical community partner to understand the value of the comprehensive medical forensic examination, regardless if the exam will yield physical or biological evidence.

TRUST Task Force- Discussing the Details

Kelly Haffield

An in depth presentation based on the opening plenary presentation on the TRUST Task Force. This workshop will go into the nuts and bolts of what it takes to organize and implement the TRUST Task Force.

Preserving Victim Dignity: Preventing Victim Intimidation and Overcoming Obstacles in Human Trafficking Advocacy

Thomas Aliberti

From Pepto Bismol to NGO partnerships this presentation focuses on the legal and practical considerations while assisting human trafficking victims through the progress of a criminal case.

Closing Plenary: We are All Connected

Sarah Curtiss (Anishinaabe)

Guadalupe Lopez (Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe)

This session will focus on resources for engaging Native men in creating healing communities for relatives who have been sexually exploited.