

## Silenced Steps

“To bring awareness of the crisis across Native Country of the Crisis of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Men and children”



MMIW INDIAN CAPITAL

# MMIW INDIAN CAPITAL ANADARKO, OK

· *The Murdered and Missing Indigenous Indian Capital is a group of Empowered, Indigenous women coming together from all nations to create an outreach concerning the importance of our Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women We are the Voice for the Murdered and Missing*



*Indian Capital*

# Topics of Discussion

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Step 1-Crisis

Step 2-Intervention

- Step3-Prevention
- Step 4- Take Action



# The Three Sisters Story



*One day, three sisters were walking through the forest when they heard babies crying.*

*They walked to the direction of the cries and came up to a river of crying babies floating down the river. One sister jumped into the river and started pulling all the babies she could out of the river. The second sister jumped in and started to teach the babies how to swim. The third sister began walking upstream as she walked upstream the other two sisters yelled out to her asking her where she was going. The third sister yelled back to the sisters in the river, "I'm going to find out why the babies are falling in the river in the first place."*

*The first sister represents crisis work, the second sister represents intervention, and the third represents prevention.*

*In the fight against sex trafficking, we need partners working in all the areas.*

*Tillie Blackbear (Sicangu Lakota)*

# CRISIS

A **crisis** is a **critical moment** or **turning point** in the course of events, often marked by **intense trouble**, **danger**, or **significant change**. It can manifest in various ways: Health, Emotional, Life & General

*SEX TRAFFICKING*

*HUMAN TRAFFICKING*

*MURDERED & MISSING*

*INDIGENOUS PEOPLE*



# SEX TRAFFICKING

- SEX TRAFFICKING happens when people are forced, coerced or defrauded into providing commercial sex. Anyone selling sex who is under the age of 18 is automatically considered sex trafficking victim under federal and Oklahoma state law, as well as laws of many states of the US.
- According to the trafficking victim's protection act of 2000 and its subsequent reauthorization, sex trafficking is a recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining comma, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act. In which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, under which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age. (22 U.S.C §7102 (11) (A)).

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- HUMAN TRAFFICKING is the unlawful act of transporting or coercing people to benefit from their work or service, typically in the form of forced labor or sexual exploitation
- Also known as trafficking in persons, is a crime that involves compelling or coercing a person to provide labor or services, or to engage in commercial sex acts. The coercion can be subtle or overt, physical or psychological.
- HUMAN TRAFFICKING impacts tribal people more than most of us realize with traffickers preying on vulnerabilities such as jurisdiction, prosecution, and limited resources.

# MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

- MMIW stands for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Men and children. It's a movement that advocates for the end of violence against Native Women and children. It also seeks to draw attention to the high rates of disappearances and murders of Native people
- The MMIW movement exists because many Native women, men and children go missing and are murdered each year compared to women from other groups.



## MMIW ALSO KNOWN AS:

MMIWG = Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

MMIR = Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives

MMIP = Missing and Murdered Indigenous People

The Indigenous people who are too young to be considered adults and those who identify as men, Two-Spirit, trans, or non-binary are also affected by high rates of disappearances and murders. Each of the terms above focuses on raising awareness for Indigenous people (more broadly than just women) who are impacted by violence.

# TYPES OF MISSING

- Lost/Unknown
  - Lost in the wilderness*
  - Abducted*
  - Domestic violence*
  - Custody Disputes*
  - Suicide and accidental deaths*
  - Witnessed but not found*
- Runaways
  - First time
  - Survivor
  - Habitual
  - Lured/Stranded/Trafficked
  - Internet/Social media
  - Night clubs/Bars
  - Entertainment Venues
- Homicide
  - Believed deceased but never found
  - Chose to leave
  - Do not want to be found
  - Warrants
  - Family Disputes
  - Did not know they were missing

# INTERVENTION

- the act or an instance of [intervening](#)

**INTERVENE** to occur, fall, or come between points of time or events

- the act of interfering with the outcome or course especially of a condition or process (as to prevent harm or improve functioning)

# What is INTERVENTION?



## PREVENTION

Each of our voices carries magnificent power. By sharing stories, pictures, videos, and other things with each other, we can help keep the MMIW movement going strong. Speak to your friends and trusted adults and consider using social media as an outlet to remember MMIW to keep the movement going. Sometimes, people use hashtags (#MMIW, #MMIP, #MMIWG, #MMIR) to be able to quickly find other stories and see how many people are involved.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP PREVENT THESE  
CRISISES FROM HAPPENING IN YOUR  
COMMUNITIES?**

# REPORTING PROBLEMS

Quality of data input

*Racial Misidentification*

*Inaccurate spelling, hyphenation, combination, and transportation of names and dates*

*Jurisdictional Confusion*

*Where a person resides vs. where they went missing from*

*Delayed Response*

*Interstate/International Missing*

*Who to report to*

*Not Knowing where a person is enrolled*

*Unable to notify family or community*

*Searching-did the person go home*

*Mistrust withing the community of outside law enforcement and government*

*System is intimidating and complex when is crisis mode*

# MISSTEPS TO MMIP CASES CONTINUED

- Lack of MMIP Policy or lack of understanding of existing policy
- Lack of training
- Disconnect with neighboring agencies
- Failure to engage victim services
- Failure to communicate with the victim's family
- Failure to media to assist with locating victim
- Failure to maintain a fluid communication system
- Failure to take complete and accurate report
- Failure to enter information from a complete report into appropriate missing person database.



# BIGGEST MISSTEPS RESPONDING TO MMIP CASES

- Failing to Respond
- Not taking Report Seriously
- Assumed Runaway
- Implementing a Waiting Period
- Lack of Volunteer Support or Coordination

# TAKE ACTION



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# WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP TAKE ACTION IN YOUR COMMUNITY?



QUESTIONS?

# THANK YOU!

- WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY AND PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MMIW MMIP MMIR CHAPTERS AND ORGANIZATIONS

