



Providing Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA) to Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)  
Comprehensive Tribal Victim Assistance (CTVA) and Children's Justice Act (CJA) Grantees

## Unified Solutions Tribal Community Development Group, Inc.

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*"Learning Together, Growing Together"*

**E-Bulletin ~ June 2016**



### World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

June 15, 2016



*"One Person, One Action, One Nation, United Against Elder Abuse"*

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEADD) was launched on June 15, 2006 by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations. The purpose of WEADD is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older person by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.

In addition, WEADD is in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action acknowledging the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issues. WEADD serves as a call-to-action for individuals, organizations, and community to raise awareness about elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

#### **Types of Elder Abuse**

Physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect or abandonment by caregivers, financial exploitation, and healthcare fraud and abuse.

**Visit the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) to find resources,  
events, and ideas to take action!**

## **Native American Resource Centers and Clearinghouses**

**The Administration on Aging (AoA):** currently funds four Resource Centers for Older Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. These Resource Centers provide culturally competent health care, community-based long-term care, and related services. They serve as focal points for developing and sharing technical information and expertise for Native American organizations, Native American communities, educational institutions, and professionals working with elders.

**National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative (NIEJI):** NIEJI was created to address the lack of culturally appropriate information and community education materials on elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in Indian Country.

**The National Indian Council on Aging:** focuses on: 1) access to information; 2) more effective options for self-care and longevity information and awareness; and 3) to streamline and increase access to aging.

**National Resource Center on Native American Aging:** The National Resource Center on Native American Aging provides education, training, and technical assistance. A major project of this Resource has been the development of an elderly needs assessment tool to assist Tribes in planning for elder care services.

**University of Alaska-Anchorage:** This center focuses on: 1) empower Native communities to incorporate traditional and contemporary health practices within community health care systems; 2) provide technical information to promote culturally sensitive and functionally appropriate services to maintain social well-being; and 3) provide an arena for discussions about the increasing problems of elder abuse to help Native communities in developing their own plans to reduce and control occurrences.

### **Report Elder Abuse**

If you have been a victim of elder abuse, tell a friend, your doctor, or a family member that you trust. You can also reach the [Eldercare Locator](#) by telephone at **1-800-677-1116**. Specially trained operators will refer you to a local agency that can help. The Eldercare Locator is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Call the police or 9-1-1 immediately if someone you know is in immediate, life-threatening danger.**

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## **International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking** *June 26, 2016*



### **What is Substance Abuse?**

Substance abuse is a patterned use of a substance (drug) in which the user consumes the substance in amounts or with methods neither approved nor advised by medical professionals. Substance abuse often includes problems with impulse control and impulsive behavior. There are many cases in which criminal or anti-social behavior occur when the person is under the influence of a drug. Substance abuse is prevalent with an estimated 120 million users of hard drugs such as cocaine, heroin, and other synthetic drugs.

### **Signs and Symptoms of Substance Abuse**

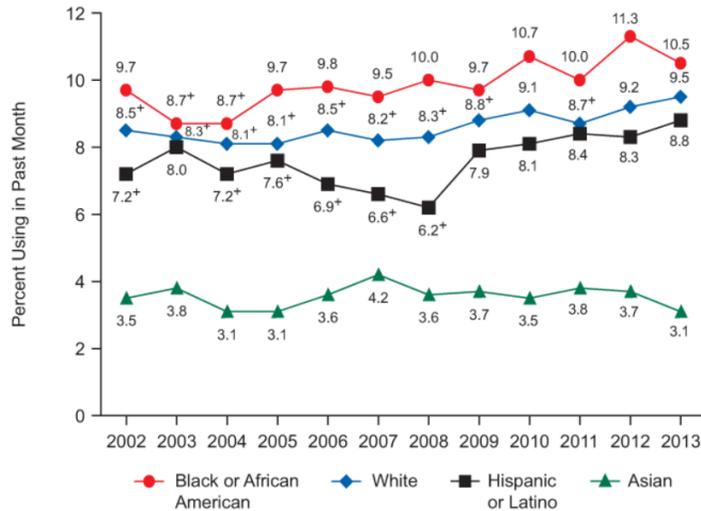
- Bloodshot or glazed eyes
- Dilated or constricted pupils
- Abrupt weight changes
- Bruises, infections, or other physical signs at the drug's entrance site on the body
- Change in personality/attitude
- Heart and organ dysfunction
- Increased aggression or irritability
- Lethargy
- Depression
- Sudden changes in social network
- Dramatic changes in habits and/or priorities
- Financial problems
- Involvement in criminal activity

### **Commonly Abused Drugs**

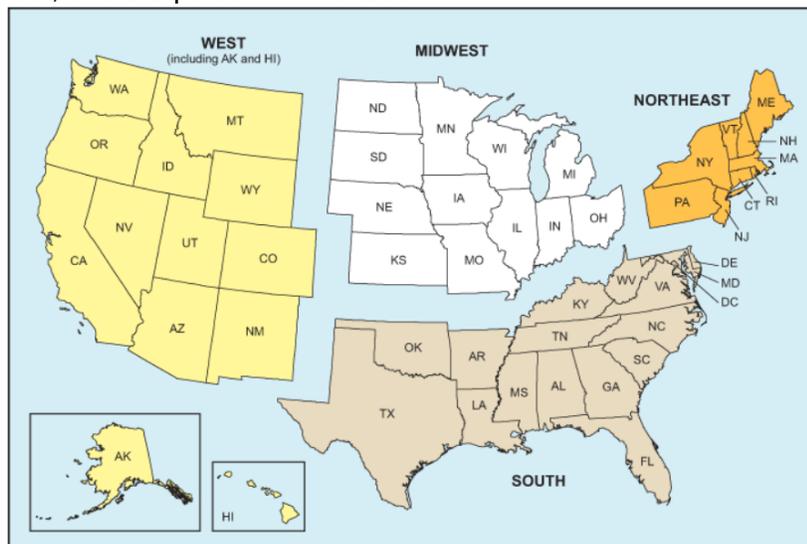
Alcohol, Club Drugs, Cocaine, Hallucinogens, Heroin, Inhalants Marijuana, MDMA (Ecstasy/Molly), Methamphetamine, Opioids, Prescription Drugs & Cold Medicines, Steroids (Anabolic), Synthetic Cannabinoids (K2/Spice), Synthetic Cathinones (Bath Salts), & Tobacco/Nicotine.

## Substance Abuse Statistics

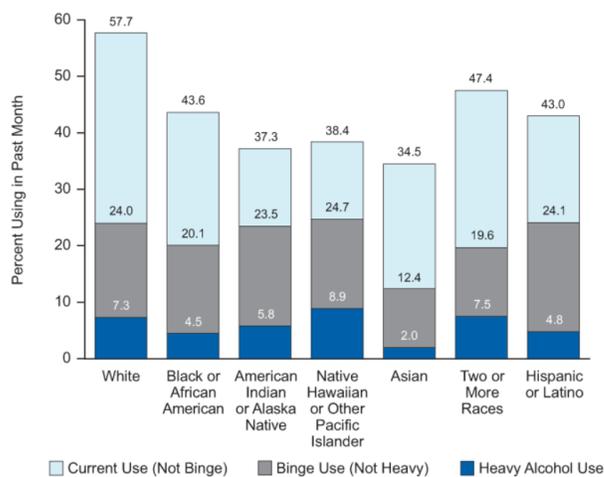
- In 2013, among persons aged 12 or older, the rate of current illicit drug use was 3.1 percent among Asians, 8.8 percent among Hispanics, 9.5 percent among whites, 10.5 percent among blacks, 12.3 percent among American Indians or Alaska Natives, 14.0 percent among Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, and 17.4 percent among persons reporting two or more races.



- Among persons aged 12 or older, the rate of current illicit drug use in 2013 was 11.8 percent in the West, 9.2 percent in the Northeast, 8.7 percent in the Midwest, and 8.3 percent in the South.



- Among persons aged 12 or older, whites in 2013 were more likely than other racial/ethnic groups to report current use of alcohol (57.7 percent). The rates were 47.4 percent for persons reporting two or more races, 43.6 percent for blacks, 43.0 percent for Hispanics, 38.4 percent for Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, 37.3 percent for American Indians or Alaska Natives, and 34.5 percent for Asians.



- The rate of binge alcohol use in 2013 was lowest among Asians (12.4 percent). Rates for other racial/ethnic groups were 19.6 percent for persons reporting two or more races, 20.1 percent for blacks, 23.5 percent for American Indians or Alaska Natives, 24.0 percent for whites, 24.1 percent for Hispanics, and 24.7 percent for Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders.
- Among youths aged 12 to 17 in 2013, rates of current alcohol use were 8.0 percent among Asians, 8.2 percent for Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, 9.0 percent for those reporting two or more races, 9.3 percent for American Indians or Alaska Natives, 9.7 percent for blacks, 10.7 percent for Hispanics, and 12.9 percent for whites. The rates for Hispanic and white youths were lower than those reported in 2012 (12.8 and 14.6 percent, respectively).
- In 2013, among persons aged 12 or older, the rate of substance dependence or abuse was 4.6 percent among Asians, 7.4 percent among blacks, 8.4 percent among whites, 8.6 percent among Hispanics, 10.9 percent among persons reporting two or more races, 11.3 percent among Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, and 14.9 percent among American Indians or Alaska Natives. Except for Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, the rate for Asians was lower than the rates for the other racial/ethnic groups.
- Based on 2010-2013 combined data, among persons aged 12 or older who needed but did not receive illicit drug or alcohol use treatment, felt a need for treatment, and made an effort to receive treatment, commonly reported reasons for not receiving treatment were (a) no health coverage and could not afford cost (37.3 percent), (b) not ready to stop using (24.5 percent), (c) did not know where to go for treatment (9.0 percent), (d) had health coverage but did not cover treatment or did not cover cost (8.2 percent), and (e) no transportation or inconvenient (8.0 percent)

\*\*Full report of Results from the 2013 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Summary of National Findings-  
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/nationwide-trends>\*\*

## Upcoming Trainings:



Register for Helping Victims of Mass Violence and Terrorism Toolkit Web Training developed by the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC). The Web training is to provide an in-depth overview of partnerships, planning, response, and recovery. Toolkit Web Training dates available throughout the month of June. For more info, please visit <http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/mvt-toolkit/about-toolkit.html>

The Child Welfare Virtual Expo on July 23, 2016 will focus on ways to support child welfare agencies, courts, and Tribes in meeting the mandates of the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014 (P.L. 113–183). For more info: <https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/virtualexpo/>

The National Abandoned Infants Assistance Resource Center is hosting a two-day series of webinars that highlight “Lessons Learned” from AIA grantees working with young families affected by substance use and/or HIV. Scheduled dates for webinars are June 22-23, 2016. For a detailed agenda of topics for both days, please visit <http://aia.berkeley.edu/training/online/lessons-learned/>

## Resources:

"Violence against American Indians and Alaskan Native Women and Men" Research Report released by the National Institute of Justice. This report can be accessed at <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/249736.pdf>

The Department of Justice's Office of Violence against Women (OVW) Releases Protocol for Child Sexual Abuse Forensic Examinations: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-releases-national-guide-sexual-abuse-medical-forensic-examinations>

## Funding Opportunities:

Office on Violence against Women (OVW) Announces New Program to Support Tribal Governments Exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction. Applications due June 20, 2016. **All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (E.T.) on June 23, 2016.** (For more info on how to apply, <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/file/849836/download>.)

Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) will award up to two cooperative agreements of up to \$1.2 million each to make physical, operational, and attitudinal changes in domestic violence shelters for individuals with disabilities. **Apply by June 20, 2016:** <http://ojp.gov/ovc/grants/pdf/txt/domestic-violence-shelters-508.pdf>

## **SAVE THE DATE!**



**The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), within the United States Department of Justice are pleased to announce the 15<sup>th</sup> National Indian Nations Conference: Justice for Victims of Crime.**

**Note:** Formal Justice Department conference approval is still pending.

**Theme:** “Harnessing our Collective Wisdom: Strengthening the Circle of Safety, Justice and Healing.”

The purpose of the 15<sup>th</sup> National Indian Nations Conference—the largest U.S. Department of Justice sponsored Indian Nations conference, is to bring together Native American victims, victim advocates, tribal leaders, victim service providers, community volunteers, prosecutors, judicial and law enforcement personnel, family violence and sexual assault specialists, medical providers, social services and mental health personnel, probation/corrections, criminal justice and juvenile justice personnel, as well as federal and state agency representatives to share their knowledge, experiences and ideas for developing programs that serve the unique needs of crime victims in Indian Country.

**Registration Packets will be available in early Summer 2016.**

**Questions:**

Tribal Law and Policy Institute

P: 323-650-5467 ~ F: 323-650-8149

Email: [Conference@TLPI.org](mailto:Conference@TLPI.org)

Conference Website: [www.OVCINC.org](http://www.OVCINC.org)

*“LET US PUT OUR MINDS TOGETHER AND SEE WHAT LIFE WE CAN MAKE FOR OUR CHILDREN.”*



Hello OVC CTAS Tribal Grantees,

Unified Solutions (Unified) staff and consulting Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) can advise and provide training and technical assistance on a wide variety of subjects related to victimization, program management, and other relevant topics. Unified can provide the training at your site and you can invite your key partners and stakeholders to the training. Please let us know what kind of training or technical assistance you determined needing from your recent community assessment or from discussions with your stakeholders. If you would like a listing of training topics Unified can provide please contact one of our staff listed on this e-bulletin.

Unified staff can also provide on-site technical assistance on a variety of subjects ranging from facilitating community needs assessment forums or meetings, policy reviews, or engaging your team in strategic planning sessions. Unified can also coordinate and facilitate conference calls including calls with your OVC Program Specialists. Please never hesitate to contact us. We are here for you. As always, it is such a pleasure and honor to serve you and see all the great work you are doing in your tribal communities.

### **Here is our Contact Information:**

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