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# E-BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 2018

Training & Technical Assistance Providers for the Office for Victims of Crime, Comprehensive Tribal Victim Assistance, and Children's Justice Act Grantees



National Criminal Justice Training Center  
of Fox Valley Technical College



Unified Solutions Tribal Community  
Development Group, Inc.

## OVC News...

OVC Mobile Applications. OVC's Mobile Apps Center lists mobile applications that provide information about various types of victimization. These apps provide information for crime victims and victim service providers and can help connect victims with the services they need. Learn more [here!](#)

[Register](#) for the OVC-sponsored National Indian Nations Conference. With support from OVC, the Tribal Law and Policy Institute will host the 16th National Indian Nations Conference: Justice for Victims of Crime December 5–7, 2018, on the reservation of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, California. This event brings together a wide range of providers, stakeholders, and victims to share their knowledge and develop programs to serve the unique needs of victims in Indian Country. The theme of this year's conference is "Braiding Strength, Hope, and Healing for the Path Forward." Learn more about the National Indian Nations Conference and register.

The Tribal Resource Tool needs your assistance! If your organization provides services to help American Indian and Alaska Native survivors recover from crime and abuse, submit your information to the Tribal Resource Tool by visiting our website [www.tribalresourcetool.org](http://www.tribalresourcetool.org). This web-based resource map and searchable database will:

- Connect AI/AN survivors of crime and abuse to resources
- Provide a listing of services available for AI/AN survivors of crime and abuse
- Help identify and address gaps in services



The Tribal Resource Tool is an innovative collaboration between the Office for Victims of Crime, the National Congress of American Indians, the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, and the National Center for Victims of Crime with the input and guidance of tribal stakeholders across the country.

Analysis of FY16 VOCA Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program. OVC has released the Fiscal Year 2016 Data Analysis Report for The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program. Administered by OVC, the VOCA Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program provides funding to support victim assistance programs within the United States and the District of Columbia, as well as the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. State administering agencies subgrant funds to local public and community-based agencies which offer services directly to victims of crime. Funds may also be used to develop programs that address emerging needs, gaps in services, or training for victim service advocates. [Learn more](#) in the FY16 Data Analysis of the VOCA Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program.

Learn About Current Crime and Victimization Trends. OVC's Crime and Victimization [Fact Sheets](#), are a resource for victim service providers and allied professionals to raise awareness of victims' issues throughout the year. They cover topics such as human trafficking, homicide, domestic violence, sexual violence, and many more!



This e-bulletin was produced by Unified Solutions Tribal Community Development Group, Inc. and National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College under grant numbers 2015-MU-GX-K074 and/or 2015-MU-GX-K075, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this e-bulletin are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.



Healing Justice wants to hear from victim service professionals around the country about any relevant experiences or resources you may have serving crime victims in post-conviction cases of factual innocence and exoneration. **What is Healing Justice?** This project supported by OVC will create specialized tools and resources for serving crime survivors and murder victim family members (hereinafter "original victims") in cases involving a post-conviction claim of innocence or exoneration. Your participation in this questionnaire will help by: (1) Providing key insights, expertise, and wisdom from victim service providers in the field. (2) Informing the design of specialized post-conviction resources and tools. (3) Ensuring that these resources and tools meet your specific needs and prepare your staff for when these cases arise. This [questionnaire](#) should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Participation in this questionnaire is voluntary. Any contact information you provide will not be made public and will only be used for communication directly related to this project.

For a complete list of current funding solicitations from OVC, visit <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/Solicitation.aspx>.

[Subscribe](#) to receive News from OVC. Get notices about OVC's programs and initiatives and stay in the know about the latest news.

## Resources...

New Publication from the [U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics](#) (BJS): [Tribal Crime Data Collection Activities](#), 2016-18 (released July 31, 2018): Describes activities by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) to collect and improve data on crime and justice in Indian country, as required by the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 (TLOA), including data collection programs and activities, tribal participation in national records and information systems, and the most recent statistical findings on detention facilities in Indian country. This report meets the TLOA requirement to report on BJS's activities for the preceding calendar year.



Housing Counseling Disaster Recovery [Toolkit](#) Now Available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development! This toolkit is a new online guide created to help Housing Counseling Agencies prepare for disaster events and engage with local partners that receive funding following disasters. The toolkit features two related guides: Preparing for A Disaster and Operating Post Disaster.

The United States Department of Justice [Tribal Access Program](#) Will Continue to Improve the Exchange of Critical Data To Solve Crimes and Strengthen Public Safety in Indian Country. The Department of Justice is pleased to announce expansion of the Tribal Access Program (TAP), a program providing federally recognized Tribes the ability to access and exchange data with the national crime information databases for both civil and criminal purposes. The department will accept applications from Aug. 1 to Oct. 1, 2018. Interested

Tribes may apply by using this link: [www.justice.gov/t.../tribal-access-program-fy-2019-application](http://www.justice.gov/t.../tribal-access-program-fy-2019-application). Tribes that are selected for participation will be notified by Oct. 15, 2018, and deployment activities will begin shortly thereafter; deployment to all selected Tribes will be completed by Sept. 30, 2019. **What is TAP?** Under TAP, Tribes have successfully begun entering information directly into the federal databases, resulting in nearly 600 sex offender registrations and over 550 sex offender check-ins, nearly 300 instances of data entry that would prohibit someone from being able to purchase a firearm, over 1000 orders of protection entered or modified and over 4,200 finger-print based record checks for civil purposes that include employment, tribal housing placement and personnel/volunteers who have regular contact with or control over Indian children.

The United States Department of Justice released a new website that includes most up-to-date forensics policies, including the newly approved Uniform Language for Testimony and Reports, and will continue to be updated as new policies are approved. Check it out [here!](#)

The Center for Victim Research (CVR) is now online! CVR is supported by OVC and was created in response to OVC's Vision 21 Initiative, which recognized a need to increase the use of research and data in victim services. Visit <http://www.victimresearch.org> for: tools and trainings on victim research; calendar of victim research-related events; library of nearly 1,000 open access research-related resources; directory of victimization researchers; and research syntheses on key topics.

DOJ [Announces](#) \$3.4 Billion in Grants to Aid Crime Victims Nationwide. Most of the funds – more than \$3.3 billion – are being awarded to states under the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program and will support local government and community-based victim services. In 2017, VOCA grants funded more than 6,700 local organizations across the country. Over the last two years, VOCA-funded programs have reached more than 5.2 million victims, providing services ranging from emergency shelter and transportation to crisis counseling, long-term therapy, and civil legal assistance. Victim compensation programs, operating in all 50 states, two territories, and the District of Columbia, are receiving almost \$129 million to reimburse victims and survivors for medical fees, lost income, dependent care, funeral expenses, and other costs. This compensation is often a lifeline to victims who face enormous financial setbacks on top of the emotional strife they experience.



## Tribal Child Welfare Resource Roundup...

**Effective Leadership for Tribal Child Welfare:** This guide was developed by NICWA and provides an overview on how to establish effective tribal governance and the role of tribal leadership in tribal child welfare systems. Link: <https://www.nicwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/EffectiveLeadershipforTribalChildWelfare.pdf>

**ICWA Guide for Tribal Governments and Leaders - now an app!** Access the ICWA Guide for Tribal Governments and Leaders online or download it as a PDF! On a tablet or smartphone? The online version can be saved to your home screen as an app for easy offline access! Developed by Tribal Leaders, Tribal child welfare staff, and knowledgeable ICWA experts, the purpose of this Guide is to recommend actions that tribal leadership can take towards ensuring compliance with ICWA. You can also download the printable poster to hang in your office. Link: <https://icwaguide.tribalinformationexchange.org/>

**What is Title IV-E?** Designed to guide interested Tribes through the basics of Title IV-E, this brief user-friendly module allows users to explore the federal funding option at their own pace and learn more about potential benefits and challenges that may be encountered. Interactive tools will help Tribal leaders and staff decide whether they'd like to move forward with the application process and how to get started. Link: [https://products.tribalinformationexchange.org/ive/story\\_html5.html?lms=1](https://products.tribalinformationexchange.org/ive/story_html5.html?lms=1)



**A Guide to Presenting & Facilitating: Teachings of the Medicine Wheel** Are you a Tribal caseworker who has had to present in court? Have you provided testimony as a qualified expert witness? Or maybe you're a Tribal Child Welfare director who needs to make presentations to your Tribal Council. When asked to present, it's important to be prepared! We're excited to announce our newest interactive product, A Guide to Presenting & Facilitating: Teachings of the Medicine Wheel, developed by Tribal child welfare advocates. This guide is designed to assist Tribal child welfare professionals prepare for presenting by addressing all four areas of the medicine wheel: mind, emotion, body, and spirit. We hope you find this new resource helpful as you work to support your communities, families, and children. Link: [https://prezi.com/bvtvmqemxn7/a-guide-to-presenting-facilitating-teachings-of-the-medicine-wheel/?utm\\_campaign=share&utm\\_medium=copy](https://prezi.com/bvtvmqemxn7/a-guide-to-presenting-facilitating-teachings-of-the-medicine-wheel/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy)

## UPDATE: Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide Revision...

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has made the following revisions to the DOJ Grants Financial [Guide](#), **effective August 2018**.

Chapter 3.2: Period of Availability of Funds; Obligation of Funds, page 33. Revised language regarding Obligation of Funds: An obligation is a binding agreement made during a given period that requires payment by the non-Federal entity during the same or a future period. For example, if an order is placed for a piece of equipment to be purchased with award funds, the order is an obligation. See 2 C.F.R. § 200.71 (definition of "Obligations").

Obligations must occur during the project period stated on the award document. An obligation occurs when there is a binding agreement, such as in a valid purchase order or requisition, that covers the cost of purchasing an authorized item on or after the begin date and up to the last day of the award period. See 2 C.F.R. § 200.309 (Period of Performance).

Chapter 3.2: Period of Availability of Funds; Financial Management Tip, page 33. Revised language regarding obtaining the awarding agency's approval in advance, if an award recipient intends to obligate funds prior to the start of the project period.

Chapter 3.2: Period of Availability of Funds; Project Extension Guidelines, page 37. Revised and added language regarding No Cost Extensions:

Generally, the following shall apply to all grants and cooperative agreements:

- no more than one no-cost extension may be made to an award;
- a no-cost extension may not exceed 12 months;
- a no-cost extension may be made only if the period of performance has not expired;
- a no-cost extension may be made only for award recipients that have no significant performance or compliance issues;
- a no-cost extension may be made only if supported by a robust narrative justification establishing that the extension is for the benefit of the Federal government, and contains a plan and timeline for completion within the period of the no-cost extension;
- a no-cost extension may not be made merely for the benefit of the recipient or for the purpose of the enabling the recipient to use unobligated balances; and



- any provisions of the DOJ Grants Financial Guide relating to no-cost extensions shall be complied with (e.g., a no-cost extension must be requested via a Grant Adjustment Notice (GAN) in the grant system of records at least 30 calendar days before the project end date).
- Extension of the liquidation period may be allowable for awards if approved by the awarding agency (this includes the OVC State Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program and State Victim Compensation Formula Grant Program).

#### Periods of Performance for Research, Evaluation, and Statistics Awards

Due to the nature of the work to be carried out by the recipient, the usual periods of performance may not routinely be appropriate for research, evaluation, and statistics awards. (For example, long-term research or data collection efforts require sufficient time for activities such as institutional review board and Office of Management and Budget reviews (as appropriate), staff training, field work, data collection and analysis, presentation of findings, archiving of data, and dissemination of findings.) Accordingly, a research, evaluation, or statistics award may exceed a 3-year initial period of performance (and/or a 5-year total period of performance, and more than two continuations awards), when appropriate under the particular circumstances of that project.

## Training & Events...

Law Enforcement Scholarships Available for End Violence Against Women International's (EVAWI) 2019 International Conference! EVAWI is extremely pleased to announce their grant from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) includes funding to support 10 scholarships for sworn law enforcement professionals to attend the 2019 International Conference on Sexual Assault, Intimate Partner Violence, and Increasing Access to be held April 22-24 in San Diego, California. The [scholarships](#) will cover the full cost of the conference registration. If you have a grant, you can check with your grant program manager to see if grant funds can be used to cover any travel expenses. Conference registration includes: Three days of training with leading national experts; Three light continental breakfasts; Three seated lunches; and Electronic Course Material. Applicants will be notified of the committee's decisions by December 3, 2018.



Tribal Grants Education and Technical Assistance Webinar Series. Second Wednesday of Every Month at 1pm ET. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is hosting a FREE Grants Education and Technical Assistance Webinar Series for Tribes, Tribal Organizations, Indian Health, Tribal and Urban Indian Health Programs. Learn about the federal grant application process, how to write better grant proposals and evaluation plans for your projects, strategies for successful grant management, and more. Participants will also have the opportunity to connect with HRSA subject matter experts, grant reviewers, as well as peers to discuss best practices and barriers to successful grants application and management. More information [here!](#)

End Violence Against Women International - EVAWI [Online Training Institute](#). EVAWI offers excellent, free state-of-the art training at your fingertips! Want to learn more about the role of DNA in sexual assault investigations? Strategies for effective victim interviews? Successful report writing? Multidisciplinary collaboration? EVAWI currently provides 198 hours of training in 18 modules within our OnLine Training Institute (OLTI). Courses cover a broad range of topics related to the criminal justice and coordinated community response to sexual assault. Plus, they are constantly adding more. Last year, two new modules were added: (1) Untested Evidence and the Investigation of Cold Sexual Assault Cases, and (2) Crime Scene Processing and Recovery of Physical Evidence from Sexual Assault Scenes. EVAWI is now developing a 2-part series on the Forensic Examination of Sexual Assault Victims and Suspects. The purpose is to explain the forensic examination as a means of collecting evidence from the bodies and clothing of both victims and suspects. However, it will go beyond simply explaining exam procedures, to explore the different types of evidence that may be gathered during these examinations and discuss how this evidence can be used during a sexual assault investigation. Participants will also have an opportunity to apply what they learn through a series of case studies.

[View](#) a recording of an OVC webinar: "The Impact of Human Trafficking in Native and Tribal Communities." Summary: This webinar, featuring Nicole Matthews, Executive Director, Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition, and Em Loerzel, MSW, Project Beacon Program Manager, American Indian Center of Chicago provided an overview of human trafficking in Indian country and urban population centers, discussing what sex and labor trafficking look like for the American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) population, and the culturally appropriate resources available to better serve victims. It also included approaches for "mainstream" responders and service providers to identify and outreach to, largely invisible, AI/AN victims and work with urban AI/AN organizations to engage victims and provide services.



## CTAS Spotlight: Alaska Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Grantee Regional Training Workshop...

On August 7, 2018, the Coast International Inn in Anchorage, AK welcomed 53 participants through its open doors to kick-off the Alaska Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Grantee Regional Training Workshop. This workshop was the third regional training event scheduled for the summer of 2018. The participant roster included a diverse array of individuals, to include OVC staff; tribal grantees from across fourteen different OVC CTAS programs; multiple tribal representatives from the host tribe (Native Village of Eklutna), multiple professionals from the Child Welfare Academy of University of Alaska; and the following training and technical assistance providers, Unified Solutions and the National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) of Fox Valley Technical College.

Highlights from the opening ceremony included a traditional opening and welcome song by the Kodiak Alutiiq Dancers and an Invocation by Mary Jane Kasayulie, Wellness Coordinator of the Bristol Bay Native Association. The Welcome was delivered by Aaron Leggett, President of the Native Village of Eklutna. The opening remarks and announcements were presented by the following: Lonna Hunter, NCJTC's Program Coordinator, Barbara Robertson, OVC Victim Justice Specialist; Jesucita Hernandez, Unified Solutions' Senior Technical Assistance Specialist; and Joell Schigur, NCJTC's Program Administrator.



**The Kodiak Alutiiq Dancers performing welcome song to kick off the Alaska training workshop**



**Aaron Leggett, President of the Native Village of Eklutna delivering the Welcome**

After a traditional opening and an emotional keynote presentation, training participants were able to explore and choose from multiple breakout sessions topics that were offered on a morning/afternoon rotation. Breakout session topics for the first day included: Child Advocacy Services: Child Abuse and Neglect; Protecting Our Wisdom Keepers- Elder Abuse in Tribal Communities; Victim Advocacy During Critical Incident Response; and CCR/MDT. Breakout sessions were followed by a mandatory group session that highlighted the following two of the four required grant deliverables: Privacy Certificates and Community Needs Assessments. Participants learned about different types of data collection methods and the various collection tools that programs may deploy. This session introduced a needs assessment action plan and examined the different components of the required privacy certificate.

***Pictured right- Day 1 Breakout Session: "Child Advocacy Services: Child Abuse and Neglect" with Elsie Boudreau and Cory Bryant (Child Welfare Academy- University of Alaska, Anchorage)***



On Day Two of the *Alaska* OVC Grantee Regional Training Workshop, participants interacted in a group session based on the previous day's session about Privacy Certificates and Community Needs Assessments. The goal of the second day's group session was to highlight the key components of the remaining two grant deliverables: the strategic plan and logic model. Following the group session,



**Day 2- Deliverables session: “Logic Model and Strategic Planning” with the NCJTC Team- Lonna Hunter, Kevin Brennenstuhl, and Justine Souto**

participants were able to choose from a new round of breakout session topics that were offered on a morning/afternoon rotation. Breakout session topics included: Historical Trauma and Traditional Healing; Circle of Life Model, Human Trafficking and Exploitation in Tribal Communities; and Cultural Resource Guide: How to Tie in Culture in Child Welfare Case Planning. Following the second day's breakout sessions, a group workshop on Sustainability Planning was held to offer grantee programs various resources, approaches, and ideas for program sustainability. The main goal of this session was to educate participants on how to sustain victim assistance programs after federal funding has ended.



**Day 2- Breakout Session: “Cultural Resource Guide: How to Tie in Culture in Child Welfare Case Planning” with Meda Dewitt and Natalie Norberg**

On the third and final day of the training workshop, participants had the opportunity to learn about the Alaska Tribal Child Welfare Compact (signed October 19, 2017), a government-to-government agreement that establishes a framework for Alaska Tribes to provide child welfare services to their citizens. The session was presented in the form of a panelist discussion. Panelists members included: Christy Lawton, Director of Office of Children Services for the State of Alaska; Traci McGarry, CFS/CAC Director for Kawerak, Inc.; Bernadine Atchison, Vice-Chairperson of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe Tribal Council; and Lola Stepetin, Director of the Nome Eskimo Community Family Services. The panelist discussion was followed by a workshop highlighting ways to cope with Compassion Fatigue.

Upon conclusion of the two and half day regional training workshop, participants were led in a traditional closing song by the Kodiak Alutiiq Dancers and a Benediction by Mary Jane Kasayulie (Bristol Bay Native Association). Unified Solutions and NCJTC offer our sincerest gratitude to each one of you who made this training possible, and for those of you who were able to attend! A very special thank you is extended to the host tribe, Native Village of Eklutna, and the co-host, the Child Welfare Academy of University of Alaska, for offering to share your unique cultures and values with each person in attendance.

We also kindly offer our appreciation to the Coast International Inn staff, who graciously worked with us on event planning and logistics to ensure that each guest had the best possible experience during this regional training workshop.



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**Day 3- Panel Discussion: “Child Welfare State Compacting”**

