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E-BULLETIN

JUNE 2020

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...

A Message from Jessica Hart, Director of the Office for Victims of Crime

Thousands of victims of crime rely on OVC grantees as they work to rebuild their lives and they need you now more than ever. Social distancing, lockdowns, and shelter-in-place orders may have left victims of domestic violence confined in close quarters with their abusers. Seniors who are cut off from seeing family may be at a greater risk of falling victim to financial fraud. With most schools closed, children living in abusive or unstable homes are more likely to be exposed to intimate partner violence or abuse themselves. Without daily routines outside of the home, opportunities for these victims to reach service providers narrow. Nonetheless, our commitment to serving victims remains the same.

Over the last few weeks, I've heard from many of you in the field that COVID-19 is stretching your resources and presenting challenges to your ability to conduct victim outreach and care. At the same time, I've heard about your innovative efforts to continue providing the critical services needed. You've researched technology resources to deliver services and manage cases; successfully implemented infectious disease responses; identified opportunities to share resources; and learned new, important ways to take care of yourselves so you can take care of others. Starting with the [White House](#), the COVID-19 response is a whole-of-government effort, and I thought it would be useful to provide [a round-up of COVID-19-related government guidelines and resources](#) that may help you continue to provide high quality support and advocacy to survivors.



Presidential Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives to Resume Remote Listening Sessions

American Indians and Alaska Natives experience disproportionately high rates of violence. President Trump has called the crisis of missing and murdered Native Americans "sobering and heartbreaking." The [task force](#), designated Operation Lady Justice, has been empowered to review Indian Country cold cases, to strengthen law enforcement protocols, and work with tribes to improve investigations, information sharing, and a more seamless response to missing persons investigations.

OVC's National Elder Fraud Hotline

In his Presidential Proclamation, President Trump states that "Our Nation's older Americans are among the most susceptible to fraud and other financial schemes. To help counter these vile crimes, I have instructed the Department of Justice (DOJ) to prioritize protecting older Americans from financial exploitation." In March, DOJ launched the [National Elder Fraud Hotline](#), operated by OVC, that provides services to adults ages 60 and older who may be victims of financial fraud. If you or someone you know is a victim of elder fraud, contact the National Elder Fraud Hotline at 1-833-FRAUD-11 (1-833-372-8311). Visit the [Older Victims](#) topics page on the OVC website and the [DOJ Elder Justice Initiative](#) website for additional resources to support victims of elder abuse. #OAM2020

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

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



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Resources...

The National Institute of Corrections presents the release of *Barracks Behind Bars II: In Veteran-Specific Housing Units, Veterans Help Veterans Help Themselves (Prisons Version)*

This [paper](#) is the fourth in the National Institute of Corrections' justice-involved veteran compendium project. It highlights programs in prisons across the country that work to improve outcomes for justice-involved veterans, and - in doing so - increase safety for law enforcement officers, correctional officers, inmates, and the public. It illustrates the design, development, implementation, and sustainment of initiatives taken by enlightened, pragmatic corrections officials who have set up specialized housing—in pods, dorms, units, wings, or floors—and programming for military veterans.

DocuSAFE

This Documentation and Evidence Collection App, developed by the Safety Net Project of the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), funded by OVC, is a free tool to help survivors collect, store, and share evidence of abuse, such as domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, online harassment, and dating violence. Survivors can document abuse by logging individual incidents, including: photos; screenshots; video documentation of threatening messages; harassing social media posts; unwanted repeat calls; online impersonation; and other abusive behaviors.

Storing documentation of abuse in one central location helps survivors identify the abuse and the extent to which it is occurring, including possible escalation of the behaviors. While not all survivors may choose to pursue legal action against the abusive person, for those who do, this app may be used to document and store evidence of the abuse to share with law enforcement, an attorney, or a judge during a legal proceeding. The app provides options for securely sharing the content if the survivor chooses. DocuSAFE also includes information and resources to help better understand tactics of abuse, safety planning, and evidence / documentation collection.



If someone suspects that their device is being monitored, either physically or remotely, they should not download this app. There are additional resources on the [DocuSAFE webpage](#), such as the [Survivor Guide to Using DocuSAFE](#), to help survivors assess safety risks prior to download. There is also a companion [Advocate Guide to Using DocuSafe](#) to help advocates, attorneys, and others talk to survivors about safety planning and documentation.

National Workgroup on Safe Housing for American Indian and Alaska Native Survivors of Gender-Based Violence: Lessons Learned (National Resource Center on Domestic Violence)

"The National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center and the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence convened a meeting in Phoenix, Arizona on June 4-5, 2019 to establish a National Workgroup on Safe Housing for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Survivors of Gender-Based Violence. The goal of this workgroup was to bring together experts from Indian country who work in the fields of gender-based violence and housing to develop policy and create concrete recommendations for technical assistance, resources and other supports for the sole purpose of increasing the availability of safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable housing for AI/AN survivors of gender-based violence. This [report](#) details themes that emerged from the convening, lessons learned, and recommendations for increasing access to safe and affordable housing for AI/AN survivors of gender-based violence."



Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Funded AMBER Alert Tools Launched to Help Tribal Law Enforcement Respond to Missing Children

OJJDP's AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance [Program](#) has launched a set of online investigative [checklists](#) to help tribal law enforcement respond to and investigate cases of missing, endangered, or abducted children. These checklists provide strategies for first responders, investigative officers, and supervisory officers involved in a missing or endangered child investigation. They are available in web, PDF, and mobile formats. These resources were developed in collaboration with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Office of Justice Services.

National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC) Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Portal

The NCVC recently launched an online [TTA Portal](#) to serve as a repository for victim-centered TTA resources, news, and information. As a TTA provider, the National Center helps communities improve their response to crime by assessing their existing victims' services capacity, identifying gaps and needs, and connecting them with specialized training and subject matter experts.



Colonization, Homelessness, and the Prostitution and Sex Trafficking of Native Women (National Resource Center on Domestic Violence)

"The social, political, and cultural instability during the colonial era and American Revolution involved ongoing warfare, shifting allegiances among Indigenous and European nations, enslavement, and relocation of Indigenous people. Indigenous women and girls were particularly impacted "...as females during wartime, colonial expansion, and slavery... [are] especially vulnerable to the sexual violence that so often accompanied conquest..." (Miles, 2008). This [paper](#) seeks to illustrate the impact of human trafficking on Native women and girls in our times, with particular attention to the historical context in the United States and the interconnection between trafficking and housing instability."

Serving Victims in Tribal Communities

[Visit](#) the OVC Tribal Multimedia Resources page which offers videos designed to inform and assist victim service providers and allied professionals in their efforts to help crime victims in Indian Country.

Training and Events...

National Children's Alliance: Rural & Remote Service Area Training Series – How to meet the Medical Standard - Webinar

Learn how to meet the Medical Standard as a Children's Advocacy Center in a rural or remote service area.

Event Date: **Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 2:00pm ET** | Location: [Online](#)

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Tribal Consultation

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) invites tribal leaders and representatives to participate in a virtual Tribal Consultation. OJJDP will use this opportunity to foster dialogue about the new tribal provisions of the [Juvenile Justice Reform Act \(JJRA\)](#), and gain insight on collaborating with tribes to implement them. OJJDP also seeks input on increasing tribes' awareness of and access to juvenile justice funding, and creating a policy for ongoing coordination with tribes. The attached consultation framing paper specifies the questions on which OJJDP seeks input. Your participation will contribute to developing informed tribal juvenile justice responses that enhance public safety, promote accountability, and empower tribal youth and communities.

Event Date: **Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 3:15pm ET** | Register [here](#)

National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children Trainings Available Online

Through a partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children is pleased to announce the launch of four free online training courses.

- **Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Overview**
This [course](#) is designed to help law enforcement officers and other professionals develop an awareness of the potential impact of using a multidisciplinary approach to meet the needs of Drug Endangered Children.
- **You Can Change the Long-Term Outcomes of Drug Endangered Children**
This [course](#) describes the long-term impact and needs of Drug Endangered Children (DEC) throughout their childhoods and into adulthood.
- **Prenatal Substance Exposure – Why Should I Care?**
This [course](#) describes how prenatal substance exposure has the potential to cause a variety of physical and developmental challenges for children.
- **Postnatal Risks – How You Can Make a Difference**
This [course](#) describes how postnatal exposure to an environment where there is substance use and drug activity affects children throughout their childhoods and entire lives.



OJJDP Honors National Missing Children's Day Awardees with Virtual Commemoration



The [Department](#) recognized nine law enforcement officers from Wisconsin, Louisiana, and Florida, and a bus driver from Florida. The Department also recognized fifth-grader Elliana Conrad of Oregon, who won this year's poster contest.

"The Department of Justice is proud to honor the law enforcement officers and private citizens who showed courage, presence of mind, and an unwavering commitment to protecting children from dangerous predators," said Attorney General William P. Barr. "We thank these heroes, whose actions made it possible to bring to justice those who attempted to exploit our most innocent and vulnerable citizens."

Due to COVID-19, the Department canceled this year's in-person ceremony and is commemorating National Missing Children's Day virtually through a website featuring additional information about the awardees, poster contest winner, and related resources. The [site](#) includes statements from OJJDP Administrator Caren Harp and Office of Justice Programs Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Katharine T. Sullivan.

Funding Opportunities...

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Financial Relief for Tribal Nations Affected by COVID-19

With the continued spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), NCAI is committed to supporting Indian Country and lifting up our communities as they continue to combat this global pandemic. Keeping in mind the needs of tribal nations, NCAI is awarding \$5,000 to various tribal nations that have been affected by this pandemic through NCAI's [COVID-19 Response Fund](#) for Indian Country. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling deadline until available funds are exhausted. Application guidelines are located [here](#).

NCAI Contact: [Christian Weaver](#), Vice President of Development



The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Now Accepting Applications for the Vicarious Trauma Response Initiative (VTRI)

The VTRI aims to promote healthy, collaborative approaches to address the impact of work-related trauma. Twelve (12) multi-agency sites will receive up to \$50,000 in federal funding and customized training and technical assistance (TTA) to strengthen interagency collaborations and support employee health, well-being, and resilience. An identified lead organization is required to facilitate completion of the attached joint application which demonstrates a shared commitment to building comprehensive approaches to addressing the negative effects of work-related trauma exposure. Each Community Implementation Site is required to include victim services and law enforcement partners, in addition to other crime victim serving organizations. A list of potential partner organizations can be found on the [VTRI](#) webpage. Completed [VTRI applications](#) are due **June 29th, 2020**.

FY 2020 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the availability of approximately \$5 million in funding provided by the Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program (Tribal Transit Program (TTP)), as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 5311(c)(1)(A), as amended by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST), Public Law 114-94 (December 4, 2015). This is a national solicitation for project proposals and includes the selection criteria and program eligibility information for Fiscal Year 2020 projects. The primary purpose of these competitively selected grants is to support planning, capital, and, in limited circumstances, operating assistance for tribal public transit services. Funds distributed to Indian tribes under the TTP should not replace or reduce funds that Indian tribes receive from states through FTA's Section 5311 program. Current Closing Date for Applications: **August 24, 2020**. Apply [here](#).



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