

APRIL
2022

E-BULLETIN



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Training and Technical Assistance Providers for the Office for Victims of Crime, Comprehensive Tribal Victims Assistance, Children's Justice Act, and Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Program Grantees



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CURRENT NEWS

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK, APRIL 24-30, 2022

Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) has challenged the nation to confront and remove barriers to achieving justice for all victims of crime. During NCVRW, we celebrate the accomplishments of the victims' rights movement and reflect on how far we have come.

Every April, OVC leads communities throughout the country in their annual observances of NCVRW. This year NCVRW will be observed April 24-30.

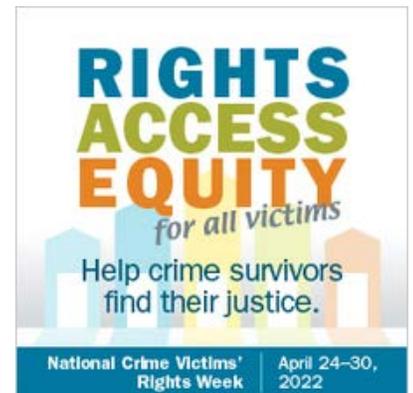
The 2022 NCVRW theme is ***Rights, access, equity, for all victims***. The theme underscores the importance of helping crime survivors find their justice by:

- Enforcing victims' rights,
- Expanding access to services, and
- Ensuring equity and inclusion for all.

Visit OVC's [NCVRW website](#) for tools to help you raise awareness about victims' rights, protections, and services during NCVRW and throughout the year.



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CURRENT NEWS CONTINUED

IMPORTANT DEADLINE: FY2018 TVSSA PROJECT PERIOD EXTENSIONS

OVC reminds FY2018 Tribal Set-Aside Grantees that, if you have not already worked with your OVC Grant Manager on a Project Period Extension for your award, your FY2018 TVSSA award will end on April 15, 2022.

Awards made with TVSSA funds may be extended to a total project length of no more than 60 months. Depending on the length of the current award period, this might allow for a 12-48 month extension. Project Period Extension requests cannot be submitted if the period of performance has already expired.

If you would like to request a Project Period Extension and have not already contacted your OVC Grant Manager, please do so **today**.



IMPORTANT DEADLINE: PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT REPORTING

OVC Tribal grantees are required to submit their Quarterly Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) by **Saturday, April 30, 2022**. Additional information about performance measures is available on the Office of Justice Programs' Grant Performance Measurement and Progress Reporting Information webpage [here](#).

For questions, contact the performance reporting assistance resource below:

OVC PMT Helpdesk

Monday-Friday 8:30am to 5pm ET

Email: ovcpmt@usdoj.gov

Phone: 1-844-884-2503

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT REAUTHORIZED

Attorney General Merrick B. Garland, Deputy Attorney General Lisa O. Monaco, and Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta today applauded the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). This legislation, included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022, reauthorizes VAWA through 2027 and will help protect and support victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence, and stalking, including individuals from underserved communities. In his remarks about the VAWA Reauthorization, Attorney General Merrick B. Garland states, "The Department of Justice welcomes the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and will continue to use the resources at our disposal to prevent and respond to gender-based violence and provide critical services for survivors."

The VAWA Reauthorization:

- Recognizes expanded jurisdiction for American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes
- Intends to close gaps in federal sex crimes statutes and promote accountability for law enforcement officers
- Enhances efforts to reduce homicides through enforcement of federal and state firearms laws
- Improves access to justice for survivors by expanding grant funding for legal services and authorizing post-conviction legal assistance

Read more about VAWA's Reauthorization [here](#).

OVC TRIBAL GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Tribe: [Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association](#)

Program: Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc.

Award: 2018 VSSA, 2018 CJA, 2021 TVSSA



What approach did your Program take to develop/enhance and implement services for Sexual Assault Awareness?

When developing services for Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), our Program focused on incorporating culture to better meet the unique needs of our community. To do this, we developed a cultural activity where Program staff and community members make traditional headdresses while having active discussions about sexual assault and the supportive services APIA provides to victims. We are also hosting a SAAM Walk and Art Contest to raise awareness within our communities. Community members can enter their artwork to be used on the flyers and advertisements for the walk.



What challenges did you overcome in developing these services?

One of our biggest challenges was navigating the pandemic and not having the ability to hold in-person meetings or gatherings. However, everything is slowly opening back up, including some of our Tribes.

What recommendations do you have for other Tribal Programs considering services in this area?

Communicating with other Tribal Programs is very helpful. Being able to listen and observe what other Tribal Programs are doing has been a tremendous help in developing culturally relevant services to our communities. What may work in a larger city like San Francisco can't always be replicated in smaller communities like the ones we serve. This is why cultural relevance is critical when developing services for our communities.

"With OVC funding, APIA has been able to explore new ideas such as discussing Traditional Healing which is huge for our communities. We never got to discuss Traditional Healing before we got these grants. OVC has helped APIA continue its outreach to victims of crime."

- Reign Galovin, Healthy Relationships Lead



If you have questions about APIA, contact Reign Galovin at Reign@apiai.org.

OVC TRIBAL GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Tribe: [Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe](#)

Program: Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribal Victim Services Program

Awards: FY18 TVSSA, FY20 TVSSA

What approach did your Program take to develop/enhance and implement services related directly to crime victims' rights?

When I came to the Tribe, the program already was working under the victims of crime grant. During that time, I was introduced and connected to the University of Nevada-Reno. The University asked if we had interest in collaborating with them in an attempt to obtain more quantitative data related to tribal services. We collaborated with the University in 2015 to conduct a comprehensive assessment for elder abuse, sexual assault, and domestic violence.

All the deliverables and services we provide as part of this program are a direct result of those need assessment findings. Following this needs assessment, our OVC TTA provider, Fox



Left to Right: Kari Gonzalez and Michelle Bowers

Valley Technical College, conducted a two-day strategic planning process training for project staff, program directors, court personnel and mental health personnel. Then we began focusing on other important processes, including rewriting our domestic violence, family, and elder abuse codes. We were able to establish a multidisciplinary team of judges, law enforcement, court personnel, and others to help with this effort. The establishment of these codes and processes reinforce the fact that all departments need to work together for the sake of the victims. Currently, we feel victims have more say, than ever before, in the direct services they need; victims are very comfortable with the entire process of getting the help they need. There continues to be great, on-going collaboration with our TTA providers, other local agencies, and the clients we serve.

What challenges did you overcome in developing these services?

The main challenge that comes to mind is protecting the confidentiality of our clients, especially ensuring signed releases of information. The best thing to happen for the program was receiving funding to purchase our own building. The program was originally housed within the tribal administration office. For security reasons, the doors to the facility were constantly locked. When a client came in to talk with advocates or access services, our staff had to go up to the front of the building and escort (basically parade) the client all the way through the administration building. This was a huge concern to the anonymity of our clients. While other “off reservation” locations were presented to our program, the feasibility of having a safe, confidential location did not exist at that time. Luckily, we have been able to establish our new “home” across from the tribal administration building.

What recommendations do you have for other Tribal Programs considering services in this area?

I think the biggest thing is to think outside the box. We go to all these trainings and orientations and usually it's the same information we are always receiving. It is up to you to begin to think creatively on how you can get things done for your program and the people you help.

"We could not have done this without OVC funding. First, from the foundation, getting our own building so our clients feel safe to talk to us. We could not have sustained the services without the funding. We are now able to complete the five-year follow-up needs assessment and are excited to see what that assessment shows. It may be overwhelming, but I get excited to see how things have changed."

-Michelle Bowers, Program Director



Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribal Victim Services Program Staff

If you have questions about The Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribal Victim Services Program, contact Michelle Bowers, Program Director, at victimservices@fpst.org.

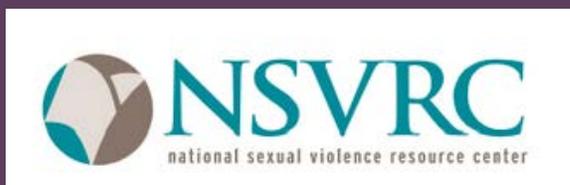
APRIL IS NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH



The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) has announced that "Building Safe Online Spaces Together" as the theme for Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in 2022. Sexual harassment, assault, and abuse can happen anywhere, including in online spaces. For too long harassment, cyberbullying, and sexual abuse and exploitation have come to be expected as typical and unavoidable behaviors online. Building Safe Online Spaces Together is possible when we practice digital consent, intervene when we see harmful content and behaviors, and promote online communities that value respect, inclusion, and safety.

NSVRC's SAAM website offers information, events and challenges, sample proclamations, social media graphics, coloring pages, and more to help you promote SAAM in your community.

Access 2022 Sexual Assault Awareness Month resources [here](#).



SPECIAL FEATURE RESOURCES

APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH



National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect. Through this collaboration, prevention services and supports help protect children and produce thriving families.

The Child Welfare Information Gateway, a service of the US Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families, offers a wealth of resources to help you promote awareness, strengthen families, and prevent child abuse and neglect. Resources include a guide, child maltreatment data sets, sample graphics and social media posts, conversation guides, and more.

Access resources [here](#).

The Alaska Children's Trust offers information, tools, and resources to raise public awareness about and take a stand against child abuse and neglect specifically for Alaska. Resources include a social media toolkit, awareness activity ideas, templates, kids' activity guide, and several webinars.

Access resources [here](#).



TRAINING AND EVENTS



STALKING RISK ASSESSMENT AND SAFETY PLANNING

Stalking is a traumatic crime in its own right that often co-occurs with sexual and physical violence, including homicide. This session explores strategies to assess risk, identify the 14 risk factors in stalking cases and promote victim safety focusing on the diverse tactics stalkers may utilize.

By the end of this webinar from the Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault, participants will be better able to: assess the 14 risk factors in stalking cases; identify safety planning strategies for victims of stalking; and utilize behavior logs for documentation purposes.

Register [here](#). Dates: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 4:30pm ET

CHILD ABUSE: FROM SUSPICION TO DISCLOSURE

In this virtual training from the National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) of Fox Valley Technical College, learn the best approach with children who are alleged victims of child abuse in the initial phases of a case, after a concern has been identified. Develop the skills and techniques necessary to engage a child in such a way as to minimize suggestibility but still provide support, beyond what is taught in a First Responder Training. Review best practices in identification of a concern and learn to engage these children in a way that maximizes positive case outcomes and minimizes potential behaviors that can hurt cases.

Register [here](#). Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 9am ET

RESPONSE TO AT-RISK MISSING AND HIGH-RISK ENDANGERED MISSING CHILDREN

Join NCJTC to learn how to gather information on how to engage and construct a collaborative response to at-risk missing and high-risk endangered missing children. Explore how a missing child's path to becoming a victim of exploitation intersects with the child protection, law enforcement and juvenile justice systems and acts as a risk factor to abductions. Identify opportunities within those systems for prevention and engagement. Examine the complex, layered exploitation these victims endure and how exploiters capitalize on this victimization.

Register [here](#). Dates: Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 9am ET

VIRTUAL MEETINGS HOSTED BY YOUR TTA PROVIDERS



NCJTC'S MONTHLY OVC GRANTEE FORUM – VIRTUAL MEETING: KEEPING YOUR TRIBAL VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAM AND THE CLIENTS YOU SERVE SAFE AND SECURE

This grantee forum will provide an opportunity to discuss the need to develop safeguards for staff, clients, and the program as a whole.

Facilitators will discuss guiding principles and answer participant questions.

Find more information or register [here](#). Date: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 2pm ET

UNIFIED'S COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE VIRTUAL GATHERING: LEGAL ADVOCACY FOR AI/AN VICTIMS OF CRIME

Join subject matter experts from the National Crime Victim Law Institute and fellow grantees to discuss Legal Advocacy for AI/AN victims of crime. Participants will learn what constitutes legal advocacy, what legal-related advocacy services AI/AN victims of crime may need, and how Tribal advocates can promote victims' rights when working in various jurisdictions.

Find more information or register [here](#). Date: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 2pm ET

TRAINING AND EVENTS CONTINUED

CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING: FROM SUSPICION TO DISCLOSURE

Join NCJTC to learn techniques and strategies to enhance the likelihood of obtaining information from possible victims of child sex trafficking. Compare and contrast typical child sexual abuse cases with child sex trafficking (CST) cases and address the different points of entry into the criminal justice and welfare system for CST victims. Understand various disciplines' roles and responsibilities and how they can contribute to a positive outcome of the CST case. Examine question strategy, interview dynamics, language use, and interview suggestions.

Register [here](#). Date: Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 11am ET



NATIONAL MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS CONFERENCE

This conference, hosted by NCJTC, focuses on identifying innovative and effective technologies, approaches, and strategies in the search, investigation, identification, recovery, and reunification of missing persons, regardless of the circumstances surrounding their disappearance. You will gain knowledge and proficiency in evidence-based and collaborative solutions, and explore tools and techniques for reuniting missing persons with their loved ones. The conference will also examine the complex and multifaceted nature of missing person cases and the unique needs of diverse and at-risk population groups such as aging individuals, LGBTQ, persons with differing abilities, Indigenous/Native populations, victims of human trafficking, veterans and active military, transient populations, and others.

Find more information or register [here](#). Dates: Monday-Wednesday, April 25-27, 2022 in Las Vegas, NV

PROVIDING ACCESSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE SERVICES TO SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH DISABILITIES

Featuring a panel comprised of a survivor with a disability, a national expert, and a local advocate, this webinar from the Vera Institute of Justice will explore the unique barriers that people with disabilities have to navigate when seeking healing and the strategies that advocates can employ to proactively remove those barriers. The panelists will provide practical guidance from their own experience that will help you ensure that survivors with disabilities feel respected and supported within your programs.

Register [here](#). Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 2pm ET

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK PANEL: DEVELOPING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS & SERVICES IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

Join the National Organization for Victim Assistance and subject matter experts for a panel discussion on Developing Collaborative Partnerships & Services in Rural Communities.

Find more information or register [here](#). Date: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 1pm ET



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

OVW FISCAL YEAR 2022 GRANT SOLICITATIONS

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is accepting applications for several grant programs that may be of interest to Tribal victim service programs. Please visit the links below for more details about each solicitation.

- **Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking**
[Application Materials](#)
Deadline: Grants.gov - Thursday, April 14, 2022; JustGrants - Tuesday, April 19, 2022
- **Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program**
[Application Materials](#)
Deadline: Grants.gov - Tuesday, April 19, 2022; JustGrants - Thursday, April 21, 2022
- **Grants to Enhance Culturally Specific Services for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking**
[Application Materials](#)
Deadline: Grants.gov - Thursday, April 21, 2022; JustGrants - Wednesday, April 27, 2022
- **Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life**
[Application Materials](#)
Deadline: Grants.gov - Thursday, April 21, 2022; JustGrants - Tuesday, April 26, 2022
- **Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking**
[Application Materials](#)
Deadline: Grants.gov - Tuesday, April 26, 2022; JustGrants - Thursday, April 28, 2022
- **Sexual Assault Services Culturally Specific Program**
[Application Materials](#)
Deadlines: Grants.gov - Wednesday, April 27, 2022; JustGrants - Tuesday, May 3, 2022

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

OVC PROVIDES SEVERAL TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TTA) RESOURCES AT **NO COST** TO GRANTEES

Programmatic TTA providers offer training, resources, and information to build grantees' capacity to develop and implement grant-funded victim service projects. Services include help with strategic planning, community needs assessments, policies and procedures, eLearning and in-person training, and much more. Contact your assigned Programmatic TTA provider for more information.

**National Criminal Justice
Training Center of Fox Valley
Technical College (NCJTC)**
(855) 866-2582
info@ncjtc.org

**Unified Solutions Tribal
Community Development
Group, Inc.**
(877) 216-9914
contact@unified-solutions.org

Financial TTA builds grantees' capacity to administer federal grant funds by assisting with preparing budget modifications, creating financial policies and procedures, and answering general financial questions. Contact the OVC Tribal Financial Management Center (TFMC) for more information.

OVC TFMC
(703) 462-6900
tfmc@ovctfmc.org