

SEPTEMBER
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



Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Reservation • December 6-9, 2022

RESILIENCE • UNITY • EMPOWERMENT

Registration is now open for the 17th National Indian Nations Conference scheduled for December 6-9, 2022 at the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Reservation in Palm Springs, California.

Participation in this conference is **required for all CTAS and TVSSA grantee programs.**

The Indian Nations: Justice for Victims of Crime Conference (Indian Nations Conference) provides a unique forum for victim advocates, prosecutors, law enforcement officials, judicial personnel, social services personnel, health and mental health professionals, survivors, volunteers and others to share their successes, challenges, lessons learned, best practices, and visions for the future of crime victim services for AI/AN survivors and communities.

Please visit the [conference website](#) for more information.

Register [here](#).



Office for Victims of Crime
OVC

This e-bulletin was produced by Unified Solutions Tribal Community Development Group, Inc., and the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College under cooperative agreement numbers 2018-MU-GX-K063, 2018-VO-GX-K002, 2018-MU-GX-K064, and 2018-VO-GX-K001 awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, 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.

OVC TRIBAL GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Tribe: Cher Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria
Award: FY18 CTAS PA7, FY18 VSSA, FY19 TVSSA PA 2, FY21 TVSSA

What approach did your Program take to develop/enhance and implement services for victims?

We decided to model our services with a wraparound approach in mind. This was intentional because we found when clients get passed around to different providers, it was easy for them to slip between the cracks. Our clients can access advocacy, emergency aid, substance use disorder services, and behavior health services all at the same location. This model also saves on travel for clients. We are a rural county with most services centered in Eureka, which is about 23 miles from Trinidad.



L to R: Kay Leong (Administrative Assistant); Kayla Henry (Licensed Clinician); Melissa Norwood (ICWA Social Worker); Graciela Haas (Victim Services Coordinator); Angela Sundberg (Director of Social Services); Jeff Guido (Substance Use Disorder Counselor); Erica Logan (Victim Advocate)

What challenges did you overcome in developing your program?

Staffing was one of the first obstacles the project faced. Being in a rural area, the applicant pool is limited. The program had inconsistent staffing for the first two years. Then, when the Covid-19 pandemic started in March of 2020, it was difficult to hire anyone. Our Victim Service Coordinator position was vacant for about 9 months. Once that position was filled, it helped keep consistency in the program to then hire the rest of the staff. Most of our current staff have now been with the program for over a year, with the exception of one new position created and hired with in the last year.

What recommendations do you have for other Tribal Programs in the development of their programs?

Listen to what your community wants and needs and include as many stakeholders as possible in the planning process. Cultivating a team atmosphere with your staff will help make the program environment welcoming to your clients. Utilize the resources offered to you by OVC, especially when you are first trying to get your bearings.

If you have questions about the program, contact Victim Services Coordinator, Graciela Haas, at VSCoord@trinidadrancheria.com

Access the full interview [here](#).

OVC TRIBAL GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Tribe: The Tulalip Tribes
Award: FY19 CTAS TVSP



What approach did your Program take to develop/enhance and implement services for male victims?

There is a perception that our program only serves female victims, even though the Tribe has seen an increase in male crime victims seeking assistance. Using OVC funds, we hired an Outreach Coordinator to train other departments and to educate the community on male victimization.

We work in close partnership with law enforcement to connect victims to available resources. As a result of the findings from our Community Needs Assessment in 2022, our goal is to focus on increasing education about male victimization in all areas and include this topic in our October Domestic Violence Awareness Month events.

What challenges did you overcome in developing your program?

One of the barriers is that, due to a lack of male-specific outreach previously, many male victims are not familiar with our services, believe that our programs only serve female victims, or feel that nobody believes male victims of crime. By increasing our efforts to educate the community, we hope to change those perceptions to ensure that all victims feel welcome, heard, and believed.



The Tulalip Tribes Children's Advocacy Center staff.



What recommendations do you have for other Tribal Programs in the development of their programs?

For programs looking to increase service provision to male victims, we recommend hiring a male advocate. Men may feel more comfortable speaking with another man about their victimization. We also recommend designing specific outreach and education materials targeted towards male victims and their unique concerns and making those available at all outreach events.

If you have questions about the program, contact Lead Family Advocate, Kaely Wickham, MA, CA, at kwickham@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov.

TRAINING AND EVENTS



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE - HEALING IN ACTION

Join guests, Gretchen Schmelzer and Elsie Boudreau, for this community of practice on trauma and healing. Engage in a peer exchange with other tribal victim service providers on practical applications and the importance of creating a climate of physical, emotional, and relational safety.

Register [here](#). Date: Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 2pm ET



BEING AN EMOTIONALLY INTELLIGENT LEADER

This webinar will increase your knowledge about emotional intelligence (EI) and how EI can help you create a supportive and positive work culture. You will learn how EI can impact staff satisfaction and retention and how to utilize coaching strategies to improve staff performance.

Register [here](#). Date: Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 2pm ET

ADVOCACY FOR FIREARM AWARENESS AND RISK: IMPROVING THE VICTIM ADVOCATE RESPONSE: RATIONALE AND UNDERSTANDING LAWS (PART 1)

The Advocacy for Firearm Awareness and Risk training seeks to provide advocates with specific knowledge and tools to improve their comfort in and likelihood of speaking about firearms with their clients. This training will focus on identifying and building competencies, understanding why firearm discussions are a must, and becoming mindful of how the advocate's biases may be a barrier to a victim's safety.

Register [here](#). Date: Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 3pm ET



TALKING CIRCLE: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTIONS BETWEEN HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MISSING OR MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Join American Indian and Alaska Native panelists as they offer insight and answer participant questions on the possible intersection between MMIP and human trafficking, provide resources for addressing the MMIP crisis, and share actionable steps for involving the community.

Register [here](#). Date: Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 3pm ET

TRAINING AND EVENTS CONTINUED

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE (NOVA) VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

The NOVA Virtual Conference workshops are provided live and online. Participants will also enjoy opportunities to engage in virtual networking and self care. All workshops will be recorded and, for additional flexibility, attendees will have access to recordings for up to 90 days after the event. Topics include technology safety, victim advocate ethics, sexual violence prevention, increasing youth engagement in prevention, economic justice, and much more.

Learn more and Register [here](#). Dates: Monday Friday, September 19 23, 2022



HOW TRAUMA-INFORMED PROVIDERS IMPROVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM RESPONSE

Although prevalence estimates vary, there is consensus that high percentages of justice-involved women and men have experienced serious trauma throughout their lifetime. The reverberating effects of traumatic experiences can challenge a person's capacity for recovery and pose significant barriers to accessing services, often resulting in an increased risk of coming into contact with the criminal justice system. This 4-hour webinar will increase participant understanding of trauma, create awareness of the impact trauma has on behavior, and help professionals develop trauma-informed responses.

Register [here](#). Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 10am ET or Friday, September 23, 2022 at 11am ET



HOMICIDE SURVIVOR ADVOCACY

Gain foundational knowledge of community and system based advocate response to homicide crimes. During the webinar, you will learn about guiding principles to support a holistic support system between survivor, advocate, and law enforcement collaboration. In addition, we will discuss advocacy response to homicide crimes when law enforcement is not present after the incident.

Register [here](#). Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 1pm ET

EXPERT Q&A: EXPLORING THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF COLLABORATING ACROSS DISCIPLINES

For decades, collaboration across organizations and systems has been encouraged as an essential part of a community's effective response to serving crime victims. These collaborations, however, have not come without challenges and unintended consequences. From their wide range of substantive and practical experiences working with diverse teams, including LGBTQ+ communities and communities of color, our facilitators will share strategies to navigate the obstacles that come with building effective collaborative partnerships. This session is an opportunity for advocates and other allies to explore the creation of meaningful cross-system priorities and leveraging blended and braided funding to support effective collaboration while leading with a community-responsive approach.

Register [here](#). Dates: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 2pm ET

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

HUD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR INDIAN TRIBES AND ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES

The primary objective of the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program is the development of viable Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons of low and moderate incomes. See the ICDBG regulations at 24 CFR 1003.2, the full text of which is available at 24 CFR part 1003.

- a. Single Purpose Grants. Projects funded by the ICDBG program must principally benefit low and moderate income persons (24 CFR 1003.208). These are competitive grants and are the subject of this NOFO.
- b. Imminent Threat Grants. Projects funded with Imminent Threat grant funds are to address issues that have an immediate negative impact on public health or safety of tribal residents.

You do not have to apply for an Imminent Threat grant by the deadline established in this NOFO. These funds are awarded on a first come first serve basis until the amount set aside for this purpose is expended. The Imminent Threat request must be submitted to the Area Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) for your region in accordance with ONAP Program Guidance 2018 04, “Imminent Threat Grants” and the requirements in 24 CFR part 1003 subpart E.

Learn more [here](#).

Deadlines: Monday, October 24, 2022

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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

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.

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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