

Cross-Systems Resources to Support Healthy Generations

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Child welfare cases are emotional and difficult under any circumstance, but when substance abuse and domestic violence are involved, these cases become much more complex. Children who witness domestic violence are profoundly and negatively impacted by these experiences.

Substance use disorders and domestic violence are directly related to larger, systemic issues including poverty, physical and mental health disparities, and intergenerational trauma. Using trauma-informed practices engages family strengths and protective factors that are rooted in tribal culture. The goal is to help families stay together and have access to the best resources available to them while honoring their voices, beliefs, and values.

These resources are intended to help each community build upon their own unique strengths and identify their own sense of health and wellness for this and future generations. Utilizing prevention resources can help improve safety, permanency, and recovery outcomes for American Indian and Alaska Native children, families, and communities.

This collaborative process promotes a shared responsibility for outcomes and acknowledges that each community and family is unique.

[Strengthen Families, Prevent Violence](#) (Toolkit)

This adaptable public awareness campaign, designed specifically for Indian Country, provides tools communities can use to educate and engage families on how to promote resiliency and healing for children. The materials were collaboratively developed by: Futures Without Violence, Native Streams Institute, Defending Childhood Initiative staff from the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, and Nakota Designs.



[National Indigenous Women's Resource Center Advocacy Curriculum](#) (Toolkit)

The National Indigenous Women's Resource Center provides their advocacy curriculum and facilitator orientation at no cost online. This culturally-responsive curriculum was created to support tribal programs in their efforts to provide advocacy and safety for survivors within their communities.

[Healing of the Canoe & Culturally Grounded Life Skills for Youth](#) (Toolkit)

This free prevention-based curriculum covers many important issues, comparing the canoe journey to life's journey – making good decisions about alcohol, staying safe from suicide, depression, stereotyping – and was developed by the Suquamish Tribe, the Port Gamble S'Kallam Tribe, and the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute at the University of Washington.

[Indian Health Service Domestic Violence Prevention](#) (Webpage)

The Indian Health Service offers information and resources to support tribal communities in developing domestic violence prevention in programs, including toolkits, training opportunities, and media campaigns. The website includes a comprehensive list of models, trainings, and best practices to consider when developing a prevention program.

[Crossover Issues Relating to the Indian Child Welfare Act and Domestic Violence](#) (PDF)

This California-specific pamphlet provides useful ICWA-specific information and answers to common questions and concerns families may have regarding ICWA cases when domestic violence is present.

[Mending the Sacred Hoop](#) (Website)

This webpage includes a number of resources addressing domestic violence in Indian Country, including introductory manuals on domestic violence, sexual assault, and building a coordinated community response in Native communities. They also have a detailed curriculum for a men's battering program, Returning Men to Honor.

[Child Welfare Issues in Domestic Violence Cases: Addressing the Unique Needs of American Indian and Alaska Native Families](#) (Webinar Recording)

This 90-minute webinar explores foundational information of how domestic violence impacts children and how the system treats domestic violence victims while also addressing unique issues that can arise when American Indian and Alaska Native children are involved. The webinar addresses domestic violence from the view of a child welfare lens, the lasting impacts of trauma, and ICWA considerations.



[Northwest Tribal Substance Abuse Action Plan](#)

(PDF)

This five-year plan was developed by the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and shared as an example for tribes to use when considering substance abuse program planning. The document consists of a detailed planning process, defined need, capacity and readiness of partners, goals, and outlined strategies.

[Substance Use Resource for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities](#)

(Webpage)

The resources on this Administration for Children and Families' webpage are tailored to the unique needs and experiences of tribal communities. Resource categories include tribal substance use context and approaches; prevention and early identification; treatment types, locators, and approaches; and recovery and support for individuals and families.

[I Strengthen My Nation](#) (Toolkit)

Developed by We R Native, the *I Strengthen My Nation* campaign reminds young people that most Native teens do not use drugs and alcohol. Campaign materials can be ordered free-of-charge and include print resources, radio and video PSAs, posters, lanyards, shirts, and window clings.

[Real Tools: Responding to Multi-Abuse Trauma – A Toolkit to Help Advocates and Community Partners Better Serve People With Multiple Issues](#)

(PDF)

Developed by the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Real Tools includes a support group manual and training tools for advocates and other professionals working with survivors who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, substance use disorders, and other trauma.

