

Resources for Healthy Generations

**Substance Abuse, Child Welfare, and Domestic Violence
Targeted Resources for Tribal Child Welfare, November 2017**

The inter-connection of substance abuse, child welfare, and domestic violence are unhealthy inseparable partners. Working with substance abusing families in the child welfare arena is unfortunately most often intertwined with violence, both mentally and physically. This can be evident in neglectful behavior, verbal put downs, and the escalation to physical lashing out. Substance abuse is a powerful disease distorting reality and priorities. No parent chooses to have the disease of addiction or ever says they want to purposely hurt their children or their loved ones. *Historical trauma* combined with destructive patterns of behavior has created intergenerational grief and loss. Acknowledging that each community is unique, these resources are intended to build on each community's strengths of today and the past. These efforts are intended to help families develop a sense of what is healthy for now and for future generations.



Artist: Lorraine Brave

*Remember that your children are not your own,
but are lent to you by the Creator.*

- Mohawk

Strengthen Families, Prevent Violence

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.

Mending the Sacred Hoop

This organization has a number of manuals that address 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 men's battering program, *Returning Men to Honor*.

Responses to the Co-Occurrence of Child Maltreatment and Domestic Violence in Indian Country: Repairing the Harm and Protecting Children and Mothers

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute examined the issue of the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child maltreatment in Indian Country. Using a mixed method approach, this investigation sought to identify Native-specific promising practices and develop recommendations for further action in Indian Country.

The Honor of One is the Honor

This video features an amazing bright spot, the Alkali Lake Band. It is an inspiring story about how the tribal community went from an extremely high rate of alcohol abuse to almost alcohol-free.



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[Ending Violence So Children Can Thrive](#)

Throughout 2013-2014, North Dakota's Attorney General's Advisory Committee on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence, conducted Hearing and Listening Sessions to examine the violence epidemic and the effect of exposure on children. This Executive Summary of their findings and policy recommendations can be used to begin building a roadmap to preventing and lessening the impact of children's exposure to violence.

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

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.

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

This 2017 PowerPoint presentation by Victoria Sweet, JD, highlights the issues and challenges of domestic violence when viewed through a child welfare lens, the lasting impacts of historical/intergenerational trauma, and ICWA considerations.

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

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, etc – 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. Healing of the Canoe.

[Healthy Native Families: Preventing Violence At All Ages, 2nd Edition](#)

This 2013 bulletin provides data on domestic and sexual violence among Alaska Natives. It provides a comprehensive overview of life's stages, sharing the consequences of violence and people that are affected along the way. Alaska-specific responses to violence are included.

[Listen to the Grandmothers: Incorporating Tradition into Contemporary Response to Violence Against Native Women \(Video Guide\)](#)

Please be aware the content and stories in the videos may bring up strong thoughts and feelings for the viewing audience.

This guide was developed in 2008 by the Tribal Law and Policy Institute as a companion tool for tribal communities viewing the Listen to the Grandmothers video and highlights several programs that incorporate cultural traditions in their response to violence against Native women. By sharing lessons learned from elders, these resources aim to help tribal governments and communities build support systems grounded in cultural traditions.

[Perceptions of Methamphetamine Use in Three Western Tribal Communities: Implications for Child Abuse in Indian Country](#)

In 2007, The Tribal Law and Policy Institute asked members from three Western tribal communities to complete a survey designed to explore their perceptions of meth use in Indian Country. The resulting impacts this emerging epidemic has had on child maltreatment, permanency, and agency workloads were assessed.



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Domestic Violence Prevention and Tribal Child Welfare

This 2012 E-Resources List from the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute provides related links to websites, reports, guides and more!

Special Collections: International Advocacy to Help End Violence Against Native Women

The Indian Law Resource Center developed this 2016 guide with the intent of providing information and resources on how to use international advocacy in the work to end violence against Native women and girls.

Substance Abuse and Child Welfare in American Indian and Alaska Native Families

This handout from the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) highlights the struggle many parents in the child welfare system experience related to substance abuse, disparities in treatment, and disproportionate rates of removal.



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