



# 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Council Meeting

June 9-10,

# 2015

**Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault**

Crowne Plaza Hotel  
109 W International Airport Rd  
Anchorage, AK 99518

**Attend via Teleconference Line**

Call: 1-800-315-6338  
Enter Code: 23872





Quarterly Meeting: June 9-10, 2015  
 Location: Anchorage, AK  
 Teleconference Number: 800-315-6338 code 23872#

DRAFT AGENDA

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

- |          |                                                                             |                        |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 10:30 am | Call to Order-Roll Call, Agenda Review, Conflict Inquiry,<br>Chair Comments | Richard Irwin          |
| 10:45 am | Minute Review:<br>February 2015<br>Task Check-in                            | Richard Irwin          |
| 11:00 am | Executive Director Report<br>Financials                                     | Lauree Morton          |
| 11:30 am | ANDVSA Report                                                               | Network Representative |
| 11:45    | Meeting Locations<br>Kotzebue, Fairbanks, Kenai                             | Richard Irwin          |
| Noon     | Council Comments                                                            |                        |
| 12:30    | Lunch                                                                       |                        |
| 1:30 pm  | Public Comment                                                              |                        |
| 2:00     | Funding Discussion<br>Prevention                                            | Richard Irwin          |
|          | Will efforts be funded in FY2016?<br>Possible funding sources:              |                        |
|          | Training for Council members and staff                                      | \$10.0                 |
|          | On-site evaluations                                                         | 15.0                   |
|          | Batterer Intervention Programs                                              | 200.0                  |
|          | Emerging Programs                                                           | 200.0                  |
|          | Victim Services Grants Line                                                 | ?                      |
| 2:30 pm  | PEC Report: FY2016-2017 VS Grants                                           | Rachel Gernat          |
| 3:00     | Executive Session if Needed                                                 | Richard Irwin          |
| 3:45     | BREAK                                                                       |                        |



4:00 Adjust PEC recommendations Richard Irwin  
Fund VS agencies at PEC recommended levels  
1. Keep funding streams same as FY15  
2. Add-in one time VOCA dollars  
Reduce overall funding

5:30pm RECESS

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

10:00 am Crime Policy and Prevention Advisor Amanda Price

10:30 Council Comment Richard Irwin

11:00 BREAK

11:15 Public Comment

11:45 Services\*Training\*Officers\*Prosecutors (STOP) Plan  
Lauree Morton

12:15 pm LUNCH

1:30 Coordinated Prevention Plan Lauree Morton

2:00 Batterer Intervention Programs Lauree Morton

2:30 Legislation Lauree Morton

3:00pm Strategic Plan-review changes to date  
Approve final draft Richard Irwin

3:30 Preparation for FY2017 Budget Meetings Lauree Morton

3:30 ADJOURN

**COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT  
(CDVSA)**

**Quarterly Meeting  
DEC Building  
410 Willoughby Ave, Room 108  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
February 18 - 19, 2015**

**Committee Members Present**

Richard Irwin, Chair  
Ron Taylor  
Rick Svobodny  
Patty Owen  
Donna Erickson  
Susan Cushing  
Ree Sailers  
Rachel Gernat – telephonic

**Guests:**

Susan Christianson

**Staff**

Lauree Morton  
Angela Wells  
Heather Noe  
Stephen Bower

**Minutes Prepared by:** Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

*Wednesday, February 18, 2015*

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Richard Irwin, the chair, called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m., and roll call was taken.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

The following changes were made to the agenda:

*Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>*

2:40 p.m. Table strategic plan review

2:45 p.m. Add transition report

Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

2:15 p.m. Moved transition report to 2/18, replace with ANDVSA report

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST INQUIRY**

Richard Irwin reported that he has been consulting with the reentry programs and OCS, and he will make a declaration should a direct conflict arise.

### **CHAIR COMMENTS**

Richard Irwin congratulated Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Folger on their recent reappointments. Richard shared his thoughts about the session in Juneau. He reminded the Council members that they are leaders with the responsibility to lead well in the state. He quoted Colin Powell: "Leadership is solving problems. The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help, or concluded that you don't care. Either case is a failure of leadership." He encouraged the Council members not think as managers, but to think more specifically as leaders. Leaders change systems, not just manage within the system. He expressed his appreciation to the Council members for serving in their respective capacities.

### **MINUTES REVIEW**

Richard Irwin asked for an update regarding developing a Council brochure noted on page 2, paragraph 2 under chair's comments. Lauree Morton stated that there is social media training scheduled with Susan Christianson during the meeting, and a pamphlet would be available.

Richard Irwin asked for an update of the evaluation programs noted on page 3, paragraph 1. Lauree Morton stated that the pilot started the first week of February, and there will be an evaluation when it is completed. Instead of doing one session for 10 weeks, they are doing two sessions for five weeks, because people felt that it would fit better with the flow of shelter participants. The evaluation is going to be at mid-point of the sessions, the end of June. Laurie stated that the surveys were completed and have been sent out to Michigan to Dr. Graham-Bermann for review. The post surveys will also be sent to Dr. Graham-Bermann, and then in June, CDVSA will be reviewing all the information to make any adjustments necessary for the next session.

Susan Cushing asked for follow up regarding the complete onsite visit of AFS programs referenced on page 3, last paragraph. Lauree Morton stated that Stephen Bower just returned, and a report will be forthcoming.

Susan Cushing referenced page 4, and asked if the staff was going to send out a questionnaire to Council members regarding their representation on the board for the website. Lauree Morton said that is still on the to-do list, and could be available at some point in the meeting.

Susan Cushing referenced page 9, paragraph 2, the press release on the 4<sup>th</sup> R evaluation, and asked for an update. Lauree Morton reported that it has not happened yet, as there are ongoing discussions on how that's supposed to happen. Susan referenced page 9, paragraph 3, and asked for an update on the toolkit. Richard Irwin stated that it is in process.

Rick Svobodny, asked for an update regarding the BIP regulations referenced on page 3, paragraph 3. Lauree Morton stated that it has been tabled until May.

Rachel Gernat referenced page 17, and asked about the follow up based on recommendations made in executive session. Lauree Morton stated that the meeting did not occur. Rachel asked if there would be time to discuss that at this meeting, and Lauree Morton stated that it was not on the agenda.

Richard Irwin referenced page 19, paragraph 5 regarding Susan Cushing's addendum letter relating to conversations with the new administration's leadership, and he stated the conversations have not happened; however, it is his hope that they will have conversations around that with the Governor on Friday.

Rick Svobodny **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the November meeting as amended. The motion was **SECONDED** by Ron Taylor. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED. (8/0)**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Lauree Morton directed the Council members' attention to the financial report, which was included in the board packet, and gave an overview of the current status of funding sources. She reported that the expenditures are on target without areas of concern. She noted that most of the balance is in services, which relates to other state departments and contracts needing to bill CDVSA for services. Lauree Morton also reviewed the current status of the CDVSA federal grant expenditures for the period ending January 2015.

Lauree Morton led a review of the STOP update, which was included in the board packet. Lauree Morton stated that with regards to the Council's approved plan to consult with the 228 tribes relating to the Three-Year STOP Implementation Plan, they have been holding the consultations on a monthly basis. So far they have conducted three consultations, and of those three, they've had approximately 12 people participate out of the over 100 people that were invited. The next meeting is scheduled for March. In April CDVSA will open a public notice on the draft Three-Year STOP Implementation Plan to start the public comment period. CDVSA staff intends to incorporate changes to the plan based on the tribal consultations and public comment and have it available for the Council members at the May meeting.

Lauree Morton referenced the Kids Club and Mom's Empowerment Program (KCMEP) update contained in the board packet, and reported that they have programs that are

implementing the project, and programs that are not implementing at this time, but will be serving as control sites.

Sites serving as active sites:

- AWAIC, Anchorage
- SAFV, Sitka
- SPHH, Homer

Sites serving as control sites:

- IAC, Fairbanks
- WISH, Ketchikan

Lauree Morton directed the Council members' attention to the Victim Service Program reports, which were included in the board packet. She stated that there are very positive activities happening in the state. She encouraged the Council members to review the success stories to see the impact services are having on people's lives. She highlighted the following activities:

- AVV in Valdez reported that they've seen an increase in male victims, which reflects that the outreach is effective.
- AWARE in Juneau reported that Special Agent in Charge, Dierdre Fike, made a presentation honoring Swarupa Toth, AWARE's SART and Regional Legal Services Coordinator. They also reported that Saralyn Tabachnick was notified by the FBI that she would be awarded the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award for 2015.
- AWIC in Barrow, along with their partners, held their Light in the Window Campaign for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in November.
- BSWG in Nome highlighted their Talking Circles, which included Inupiaq Values, dealing with trauma, and addressing self-care.
- CFRC in Cordova highlighted their Believe It or Not I Care (BIONIC) Youth Group and the work they are doing. They also highlighted the SART progress being made in Cordova.
- IAC in Fairbanks highlighted their work with the Primary Prevention Partnership. They established 24 signed MOUs from community partner agencies to work on primary violence prevention.
- KWRCC in Kodiak highlighted their Paws for Peace dog walk where they partnered with the local animal shelter to bring awareness to the correlation of animal abuse and domestic violence.
- LSC in Kenai highlighted the Empowering Choice Housing Program (ECHP), and stated that they had five people that were able to get into housing through the ECHP.
- SAFE in Dillingham highlighted that they've changed their emergency shelter in King Salmon to a three-bedroom apartment.
- SAFV in Sitka highlighted that they are working on school-wide adoption of the social-emotional learning model, and their school district is working with SAFV to make that a reality.

- SPHH in Homer highlighted that the Green Dot Homer Violence Prevention Team was recognized by the city manager for activities during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- TWC in Bethel highlighted that they have 38 volunteers with over 303 hours of service.
- USAV in Unalaska highlighted that the day after a presentation at the high school, 23 students came to the USAV shelter for a tour and learned more about the services.

With regards to the emerging programs reports, this was the first time CDVSA has required them to submit reports, and there were mixed results as follows:

- HOPE in Craig is having difficulty with liability insurance and staff interactions. CDVSA staff will be working more closely with this program to provide technical assistance and support.
- UTWC, Upper Tanana made progress working with IAC in Fairbanks to look for ways to have better outreach into the villages surrounding them.
- WAVE in Petersburg is consistently out working in the community trying to find ways to get people involved. WAVE received a mini grant from CDVSA for the program to have trainers on sexual assault response travel to Petersburg to specifically work with healthcare providers to get them trained for forensic exams.

Lauree Morton reviewed the Batterer Intervention Program reports, which were included in the board packet. Lauree Morton stated that there is a growing trend that perpetrators believe they can take online batterer intervention courses through non state-approved programs and that it would equate to completing a face-to-face batterer intervention program, which is not accurate, because there are no approved online batterer intervention programs in the state of Alaska. Lauree Morton has spoken to the Office of the Public Defender regarding this, and has sent out notices to the court system administration and the public defenders listing the approved programs for FY15. They are also working with the Department of Corrections (DOC) to ensure consistent information is being disseminated with regards to approved courses.

Lauree Morton called the Council members' attention to the BIP Outcome Statistics from October 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, which was included in the board packet, for a review of the statistics for that period of time. She commented that the numbers don't add up, because there are people coming into the programs all the time.

Lauree Morton reviewed the Prison Based Batterer Intervention Program (PBP) reports, which were included in the board packet. Lauree stated that AFS received additional funding this quarter from CDVSA to have an additional program at Goose Creek, and that program is up and running. Lauree reported and that AWARE has added a fourth group for men transitioning to the community from Lemon Creek Correctional Center. Lauree called the members' attention to the PBP statistics for the second quarter for their review.

Lauree Morton directed the Council members' attention to the Outcome Measures Progress report, which was included in the board packet, and noted that one of the things that she's going to be talking to the Network about is asking them to start thinking about ways to improve the rate of responses for surveys that are done, because it is reported that there were 2,370 people in programs, but there were only 680 surveys completed, which is not a very accurate picture of the help that is being given and received by programs. Susan Cushing asked what the 2,370 consisted of, and Lauree Morton stated that it represents a culmination of the number of participants that were in shelters, the number of participants received non-resident support and advocacy, the number of people that received counseling, and people in the non-residential support groups for all programs that quarter.

After the discussion regarding the program reports, Council members had the following questions/comments:

**Q: Dillingham lost funding from BBNA, was that before the mini grant from CDVSA was offered?**

A: About the same time, possibly just before.

**Q: Is there any indication why HOPE's board has had so much turnover?**

A: There are some indications. When Freda Westman goes and meets with the group, it will become clearer, and CDVSA may recommend specific guidelines to help them in their process.

**Q: With regards to the Upper Tanana Wellness Court, when they were funded through the grant, did it include monies for the rural outreach, because it looks like under their challenges they indicate that they are still hoping to hire someone and are looking for additional grants to fund a position? Is that an additional position or one CDVSA already funded?**

A: An additional position.

**Q: Are AFS and other community partners working with the Mat-Su Health Foundation and the Collective Impact Initiative?**

A: They have a presence at the table and report on their respective programs. Lauree Morton will ask programs how AFS's community readiness survey fits into that larger area.

Susan Cushing commented that it is interesting that even with all the staff and board turnover presently at HOPE, they were able to raise \$24,000 at their fundraiser, which is to be commended. Susan commented that it was interesting that USAFV services are down, and she'd like to view that as a good thing, but would like to keep an eye on that because it may indicate services not being used.

Richard Irwin noted that he appreciates where the program reports talk about the positive activities happening. He suggested that in the future they ask them to report on their community engagement activities and possibly report numbers for comparisons over time. Lauree Morton stated that they could ask for that information in July when they renew the contracts, but asked Council members to keep in mind that it isn't

generally lack of effort by programs to promote community engagement when looking at that type of information.

Lauree Morton reported the news that Diane Lanuza will be leaving at the end of the month to take an Administrative Officer II position in Health and Social Services. Lauree Morton expressed her appreciation for the work that Diane has done in her position at CDVSA, and stated that she will be missed. They will be looking for someone to fill that position.

Lauree Morton introduced Heather Noe, the new office assistant, who has been doing a great job. Lauree stated that they are very fortunate to have her on staff.

Lauree Morton reported that Ann Roche is going to be a recipient of the Visionary Voice Award for the National Sexual Violence Resource Center in April, and will be recognized nationally during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Lauree Morton commented that it is very well deserved as she is just phenomenal at what she does, and that it's nice to see that recognition being given to her.

Lauree Morton reported that the victim services RFP is out, and the Council members will be going over to the Baranof to meet with the Network as part of the pre-proposal teleconference. Lauree directed the members' attention to the proposal application and the different handouts and attachments that go with it for their information.

Lauree Morton reported that with regards to the mini grants, they have submitted a federal application to renew Safe Haven's grant in Fairbanks with IAC. Lauree noted that one of the comments that came out of one of the tribal consultations was an inquiry about working with the Council on applying for a rural grant or a joint project. Lauree stated that that is something they will work on this summer and will update the Council at the fall meeting.

Lauree Morton reported the Governor's office Choose Respect Initiative Annual report to the legislature was released, and it takes the legislators through some of the elements of the Choose Respect Initiative and the activities during calendar year 2014. Lauree Morton reviewed the handout, which was available to the board members. The report lists the 170 communities that participated in the Choose Respect March, and it has an attachment of the 2010 Alaska Victimization Survey results, and includes the 2015 dashboard.

### **FY16-17 RFP PRE-PROPOSAL TELECONFERENCE**

Lauree Morton introduced the CDVSA council members at the ANDVSA pre-proposal teleconference meeting held at the Baranof.

Stephen Bower, the CDVSA program coordinator, led the meeting with a review of the RFP for the Community Based Victim Services Grant Program.

Stephen Bower highlighted some of the changes in the current RFP as follows:

- Reclassified technical requirements.
- Change in the way the Proposal Evaluation Committee (PEC) is going to work; if the Council doesn't have adequate information, they can ask the proposer for that clarification.
- Compressed grant assurances to eliminate duplicity.
- Added strategies to improve staff retention.

Stephen Bower reviewed the following areas in the RFP:

- **General information:**
  - Statement of purpose.
  - Granting authority.
  - Funding Council interests.
  - Eligibility.
  - Incurring costs.
  - Notice of intent.
  - Inquiries, those answered within the RFP and those that are not.
  - Regulations.
  - Proposal deadlines.
  - Copies required, one original and six copies.
  - Period of performance, two-year solicitation, FY16 and FY17.
  - Acceptance of application content.
  - Proposal review process.
- **Funding allocation criteria:**
  - The grantee's demonstration that a need for services exists;
  - The grantee's demonstration of its ability to meet service and program obligations;
  - Whether sufficient funds have been appropriated by the legislature and approved by the Governor; and
  - The ability of the grantee and the Council to agree on any adjustments in the payment for service.
  - Other factors may include demographics, overall accessibility to other communities, sustainability of the program, the availability of other services in the region, and other funding source restrictions, requirements and compliance with the Council reporting requirements.
- **Notification of award process:**
  - Notification of Grant Award to grantees whose application is approved contingent upon necessary revisions to be negotiated and availability of funds; or
  - Notification of Disapproval if the Council disapproves the applicant's application.
- **Grant payment schedule**, generally issue advances on a quarterly basis.
- **Appeals procedure**, applicants who wish to appeal have 15 days after receipt of the administrative action or decision to submit a written request for a hearing.
- **Funding source information**, describes the variety of funding sources for programs including:
  - State general funds
  - Family Violence Prevention funds (FVPSA)

- Victims of Crime Act funds (VOCA)
- **Required match**, minimum required match of 15% of total amount of funding requested.
- **Service provision as follows:**
  - Crisis management and intervention services.
  - Prevention strategies and community education/coordination efforts.
- **Solicitation timeline**

○ Issuance of RFP	January 26, 2015
○ Pre-proposal teleconference	February 18, 2015
○ Deadline for Notice of Intent	February 24, 2015
○ Deadline for inquiry	March 9, 2015
○ Proposed postmark deadline	March 24, 2015
○ Proposed hand-delivered deadline	March 24, 2015
○ Proposed PEC meeting	April 23, 2015
○ Council meeting	May 13-14, 2015
○ Application notification	May 15, 2015
○ Appeal deadline	June 1, 2015
○ Project begins	July 1, 2015

Stephen Bower led the group through a review of the submission requirements for completing the application and the instructions for the completion of the application. He highlighted the following requirements:

- Proposal format, typed, 12-point, Times New Roman font and other details.
- Proposal binding/cover, six complete copies, one marked original.
- Application face sheet can be downloaded at [www.dps.state.ak.us/cdvsa](http://www.dps.state.ak.us/cdvsa) and must have a DUNS number and be registered at [www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1](http://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1).
- Table of contents is required. Number all pages and refer to them in table of contents, and keep pages single-sided.

Stephen Bower reviewed the scoring sections as follows:

- Abstract (10 points), provides a summary of proposed project.
- Crisis management and intervention (30 points), list and describe services.
- Prevention and education coordination (25 points), a prevention, education, and coordination plan.
- Improve staff retention (5 points), planning and implementation.
- Volunteer program required (not scored).
- Past performance for continuing programs only (15 points).
- Agency management for new applicants only (15 points).
- Budget, (15 points), budget summary and budget details.

Stephen Bower reported that new applicants are required to submit new applicant information which includes:

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ● MOA with existing VSPs    | ● By-laws                   |
| ● Articles of Incorporation | ● Organizational flow chart |

- Letters of support
- Determination of non-profit status if applicable
- Board member information
- Resume and job description of executive director/project coordinator
- Community coordination, description of efforts

A member of the Network commented that they were surprised that the grant application could not be submitted electronically. Stephen Bower stated that there are legal requirements related to electronic submissions, and the Council has a non-secure communication system. He noted that there could also be problems with the transmission of data resulting in incomplete submission of data.

There was a concern with the weight in points given to prevention strategies. Network members commented that if programs were flat funded, they are mandated to concentrate efforts on core services, and unfortunately, prevention strategies would suffer in that effort. Lauree Morton responded that the Council is open to looking at the points and thinking through ways in which to count the points depending on whether it's actually a service. The Council may come out with a clarification on a way to count points that recognizes the fact that not every program is going to do everything.

Stephen Bower encouraged people to contact him via e-mail with any questions or concerns they have regarding the RFP. He stated that if accommodations need to be made to attend meetings, to please contact him with adequate time to make such arrangements.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING**

Richard Irwin introduced Susan Christianson, who facilitated a media relations workshop for Council members. Susan Christianson outlined media relation techniques to practice as follows:

- Bridging, bringing the conversation back to the direction of your main point.
- Flagging, re-emphasizing the most important point you are trying to communicate.
- Hooking, explaining that you are about to discuss a complex issue with various parts.

Susan Christianson highlighted the following excerpts from "*The Media Training Bible: 101 Things you Absolutely, Positively Need to Know Before Your Next Interview*" by Brad Phillips regarding the basic guidelines for working with the media as follows:

- Know your message points. What are you trying to communicate?
- Prepare for the interview. Do your homework and prepare your answers.
- Rehearse. Practice what you want to say.
- Dress appropriately. Know in advance the nature of the interview.
- Maintain eye contact.
- Stay on message.
- Pause and think before answering. Don't rush to answer a question.

- Understanding social media, know the basics of using digital tools and social networks for communicating with the public.
- Understand what NOT to say: revealing proprietary information, making racists or obscene observations, or being overly self-promotional.
- Be helpful. Share information that will be useful.
- Keep it short. Keep responses short and simple to get your message across.

Susan Christianson reviewed an excerpt regarding the eight questions to ask before every interview as follows:

- Who are you?
- Can you tell me about the story you're working on?
- Are you approaching this story from any particular perspective?
- Who else are you interviewing?
- What is the format?
- What do you need from me?
- Who will be doing the interview?
- When are you publishing or airing the story?

Susan Christianson highlighted another excerpt regarding directing your communication to your audience as follows:

- Visualize a member of your audience.
- Base your interview on the audience's level of knowledge.
- Don't call reporters by name.

Susan Christianson also reviewed excerpts regarding telephone and television interviews, and ten ways to create memorable sound bites.

Susan Christianson and Laurie Morton prepared questions and answers for Council members to practice clarifying their message for media purposes.

### **TRANSITION REPORT**

Lauree Morton directed the Council members' attention to the Transition Report that was prepared to be submitted to the Governor's office shortly after the new administration came into service to give them a general overview of the different projects that CDVSA funds, the different activities, and the ongoing prevention efforts.

Lauree Morton stated that with regards to victim services, the report outlines each of the programs they fund. Included in the victim services program reports are summaries of each of the programs service area, how many staff they have, the number of volunteers, and a recount of the services they provide. Lauree Morton reviewed each of the programs with the Council members. She also reviewed the information regarding projects related to victim services, including the Kids Club Mom's Empowerment Program, Safe Haven's Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Program, and Sheppard's Care Forums.

Lauree Morton reviewed the BIP community-based programs, when they started service, and an overview of funding. Lauree Morton reviewed the prison-based programs at Goose Creek, Fairbanks Correctional Facility, and Lemon Creek. The Council members had a brief discussion on Medicaid funded batterer services and how Medicaid reform and expansion could affect BIP programs.

Lauree Morton reviewed the summary of federal projects including the sexual assault services, the grants to encourage arrest, the STOP program, and the Sexual Assault Response Team training. Laurie also reviewed the grant award list and their funding levels for 2014/15. Also included in the report was the research and data collection of the victimization survey, the database and the information that is gathered for the batterers' intervention database and information on the dashboard.

Lauree Morton reported that with regards to prevention activities, the report summarized the various engagement efforts as follows:

- **Male engagement:**
  - Alaska Men Choose Respect
  - Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM)
  - COMPASS
- **Youth engagement:**
  - 4<sup>th</sup> R
  - Girls on the Run (GOTR)
- **Youth engagement strategies for prevention:**
  - LEAD ON!
  - STAND UP SPEAK UP
  - When I Am an Elder
- **Parent engagement:**
  - Talk Now Talk Often
- **Community engagement:**
  - Community Based Primary Prevention Program Grants
  - Green Dot
  - Prevention Summit
  - Rural Community Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Program Grants
- **Statewide Planning:**
  - Pathways Planning Committee
- **Media strategies:**
  - CDVSA public service announcements

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Richard Irwin opened the floor for council comments. Ree Sailors asked about the CDVSA budget presentation to the legislature. Lauree Morton stated that they plan to present a broad overview of the FY15 budget and FY16 budget, and then run comparisons through the presentation. The information has been broken down into general blocks of projects starting with prevention, since that's where the reduction is

being proposed, and giving information regarding the broad reach that prevention has in the different communities, and then different projects, looking at the actual dollar amounts, and then highlighting some of the programs. They will then move into victim services following the same format, and then moving into BIP programs separating out legal advocacy. And then they plan to go into STOP, because it's a separate funding stream, and then review the capital projects.

Council members had a brief discussion relating to the funding of the capital projects through the Permanent Fund Criminal Fund.

Susan Cushing commented regarding Erin's Law. She understood there was some pushback from school district superintendents, and sensing the momentum of Erin's Law in the legislature, she was wondering with the mandatory reporting that teachers are required to do, if CDVSA could tag onto that the Erin's Law module and dovetail that funding to show assistance and direct the way. Lauree Morton stated that there is an electronic module in place on child abuse reporting that the Network, the Council, and the Department of Education developed, so there already is that available online.

**RECESS**

The Council meeting recessed at 4:07 p.m.

**COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT  
(CDVSA)**

**Quarterly Meeting  
DEC Building  
410 Willoughby Ave, Room 108  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
February 18 - 19, 2015**

**Committee Members Present**

Richard Irwin, Chair  
Ron Taylor  
Rick Svobodny  
Commissioner Folger  
Patty Owen  
Donna Erickson  
Susan Cushing  
Rachel Gernat – telephonic

**Guests:**

Susie Frenzel  
Nikole Nelson  
Peggy Brown  
Suki Miller

**Staff**

Lauree Morton  
Angie Wells

**Minutes Prepared by:** Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

*Thursday, February 19, 2015*  
**CALL TO ORDER – 9:32 a.m.**  
**ROLL CALL**

**Prosecutors & Victim Notice Everyday (VINE)**

Richard Irwin introduced Susie Frenzel, the Victim Witness Program Coordinator at the Alaska Department of Law, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Victim Information & Notification Everyday project (VINE). She described VINEWatch as a system that notifies victims and witnesses of all court hearings. She described VINELink as a service that is operated by the Department of Corrections to alert victims of changes in custody status of offenders. It's an open portal, which means it can be accessed by the public. A person would register online or call a toll-free number and be able to receive an inmate's current location and release dates.

Susie Frenzel explained that VineWatch is the second component within VINE. VineWatch is linked to the Alaska Court System and managed by the Department of Law. The varieties of court notifications that can be sent out include arraignments, bail and evidentiary hearings, all the way through trial and sentencing. Crime victims, witnesses, law enforcement, crime labs, expert witnesses, and victim advocates can be registered in VINEWatch.

Susie Frenzel stated that it is the Department of Law's obligation to notify victims of all the court proceedings, and this was done previously by the paralegals, and it was a manual process. With VINEWatch, the data is transmitted through the Alaska Court System, and it provides data four times a day. The data includes court case numbers, defendant's name, date, time, and hearing type, court hearing location, and hearing status for criminal cases, not including juvenile cases. Susie described VINEWatch as a closed portal, and it can only be initiated by a victim, witness, or a paralegal located in the DA's office. The registration is only done with the victim's permission, and a PIN is assigned. The notifications are available in six languages, and it only provides notice of court hearings.

Susie Frenzel reviewed what the system looks like by presenting pages from a false case so Council members could see inside the portal. She also showed an example of the e-mail notification the program sends to the registered party.

Susie Frenzel reported that they went live November 24, 2014, and currently they've had over 875 people registered in the system.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS/RECESS**

Before the Council members recessed, Richard Irwin opened the floor for comments. There was a brief discussion clarifying portions of the RFP process, and the points awarded for prevention.

Richard Irwin recommended scheduling an annual meeting with the Network.

With regards to dates of future meetings of the Council, Lauree Morton recommended a meeting to address funding requests in June or July and a meeting in August to finalize decisions, and then a fall meeting and a spring meeting. After a brief discussion, the Council members agreed upon the following tentative dates:

- July 22 – 23, 2015, Anchorage
- August 19, 2015, Anchorage
- October 7 – 8, 2015, TBA
- February 24 – 25, 2016, Juneau
- May 11 – 12, 2016, TBA

The Council members recessed to attend the CDVSA House Finance Subcommittee meeting at the Capitol.

### **National Guard Update: Sexual Assault Response**

Commissioner Hummel was unable to attend the meeting to update the Council with regards to the National Guard's sexual assault response.

### **Alaska Legal Services Update**

Richard Irwin introduced Nikole Nelson from Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC), who joined the meeting to update the Council members on the activities of ALSC. She distributed a handout that included a brochure and an overview of Alaska Legal Services Corporation.

Nikole Nelson described ALSC as a non-profit law firm that provides free legal assistance to low-income Alaskans statewide. They have 11 offices that serve 169 communities. They have been providing free legal aid to Alaskans in need for 45 years. One of the largest areas that they focus on is representing victims of domestic violence with their civil and legal needs, and that represents about 30 percent of their caseload statewide. They address needs that include stabilizing families and trying to get the resources they need to end the violence in their lives, which includes maintaining their housing; getting custody orders, orders of protection, and sometimes getting medical care; and making sure children are involved in school and get the counseling they need. She described the firm as comprehensive and holistic in serving low-income Alaskans. Each year they serve about 500 victims of domestic violence and their families, which amounts to about 1,500 total Alaskans, which makes ALSC the largest provider of civil/legal aid services to victims of domestic violence in the state. ALSC works hand in hand with the Network's pro bono program, and also shelters, to make sure that they are meeting the huge need for legal aid.

Nikole Nelson reported that one of the challenges is the volume of Alaskans in need of legal services far exceeds the ability to provide the services. For every one family that they are able to assist, they turn one away, not because their cases lack merit, not because they don't have critical legal needs, but because there simply is not the resources to assist them, which is particularly heartbreaking, because they know they can make a difference, because legal aid is a proven intervention that works for victims of domestic violence in ending the cycle of domestic violence. Nikole noted that in 2012, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority commissioned a study of the work that ALSC does on an annual basis, and it found that for every dollar invested in the program, ALSC returns \$5 to the state through drawing down federal benefits: Medicaid, Social Security, and veteran's benefits. ALSC saves \$2.6 million in costs avoided to state and local communities through their representation of victims of domestic violence,

and another \$600,000 in preventing homelessness, which translates to a \$17.8 million economic benefit to the State of Alaska. The study also found that for every \$100,000 that's invested in the program, they can serve another 182 families. Nikole noted that other savings associated with the study is that ALSC services help to make sure that the court system works more efficiently, and also the social benefits of ending domestic violence.

Nikole Nelson stated that ALSC is very under-funded. Nikole described Senate Bill 49, amending the Civil Legal Services Fund, which has been introduced by Senator McGuire. SB 49 seeks to take 25 percent of the court system's filing fees and would allow those funds to be allocated by the legislature and appropriated into the Civil Legal Services Fund, which then could be appropriated to providers of civil/legal aid. Nikole noted that because the bill would require an appropriation both into the fund and out of the fund each year at the legislature's discretion, it's a zero-budget bill. Nikole asked the Council for their support of SB 49 and opened the floor to questions from the Council members. Council members had the following questions/comments:

**Q: Where are the appropriated funds generated from?**

A: The general funds.

**Q: How did ALSC start, who started it?**

A: It started as a project out of the War on Poverty. RurALCAP was the organization that birthed ALSC in 1967. As a spinoff of RurALCAP, they have had a series of executive directors, and have had VISTA volunteers, AmeriCorps attorneys, and have grown over the last 45 years. ALSC attorneys are paid far below the market rate, and so the fact that ALSC can recruit attorneys speaks to the mission and work that they are doing.

**Q: What is the staff at ALSC?**

A: Currently they have 30 attorneys and staff of 45 overall that includes administration, office managers, and paralegals.

**Q: How do you prioritize cases?**

A: In each of the 11 offices, the priorities are set by the local community each year, and they use a triage list to screen cases.

**Q: Where are your offices located?**

A: Bethel, Dillingham, Palmer, Kenai, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Nome, Kotzebue, Barrow, Juneau, and Ketchikan. In each rural office, there is some measure of support from local partnerships.

**Q: How does ALSC differ from other states?**

A: Alaska is unique in that they have one statewide legal aid program. Most states have many more. They are also unique in their mission to locate offices in rural Alaska and provide rural service delivery.

**Q: How much coordination goes between the Network legal office and ALSC?**

A: ALSC works hand in hand with the Network's pro bono program in a variety of ways.

**Q: Has the Network's pro bono legal services changed the way ALSC works?**

A: Essentially it has not changed ALSC, but it has brought in more resources to serve victims of domestic violence, which means that ALSC isn't the only law firm assisting that population.

Donna Erickson commented that she appreciates the work ALSC does. She shared a story that as a safe home representative in a rural village, she had a repeat client, and through the BSWG in Nome, she learned about ALSC, who eventually saved her client's life by moving her out of the situation she was in to a different village where she had relatives. Donna remarked that if ALSC had not stepped in, she thinks it would have had a bad ending.

### **Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA)**

Richard Irwin introduced Peggy Brown, the executive director of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA), who joined the Council meeting to give the members an update on the activities the Network is involved in.

Peggy Brown reported that members of the Network were invited to dine with the Governor. Some program directors know the Governor, and the others are looking forward to meeting him.

Peggy Brown reported that they have been watching the legislative hearings and have been very sympathetic with the department budget cuts. The Network is particularly attentive to not only their own budget within CDVSA, but Public Safety and Corrections and other partners of the Network, as those are people in the field doing the work. Many of the programs are concerned with the changes occurring at local jails and electronic monitoring, although the Network hasn't taken a position on issues without knowing the results of the budget cuts.

Peggy Brown reported that funding is foremost on the minds of the Network. They have seven programs that are being funded through housing assistance. The ECHP program, the money that goes to private landlords, legal services program, and prevention funding all seems to be in jeopardy, which causes grave concerns for the Network.

Peggy Brown reported that the bright spot in all of the activities concerns the deferred maintenance project, the capital funds they received last year. Foraker Group sent their consultants out to all of the shelter programs, and there were reports that some programs needed brand new shelters. Unfortunately, no new construction was one of the parameters of the funding. The report will be prioritized with regards to health, life, and safety-related issues being priority. The Network has encouraged the programs to look for other funding sources for smaller maintenance issues through funders like Rasmusen's Tier 1 Grant, Wells Fargo Foundation, Mat-Su Health Foundation, and an additional foundation based in Pennsylvania, the Weinberg Foundation, which is interested in participating in Alaska. There have also been discussions about how to perform general maintenance, because a lot of the shelter programs don't have people

that are helping them maintain the shelters. Susan Cushing asked Peggy Brown, with regards to deferred maintenance, which shelters needed the most help. Peggy Brown stated that the two shelters that were recommended to be replaced were Emmonak and Bering Sea Women's Group.

Peggy Brown reported that the legal services pro bono program has been in place since 1999. Peggy stated that they have a new attorney, and she is someone who ALSC is helping to get a waiver for so she can practice in Alaska. Peggy noted that the pro bono program has been very busy.

Peggy Brown reported that the Network is still involved in doing a lot of prevention work. They have had an increase of people accessing their online course through the University. Peggy stated that the course is now open to anyone interested in the training, and they have seen not only member programs accessing it, but behavioral health providers, tribal providers, OCS staff, child custody investigators, and guardians ad litem.

Peggy Brown reported that the Network is very supportive of Erin's Law, and they are looking to see how to have sexual abuse prevention in the schools and looking for ways the Network can help school districts support it, even as an unfunded mandate. Rick Svobodny asked what the cost to implement Erin's Law would be. Peggy Brown indicated that is unknown at this point, but Senator Gardner's aides are working on making those projections. Rick Svobodny recommended that the Council suggest to the Commissioner that completion of required training could be a part of teacher's certification or recertification.

Peggy Brown reported that members of the Network are meeting with their legislators and talking about funding. Peggy commented that everybody knows that there's going to be budget cuts, and Network members have said that if there are major cuts, probably the first thing to go is prevention, while at the same time they are trying to think of ways they can still do it with no money.

### **Council Comments/Assignments**

Susan Cushing noted that the Alaska Legal Services was seeking support from the Council for SB 49, and she wondered exactly what type of support. Lauree Morton stated that in the past, Council staff has talked to people about it and answered some technical questions, so basically that level of support.

Susan Cushing commented that with regards to Erin's Law, the teachers end up taking care of the children they identify having problems at home, and then through networking and word of mouth, the people in the community eventually keep an eye on those kids. Susan noted that teachers may be hesitant to support a more stringent enforcement of mandatory reporting if the district superintendents are pushing back because of lack of funding. Lauree Morton commented that the NEA is supportive of Erin's Law, and the NEA testified last year and submitted written testimony.

Lauree Morton asked for two Council members who would be willing to serve on the Proposal Evaluation Committee. The PEC will be meeting in April to look at all the regular victim service grant applications and batterer intervention program applications and score them to be able to provide a list of funding recommendations to the full Council in May. Rachel Gernat and Donna Erickson volunteered, and Patty Owen volunteered to be on the list as a backup.

Rachel Gernat stated that she was able to log on and watch most of the CDVSA presentation to the House Finance Subcommittee and commended Lauree Morton for being so well spoken in answering the myriad of questions. She commented that Lauree Morton is a wonderful advocate, and she was very proud to watch Laurie speaking in front of the subcommittee, bringing the message of what the CDVSA is doing while trying to tactfully argue as to why CDVSA should continue to be funded.

Lauree Morton commented that they will try to reschedule a meeting with Commissioner Hummel for a future meeting.

Lauree Morton reminded the Council members that the next meeting is scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Cordova, and the summer meeting is scheduled for July 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 in Anchorage. Susan Cushing advised the chair that she will not be attending the meeting in May.

### **Adjournment**

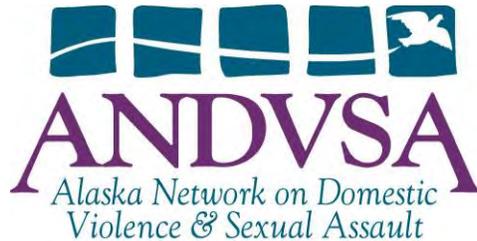
Richard Irwin adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

## INDEX OF ACRONYMS

AAVP	Anchorage Alliance for Violence Prevention
AFS	Family Services - Palmer
AHFC	Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
AJP	Alaska Justice Project
ANDVSA	Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
APD	Anchorage Police Department
AST	Alaska State Troopers
AVV	Advocates for Victims of Violence - Valdez
AWAIC	Abused Women's Aid in Crisis - Anchorage
AWARE	Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies - Juneau
AWIC	Arctic Women in Crisis - Barrow
BIP	Batterer Intervention Program
BSWG	Bering Sea Women's Group - Nome
CBIM	Coaching Boys Into Men
CDVSA	Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
CFRC	Cordova Family Resource Center - Cordova
CUBS	Childhood Understanding Behaviors Study
DBH	Division of Behavioral Health
DHSS	Department of Health & Human Services
DOC	Department of Corrections
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOL	Department of Law
FVPSA	Family Violence Prevention Services Act
GOTR	Girls on the Run
GTEA	Grants to Encourage Arrest
HOPE	Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies
HUD	Housing & Urban Development
IAC	Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living - Fairbanks
KWRCC	Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center - Kodiak
LSC	Lee Shore Center – Kenai
MFCC	Maniilaq Family Crisis Center - Kotzebue
MOA/MOU	Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding
OCS	Office of Children's Services
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OVW	Office of Violence Against Women
PRAMS	Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System
PREA	Prison Rape Elimination Act
PEC	Program Evaluation Committee
RFP	Request for proposals
SAFE	Safe and Fear Free Environment - Dillingham

SAFV	Sitkans Against Family Violence - Sitka
SAP	Sexual Assault Prevention
SART	Sexual Assault Response Training
SASP	Sexual Assault Services Program
SCS	Seaview Community Services - Seward
SPHH	South Peninsula Haven House - Homer
STAR	Standing Together Against Rape - Anchorage
STOP	Services Training Officers Prosecutors
SVSEP	Supervised Visitation Safe Exchange Program
TA	Technical assistance
TWC	Tundra Women's Coalition - Bethel
USAFV	Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence - Unalaska
VCCB	Violent Crimes Compensation Board
VJF	Victims for Justice – Anchorage
VOCA	Victims of Crime Act
WAVE	Working Against Violence for Everyone
WISH	Women in Safe Homes - Ketchikan
YRBS	Youth Risk Behavior Survey

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**Report from the ANDVSA  
May 2015**

The Sitka Office has a new Office Manager/Paralegal. Mindy Lowrance joins our team. Mindy formerly has worked as an office manager/paralegal for several different lawyers in Sitka, and was most recently a case worker at the Sitka Tribe Department of Social Services.

### **Overview of DV Deferred Maintenance Project**

In 2014, Rasmuson Foundation and the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault lobbied the legislature for a matching capital appropriation of \$2 Million to address deferred maintenance needs of shelter programs in Alaska. Rasmuson Foundation provided an additional \$2 Million. In the summer of 2014 a steering committee was formed and began discussions. The Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) became the fee agent and The Foraker Group and its various expert consultants became the agency to do condition surveys.

#### **Overall project budget:**

- \$2M State of Alaska
- \$2M Rasmuson Foundation
- \$25,000 Wells Fargo Foundation

Funding that has been confirmed (\$4,025,000) for 2 years

#### **Outline and Purpose for the Domestic Violence Condition Survey & Energy Audit**

1. Identify facility improvements that address health, security, safety and building integrity issues, facility wear and tear issues, energy efficiency measures and energy conservation measures, and overall presentation and usage by DV shelter clients.
2. Each shelter will have a condition survey to identify facility improvements by Foraker Group
3. The survey will be the primary instrument for prioritizing facility improvements of which there are three levels. In general, facility improvements will be provided to eligible organizations in a tiered approach as follows.
  - a. Programs who own their building, or who have a long-term lease of at least five years, and whose primary purpose is to provide shelter services to victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.
  - b. Programs who lease their building (less than a long term lease of five years) and whose primary purpose is to provide shelter services to victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.
  - c. Programs under an umbrella organization whose primary purpose is to provide shelter services to victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

#### **Description of the Pre-D assessment process with Foraker Group (FG):**

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#### Member Programs

Anchorage AWAIC, STAR Barrow AWIC Bethel TWC Cordova CFRC Dillingham SAFE Fairbanks IAC  
Homer SPHH Juneau AWARE Kenai LeeShore Center Ketchikan WISH Kodiak KWRCC  
Kotzebue MFCC Nome BSWG Seward SCS Sitka SAFV Unalaska USAFV Valdez AVV

FG visited the communities first and interviewed the ED and staff and then walked through the buildings to review codes and conditions. Then they made a list of the priorities found and sent them back to the ED, starting a discussion about the priorities.

**Prioritization and Cost determination:**

Top priority items include: life safety items; things that cause hardship to the ED in running the organization; things that increase the cost of running the organization (switches to LED light). Things in rural (western) Alaska will have to be run around summer annual barge schedules. Juneau). Anchorage, Fairbanks, Palmer and Valdez may not need to be combined.

All code and condition surveys have been done. Engaging contractors and beginning repairs in rural Alaska will begin summer of 2015.

**Policy and Legislation**

**State Legislative Update**

The Alaska State Legislature adjourned its first special session on May 27, 2015. The Governor immediately called the legislature back into session to address: passing a fully funded budget and introduced HB 1001/SB 1001 – which included prevention funding; Erin’s Law and HB 148 Medicaid Expansion. The legislature adjourned the first special session on May 21, 2015 without action on any of the above items.

On May 21, 2015, the Legislature immediately called itself back into special session, carrying over HB 44 – Alaska Safe Children’s Act and introduced companion bills HB 2001 and SB 2001 – operating budget. These companion versions of the operating budget adds back in all the Governor’s vetoes from HB 72 and mirrors the HB 72 spending amounts. No additional items requested by the Governor, including prevention funding. On May 27, 2015, a new committee substitute was offered in the House Finance Committee which restored some education funding and honored employee contracts. It will be necessary to achieve a ¾ vote to fully fund government for FY 16.

On May 26, 2015, the House Finance Committee introduced HB 2002, a bill that would take money out of the Permanent Fund Dividends (PFD) earnings account and sweep the money into the PFD principal, making it unavailable for appropriation. Since there will be insufficient available funds to balance the state budget, only a vote of a simple majority of both bodies of the legislature is needed to access the Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR) to withdraw savings to fund state government through FY 16.

If no additional funding is provided by the Legislature by June 30, 2016, the government will partially shut down on July 1, 2015 with hundreds of state employee layoffs. The Department of Public Safety has been fully funded throughout FY 16, so victim service program funding should not be affected.

**Alaska Safe Children’s Act**

HB 44 – the Alaska Safe Children’s Act passed the House during the end of the first regular session. It was added to the Governor’s Special Session Proclamation and received 3 hearings in the Senate Education Committee where no public testimony was taken. The Senate Education Committee substitute rolls three separate bills into HB 44 making it controversial. The bill is now in the Senate Finance Committee. The Senate Finance Committee has not scheduled any hearings on the bill as of the date of this writing.

## **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)**

On May 21st Governor Walker wrote a letter to the feds stating that Alaska would not be complying with PREA – this means DPS, DOC and DJJ will lose 5% of certain pots of funding (totaling \$90,000 all 3 departments).

There are a few issues regarding PREA and victim service agencies' ability to comply with numerous federal laws affecting mandatory reporting and confidentiality issues and how those issues intersect with the do's and don'ts of the Violence Against Women Act and FVPSA and PREA when a youth has been sexually assaulted or harassed in a DJJ facility. Programs have been informed that they may not be able to comply with all the different laws.

## **Federal Budget**

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) passed their FY 2016 bill out of subcommittee today with another significant increase for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) distribution and with increases to the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

- VOCA – \$2.7 billion (it was funded at \$2.3 billion in FY 15);
- VAWA – \$449 million total: including a \$1 million increases to STOP and GTEAP, \$5 million increase to SASP, \$2 million increase to Transitional housing, and \$4 million increase to Campus grants;
- Legal Assistance to Victims and Rural were level funded;
- The Appropriators included \$25 million in trafficking funds in the VAWA section but we think these funds will be managed by OJP not OVW.

## **What's next?**

This is the first step in a long process. The bill must now move to the full House Appropriations Committee and the House floor (where numbers could, but are unlikely to, change). The same process will happen in the Senate before they negotiate a final bill to be sent to the President. The Labor, Health and Human Services bill which funds FVPSA has not been addressed in either the House or the Senate yet.

## **Federal Regulation**

On April 1, 2015, HUD issued proposed regulations implementing several provisions of the VAWA 2013 housing protections. The ANDVSA joined in comments by national advocacy and housing groups calling for improved accountability by HUD of VAWA discrimination complaints and provided extensive comments on the new required Emergency Transfer Plans and certification forms. Stay tuned for a training on these new provisions later this summer.

## **Rape Survivor Child Custody Act**

The Rape Survivor Child Custody Act passed Congress as part of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. Significantly, the Rape Survivor Child Custody Act incentivizes states who pass legislation allowing for termination of parental rights to children conceived as a result of rape. The law allows the State to receive an increase in equal to not more than 10% of the average of the total amount of funding provided to the state under covered formula grants: VAWA STOP. The incentive can be provided for 2 years. State must have in place a law that allows the mother of any child that was conceived through rape to seek court-ordered termination of the parental rights of her rapist with regard to that child, which the court is authorized to grant upon clear and convincing evidence of rape. Alaska's current child-in-need-of-aid

parental termination statute may qualify for the incentive. The Act has an authorized appropriation of \$5 million but Congress still needs to decide whether to fund it.

The full House CJS appropriations committee has included \$5 million funding for the program. However, the federal budget still has a long way to go. Lisa will be travelling to D.C. next week and plans on discussing this with Senator Murkowski who is a senior member of the Senate CJS Subcommittee and Senate Appropriations committee.

### **New VOCA Legislation**

Advocacy groups have been working on new VOCA legislation that would increase the VOCA cap and add new substantive areas, such as allowing use of funds to serve incarcerated victims, allowing CAC's to use the funds for forensic exams and interviewing, lowering the match required and establishing a tribal set-aside. The legislation that was ultimately proposed, however, only proposes to raise the VOCA cap and does not include any of the changes. Advocacy groups while supportive of raising the VOCA cap and appropriating more funds, do not support the omission of the substantive changes.

### **New Proposed Court Rule**

The Alaska Court System has proposed a new court rule to make it more convenient for petitioners to file for protective orders. The court has found that sometimes, the court location nearest a petitioner's residence is not in the same judicial district as the petitioner's residence. For example, a person residing in Mentasta Lake (third judicial district) must file a petition for a protective order in Glennallen, even though Tok (fourth judicial district) is much closer to the petitioner's residence. If a hearing is needed, it will be held in Glenallen while the petitioner testifies telephonically from Tok. To make filing more convenient for petitioners, the court is proposing amend Civil Rule 3(h). The new language below is underlined.

(h) A petition or request for a protective order on domestic violence under AS 18.66 or a protective order on stalking or sexual assault under AS 18.65 may be filed in either the judicial district or the court location closest to

- (1) where the petitioner currently or temporarily resides;
- (2) where the respondent resides; or
- (3) where the domestic violence occurred

The new rule should take effect sometime in the next few months.

## **Legal Program**

From April 10th through May 15th, we had 35 new applications for services. We provided attorney assistance to clients in: Kodiak, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Wasilla, Palmer and Soldotna. There are 10 cases pending review, 13 clients were denied and 5 withdrew. The Information and Referral line ran twice and was staffed by volunteer attorneys and provided information and referral services to 8 victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

During this reporting period we closed out cases in Kodiak, Palmer, Anchorage and Sitka, receiving full custody for all clients and only visitation or supervised visitation to the opposing party.

Legal Program Director Christine Pate and paralegal Heidi Pace travelled to the Alaska Bar Convention in Fairbanks. We signed up several new volunteers. Christine was part of a panel called, "Worklife Balance and the Law." The annual Pro Bono Awards were given out and all were ANDVSA volunteers. The individual practice award was given to Gail Bailou who has helped on two real property cases for victims over the last year. The firm award went to the Law Firm of John Franich who has taken approximately 8 family law cases for victims of DV and SA over the last several years. Finally, the government attorney award was presented to the University of Alaska General Counsel Office, Michael O'Brien, who has taken numerous family law cases for us since 2006. Chief Justice Dana Fabe will presented the awards at the annual banquet on Thursday evening.

Christine Pate trained 8 advocates in Nome on mandatory reporting. She also trained 15 JAG officers at JBER on Civil Legal Providers and Protection Order Issues.

### Training, Conferences, Webinars and Technical Assistance

#### **Upcoming Webinars (In-State):**

**(Webinar dates can also be found on ANDVSA website calendar)**

Our monthly **Legal Advocacy Project webinar** and our **training project webinar series** are on summer break and will resume fall 2015!

#### **Upcoming Trainings (In State):**

**(Training dates can also be found on ANDVSA website calendar)**

Our next **online DV/SA Advocacy course** will be offered July 8-August 12; registration info and scholarship forms will be emailed out; deadline is July 7<sup>th</sup>. The course takes about 30 hours to complete and students go through it at their own pace. Scholarships are available for ANDVSA member and affiliate programs. This course is open to the public. For questions, please email Ariel at [aherman@andvsa.org](mailto:aherman@andvsa.org).

Since its beginning in October 2013, a total of **149 people have completed our online course**. These are students, advocates, members of the public, health educators, behavioral health, disabilities folks, safe home providers, and numerous others.

The Training Project had a busy travel month. In April, Ariel visited WISH in Ketchikan, SCS in Seward, LSC in Kenai, and SPHH in Homer. In May, Ariel visited TWC in Bethel and is heading to SAFE in Dillingham as well.

#### **Resources and Legal Materials**

We developed a **website for advocates** to share resources and ideas: Advocates' Basecamp! There are legal advocacy materials, as well as webinar recordings and other resources available on basecamp.

\*This month's Highlighted Resource on Advocates' Basecamp: **Immigrant Power and Control Wheel**, a wheel describing different forms of abuse that immigrant victims often face. It accompanies the recent ANDVSA webinar on legal remedies for immigrant victims. It's posted in the webinar section. Check it out!

We are in the process of printing the Women's Legal Rights Handbook and will ship the new version to you soon.

**Upcoming Webinars (National):**

(Webinar dates can also be found on the webinar page of ANDVSA's website)

Visit [http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd\\_upcomingtrainings.html](http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd_upcomingtrainings.html) for webinars and conferences listed up to a year in advance.

June 10 (webinar, 2:00 pm ET)

[Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, National Criminal Justice Training Center.](#)

June 10 (webinar, 1:00-3:00 pm ET; parts 3-5 are 8/12, 10/14 and 12/9)

[The Ethics of Digital Storytelling for Public Health \(part 2 of 5\), Center for Digital Storytelling.](#)

June 10 (webinar, 1:00-2:30 pm MT)

[Native Youth: Coaching Boys into Men, National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.](#)

June 10 (xCHANGE forum, 1:00-3:00 pm ET)

[Sexual Violence in lives of African American Women, National Sexual Violence Resource Center.](#) Go to [www.nsvrc.org/forum](http://www.nsvrc.org/forum) and log in during the scheduled live forum time to participate in the forum discussions.

June 11 (webinar, 1:00-2:30 pm PT)

[Locked Up, Not Forgotten: Serving Incarcerated Survivors, Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs.](#)

June 15

[World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, National Center on Elder Abuse.](#)

June 18 (webinar, 2:30 pm ET; parts 3-5 are 7/9, 8/13 and 9/24)

[Balancing Collaboration, Confidentiality and Privilege on Human Trafficking Cases \(part 2 of 5\), Office for Victims of Crime, Office on Violence Against Women, Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center, Family Violence Prevention and Services Program and State Justice Institute's Human Trafficking and the State Courts Collaborative. Register.](#)

June 18 (webinar, 9:30-11:00 am CT)

[Leveraging Prevention Resources to Fight Crimes Against Children, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Victim Services Division.](#)

June 18 (webinar, 1:00-2:15 pm ET)

[Safe & Together ~ Should Domestic Violence be Tracked to Differential Response, David Mandel & Associates, LLC.](#)

June 18 (webinar, 1:30-3:00 pm CT)

[Self-Care Techniques for Family Violence Advocates, Texas Council on Family Violence.](#)

June 24 (webinar, 1:00-2:30 pm MT)

[Fatherhood and Wellness for Native Men, Teens and Boys, National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.](#)

June 24 (webinar, 3:00-4:30 pm ET)

[Supporting Organizational Readiness to Address Children Exposed to Domestic Violence Office of Head](#)

[Start](#) and [Office of Child Care](#), in partnership with [Family and Youth Services Bureau](#) and [Family Violence Prevention and Services Program](#).

June 25 (webinar, 2:00 pm CT)

[What is Your Super Power? Creating Your Own Prevention Super Squad on Campus!](#), [PepTalkOK](#).

## Prevention and Public Awareness

### **COMPASS: A Guide for Men**

We recently held a community based COMPASS training in Unalaska where we trained 9 men and community partners and will continue to work with them as they begin to use COMPASS.

### **YOUTH AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT: Contact [cplesa@andvsa.org](mailto:cplesa@andvsa.org)**

#### **Stand Up Speak Up:**

Stand Up Speak Up Alaska has a new Facebook page! [www.facebook.com/standupspeakupak](http://www.facebook.com/standupspeakupak)

Stand Up Speak Up mini-grant projects are underway. For more information on youth-led projects happening across the state please email Claudia [cplesa@andvsa.org](mailto:cplesa@andvsa.org) or checkout [www.susuak.org](http://www.susuak.org)

#### **Parent Engagement:** Contact [kmoore@andvsa.org](mailto:kmoore@andvsa.org)

Talk Now Talk Often AK conversation cards continue to be very popular. We hosted two TNTO workshops at Mt. Edgecumbe High school and a public workshop at Sitka High School. The Mt. Edgecumbe workshops were for students and residential advisors. The Sitka High School workshop was open to students, parents and members of the community. The workshops provided an opportunity for participants to practice using the cards. In addition, we asked participants what other questions they would like to see on the cards. This will help us expand our questions and provide questions developed by Alaskan youth and adults. A workshop was held at the Primary Prevention Summit in Anchorage that promoted and practiced use of the conversation cards to a statewide audience.

#### **SCHOOL-BASED PREVENTION:** Contact Kami Moore, [kmoore@andvsa.org](mailto:kmoore@andvsa.org)

#### **Fourth R:**

A Master training was held on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> where 6 more people were trained as trainers in both the school based curriculum and the Healthy Relationships Plus small groups program. If you have questions about the program please email [kmoore@andvsa.org](mailto:kmoore@andvsa.org).

#### **Pathways Statewide Prevention:** Contact Kami Moore, [kmoore@andvsa.org](mailto:kmoore@andvsa.org)

The 2014 Pathways update is finalized and available online.

#### **Root Cause Sub-Committee**

The Barriers to Health and Safety Webinar Series is back. The webinars will be the ***Third Thursday of each month at noon***. This year the series looks more closely at the intersections of the root causes of violence and how that impacts the work that is happening in communities and organizations around the state to create equity. For more information about the webinars email [kmoore@andvsa.org](mailto:kmoore@andvsa.org)

To view past webinars in the series visit <http://www.andvsa.org/prevention-webinars/>

## Current and Comparative Analytics based on the Calendar Year

### **ANDVSA Website:**

**2015:** (January 1 to May 11, 2015) ANDVSA has received 14,069 sessions. Those sessions included 27,747 pageviews, with an average of 2.04 pages each by 10,752 users. In the same time period in 2014, there were only 6,919 sessions, so our views have shown a 103% increase.

**Mobile device usage for 2015:** Of the sessions 4,114 were viewed on mobile devices or 29.24% and 73.6% of new users. Comparatively in 2014 during the same time period only 948 sessions came from a mobile device or 13.7%. In 2015, there has been a 333% increase in mobile device usage on the website.

**2014:** ANDVSA received 22,222 total sessions, 57,284 pages were viewed (an average of 2.58 per session), by 15,399 different users (or same users on different devices). The average time on the website was 2 minutes and 58 seconds and 67.8% were new sessions. During this year, 3,519 total sessions were on a mobile device or 15.84% (76.53% of new users).

**2013:** Between May 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013 (only data available since new website launch was in May) the ANDVSA website had 9,636 sessions by 5,927 users who viewed 24,817 pages on average of 2 minutes and 29 seconds and 60.16% of sessions were new. During this time on 1,204 or 12.49% of the sessions were through a mobile device (phone, music device, tablet) 76.99% of new users.

**Facebook:** 667 followers. The post reach depends on the month/post/time.

**Pinterest:** ANDVSA has 12 boards, 123 pins, 14 followers and we follow 28 pages. This is a brand new social media outlet for us, we just began using it in March 2015. With a fast growing online community and a higher number of female than male users, it's a good way to reach a new audience.

### **Stand Up Speak Up – [www.standupspeakupalaska.org](http://www.standupspeakupalaska.org) and [www.susuak.org](http://www.susuak.org)**

**Website:** (January 1 to May 25, 2015) SUSU received 1,297 sessions. Those sessions included 2,498 pageviews. There were a total of 1,063 users.

In the same time period (January to May 25, 2014) in 2014, SUSU received 1,229 sessions, 2,,917 pageviews by 973 users.

**2014:** SUSU received 2,793 sessions of 6,638 pages by 2,135 users.

**Instagram:** 89 followers

**Facebook:** 716 followers

### **Alaska Men Choose Respect – [www.alaskamenchooserespect.org](http://www.alaskamenchooserespect.org)**

#### **Website:**

**2015-** There have been 1,526 sessions between January 1-May, 28, 2015. 1,226 users with 3,044 pageviews.

**2014:** There were 2,338 sessions by 1,936 users and 4,627 pageviews.

**Facebook:** 61

**Twitter:** 65

Managed by the prevention team.

**CDVSA SFY2016 Community-Based Victim Service Programs**

Program	SFY2015	SFY2016		
	Total Grant Award	Grant Request	In/Decrease Recommend	Recommended Grant Award
1 Alaska Family Services (AFS)	\$ 649,754.00	\$ 677,458.00	\$ (31,546.00)	\$ 618,208.00
2 Advocates for Victim of Violence (AVV)	\$ 358,521.00	\$ 364,827.00	\$ -	\$ 358,521.00
3 Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC)	\$ 1,513,285.00	\$ 1,689,797.00	\$ -	\$ 1,513,285.00
4 Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE)	\$ 886,255.00	\$ 1,173,521.00	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 909,255.00
5 Arctic Women in Crisis (AWIC)	\$ 442,055.00	\$ 470,431.00	\$ -	\$ 442,055.00
6 Bering Sea Women's Group (BSWG)	\$ 569,552.00	\$ 569,552.00	\$ -	\$ 569,552.00
7 Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC)	\$ 153,252.00	\$ 194,471.00	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 164,752.00
8 Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IAC)	\$ 1,085,772.00	\$ 1,218,730.00	\$ -	\$ 1,085,772.00
9 Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center (KWRCC)	\$ 416,214.00	\$ 459,963.00	\$ 31,700.00	\$ 447,914.00
10 The Lee Shore Center (LSC)	\$ 825,747.00	\$ 825,747.00	\$ -	\$ 825,747.00
11 Mat-Su Youth Housing	\$ -	\$ 164,000.00	\$ 96,005.00	\$ 96,005.00
12 Maniilaq Family Crisis Center (MFCC)	\$ 334,662.00	\$ 334,668.00	\$ (167,334.00)	\$ 167,328.00
13 Safe and Fear-Free Environment (SAFE)	\$ 684,252.00	\$ 703,252.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 703,252.00
14 Sitkans Against Family Violence (SAFV)	\$ 486,083.00	\$ 589,044.00	\$ -	\$ 486,083.00
15 Seaview Community Services (SCS)	\$ 100,834.00	\$ 177,303.00	\$ 17,675.00	\$ 118,509.00
16 South Peninsula Have House (SPHH)	\$ 406,316.00	\$ 461,121.00	\$ -	\$ 406,316.00
17 Standing Together Against Rape (STAR)	\$ 853,046.00	\$ 1,059,894.00	\$ -	\$ 853,046.00
18 Tundra Women's Coalition (TWC)	\$ 1,144,144.00	\$ 1,280,897.00	\$ -	\$ 1,144,144.00
19 Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (USAFV)	\$ 204,938.00	\$ 204,938.00	\$ -	\$ 204,938.00
20 Victims of Justice (VFJ)	\$ 87,136.00	\$ 100,000.00		\$ 87,136.00
21 Women in Safe Homes (WISH)	\$ 839,561.00	\$ 931,830.00	\$ -	\$ 839,561.00
	<b>\$12,041,379.00</b>	<b>\$13,651,444.00</b>		<b>\$12,041,379.00</b>

## Programs Hosting Quarterly Meetings

FY	Quarter	Date	Hosting Program	Shelter Tour	Location
16	4	5/11-12/15			
16	3	2/24-25/15			Juneau
16	2	10/7-8/15			
16	1	8/19/2015			Anchorage
16	1	7/22-23/15			Anchorage
15	4		CFRC	canceled	Cordova/ANC
15	3		NA	No	Juneau
15	2		SAFV	Yes	Sitka
15	1		VFJ	No	Anchorage
15	1		AWAIC	Yes	Anchorage
14	4		AVV	Yes	Valdez
14	3		MFCC	No	Juneau
14	2		SPHH	No	Homer
14	1		AWAIC	No	Anchorage
13	4		AWIC	Yes	Barrow
13	3		VFJ	No	Juneau
13	2		LSC	Yes	Kenai
13	1		WISH	Yes	Ketchikan
12	4		AFS	Yes	Palmer
12	3		SPHH	No	Juneau
12	2		IAC	Yes	Fairbanks
12	1		SAFE	No	Anchorage

Victim Service Programs that the Council has not yet visited:

Bering Sea Women's Group - Nome  
 Cordova Family Resource Center - Cordova  
 Kodiak Women's Resource - Kodiak  
 Maniilaq Family Crisis Center - Kotzebue  
 Safe and Fear-free Environment - Dillingham  
 Seaview Community Services - Seward  
 Tundra Women's Coalition - Bethel  
 Unalaskan's Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence



## Department of Public Safety

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE &  
SEXUAL ASSAULT  
Executive Director, Lauree Morton

450 Whittier Street  
PO Box 111200  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1200  
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Fax: 907.465.3627

June 1, 2015

### **Alaska's STOP Tribal Consultation Update to Council**

#### STOP Grant Overview

Alaska CDVSA has been a recipient of the **Services\*Training\*Officers\*Prosecutors (STOP)** formula grant from the US Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) since the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 1994 legislation. The formula is based on available funds and state population and is primarily for training for courts, law enforcement and prosecutors and for strengthening victim services. Alaska allocates 25% to Alaska State Troopers, 25% to Department of Law, 5% to the Alaska Court System and 30% to Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA), 15% CDVSA discretionary and 10% from each category goes to administration. These allocations fit the grant requirements.

#### 2013 Reauthorized STOP VAWA

The general program purpose of STOP formula funding is: "To assist States, State and local courts (including juvenile courts), Indian tribal governments, tribal courts, and units of local government to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat violent crimes against women, and to develop and strengthen victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women."

#### STOP Three-Year Implementation Plan FFY2014-FFY2016

Each state is required to submit and abide by a Three Year Implementation Plan (Plan) and states are required to include consultation and coordination with:

- state coalitions for domestic violence and for sexual assault (ANDVSA)
- law enforcement entities, prosecution offices, and State and local courts
- tribal governments
- representatives of underserved populations, including culturally specific populations, and
- other entities that the State or the Attorney General identifies as needed for planning,
- coordination with Sexual Assault Services Programs (SASP) and Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) grants, and requires documentation submitted with the plan that the consultation and coordination occurred and consisted of the required elements (was meaningful).

## Update on STOP Application and Plan

CDVSA held consultation meetings with a committee consisting of stakeholders, consortia of tribes and other tribal organizations representing all Alaska tribes, the LGBTQ community, a representative of an organization of persons with disabilities, the VOCA and FVPSA grants coordinators and submitted the Plan and the application by the March 2014 deadline. We heard back from OVW in mid-summer 2014 that our Plan was not approved because CDVSA had not consulted with all 228 federally recognized Alaska tribes. Council staff discussed with OVW what constitutes tribal consultation and submitted a tribal consultation plan to the Council in November 2014 and then submitted the consultation plan to OVW. On December 11 OVW accepted our tribal consultation plan.

## Tribal Consultation on the Plan

CDVSA used a contact list for the 228 tribes from Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs and divided it into five arbitrary groups approximately by region. Each group consists of about 45 tribes and we held five teleconferences, one for each group of tribes. We sent by email and US Mail to each tribe these documents: DRAFT Three Year Plan; STOP Solicitation; and the CDVSA work plan for tribal consultation.

Tribal teleconference consultations offered to Alaska's 228 tribes:

- December 18, 2014, Primarily Interior Tribes, 2 attendees
- January 15, 2015, Primarily Western Tribes, 10 attendees
- February 12, 2015, Primarily Northeastern Tribes, 3 attendees
- March 25, 2015, Primarily Southeastern Tribes, 3 attendees
- March 26, 2015, Primarily Aleutian Region, 2 attendees

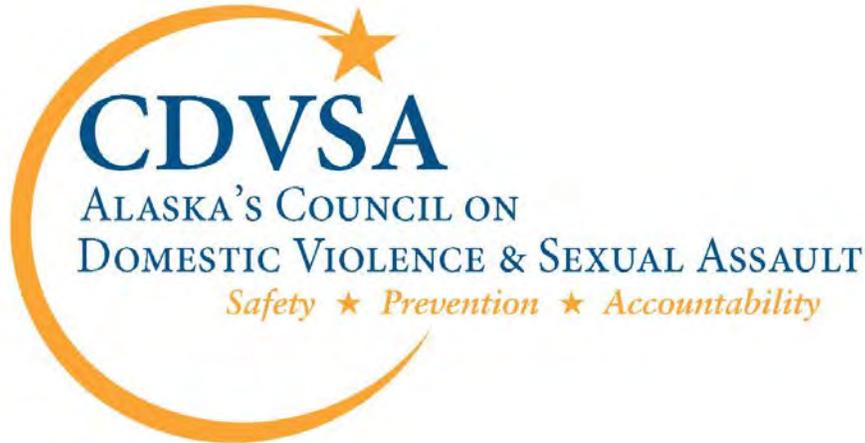
Some of the comments we received is that SART trainings covered a lot of ground and that it seemed like a good way to use the funding. Also, because the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault are so big and important to the tribes that they must pay attention and look for ways to address these issues. Overall feelings expressed on the teleconference were that the Plan as presented is good. Other comments were that Tribal Police Officers (TPO), Village Police Officers (VPO), and Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO) have a hard time accessing training for many different reasons and that these officers need to be included in training. (Currently, training is offered, but there is no one to cover for a weeklong training in a remote community.) Also, when there are trainings in regions on subjects of domestic violence and sexual assault it would be good to send invitations to tribal administrators and/or tribal councils. One comment was about desiring quarterly meetings of interested tribes so that there could be information sharing between tribes and with CDVSA.

CDVSA asked for written comments, phone calls or emails from tribes be sent by April 3, 2015. CDVSA received six letters by April 3.

For the month of April CDVSA held an open public comment period for the Draft Three-Year STOP Implementation Plan and received one written comment during the month of April during the open comment period and six letters in May and June.

Overall, the letters and other written comments are similar to each other, and state concerns over how the State of Alaska consults or does not consult with tribes. Some letters complained that the tribe did not receive a copy of the plan. Some letters described that they did not receive an invitation to participate in the calls. In the letter CDVSA sent that included the plan we requested that the person forward the correspondence and plan if there was someone who worked with issues of domestic violence and sexual assault at the tribe.

Staff incorporated changes to the Plan based on the tribal consultations for Council approval at the June 2015 meeting and will then submit the Plan to OVW for approval along with documentation of the tribal consultation.



State of Alaska  
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault  
PO Box 111200  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
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Services\*Training\*Officers\*Prosecutors

STOP Three Year Implementation Plan  
FFY2014-2016

Submitted to OVW on March 19, 2014, Revised June 1, 2015

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Attachments:

- A. List of STOP Plan Development Committee
- B. Documentation of Planning Committee Collaboration
- C. Subgrantees’ Letters of Need and of Consultation
- D. 2014 Alaska Dashboard
- E. 2013 Regional Alaska Victimization Surveys

## **I. Introduction**

Alaska is in an exciting period of time for those who work to increase safety and strengthen services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. In the fall of 2009 then Governor, Sean Parnell, announced a ten year initiative to end domestic violence and sexual assault. In 2014, Alaska had year fives of this initiative. Governor Parnell put the power of his office behind intervention work in the state and new prevention efforts.

The Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) has this mission statement:

Provide safety for Alaskans victimized or impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault through a system of statewide crisis intervention, perpetrator accountability and prevention services.

State departments, tribes, health care professionals, the faith community, businesses, advocates and local community members are coming together to jointly address Alaska's high rates of sexual and domestic violence. STOP funding will be a crucial component of the state's intervention efforts.

CDVSA is the STOP formula grant administering agency for Alaska and will allocate the funds according to the grant requirements. The Alaska STOP Three Year Implementation Plan was approved on February 26, 2014 by the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault at its regularly scheduled quarterly meeting and covers the time period of federal fiscal year (FFY) 2014 through FFY2016 and the Council will review the updates at the June 2015 meeting. This plan follows the Alaska STOP Three Year Implementation Plan planning committee recommendations to continue current efforts to enhance victim safety and hold perpetrators accountable for their actions. The limited funds available through STOP will be distributed to organizations situated to best provide statewide services. STOP requires these allocation categories: 25% to law enforcement, 25% to prosecution, 5% to courts, 15% discretionary, and 30% to victim services; up to 10% from each of the categories may be used for grant administration. Alaska allocates 25% to Alaska State Troopers, 25% to Department of Law, 5% to the Alaska Court System and 30% to Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA), 15% CDVSA discretionary and 10% from each category goes to administration. These organizations will train first responders throughout the state and implement projects to improve access to victim services as well as the criminal and civil justice systems.

Outcome measures were developed with the Governor's Initiative and the STOP plan supports implementation of consistent measures across disciplines. Alaska is using a dashboard. The 2014 Alaska Dashboard is a broad overview of population indicators on key issues impacting domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska. Though not required by the Office of Violence Against Women as part of STOP three year implementation plan, monitoring and evaluation of project activities are discussed.

The Alaska STOP Three Year Implementation Plan is organized following the Implementation Plan Checklist furnished by OVW with a few additional sections outlined with headings. Finally, concluding remarks end the plan asking us to see it as a guide that can be adapted according to the results we encounter as we continue the struggle to create safety for all Alaskans.

## **II. Description of Planning Process**

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (Council), housed in the Department of Public Safety, is Alaska's STOP funds administrating agency. The Council convened a planning committee and is responsible for the plan and its implementation. The Council invited representatives from statewide tribal and victim service organizations, state departments of Public Safety, Law, Health and Social Services Behavioral Health, the Alaska Court System, University of Alaska representatives from the Justice Center and the Center for Human Development's Disability Justice Initiative, a community-based victim advocacy program and members of the Council to participate as part of the committee.

The implementation planning committee met in December 2013 and in January 2014. At the January 2014 meeting the group split into groups to review allocations areas for the victim services, law enforcement, prosecution and judicial plan components and ideas from these three groups were reviewed and discussed by the full committee. The committee reviewed the reports and discussed issues relating to underserved populations and possible evaluation areas.

### *Description of how Alaska consulted with Alaska Tribes*

#### Tribal Consultation on the Plan

CDVSA used a contact list for the 228 tribes from Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs and divided it into five arbitrary groups approximately by region. Each group consisting of about 45 tribes were sent invitations to teleconference. We sent by email and US Mail these documents: DRAFT Three Year Plan; STOP Solicitation; and the CDVSA work plan for tribal consultation.

We held the same teleconference on five different dates for the five arbitrary groupings of tribes to ensure enough room on the teleconference for all. The teleconferences were held over the winter/spring of 2014/2015. CDVSA is incorporating the comments into this 3-Year STOP Implementation Plan that addresses Tribal Police Officers (TPO), Village Police Officers (VPO), and Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO) be included in statewide training offered for law enforcement and review how positions may be covered during training. (Currently, training is offered, but there is no one to cover for a weeklong training in a remote community.)

The 3 Year Implementation Plan now includes that when there are trainings in regions on subjects of domestic violence and sexual assault an invitation be sent to tribal administrators and/or tribal councils.

One comment was about desiring quarterly meetings of interested tribes so that there could be information sharing between tribes and with CDVSA.

*Description of how Alaska coordinated this plan with the FVPSA and VOCA program grants*

The STOP Three Year Implementation Plan will coordinate with FVPSA and with VOCA. The Council not only administers the Services\*Training\*Officers\*Prosecutors grant, but also FVPSA funds for the state and the Victims of Crime Act. The Council also funds several other Violence Against Women Act grants including the Grant to Encourage Arrest, Supervised Visitation Safe Exchange Program, the Sexual Assault Services Program as well as the Sexual Assault Prevention funds. The Network and other interested state and community based organizations participate in various levels in developing plans for each of these funds to ensure services are culturally appropriate and address the needs of the varied population of survivors.

The STOP, Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant administrators met in November 2013 to discuss coordination of grant activities with of the STOP Three Year Implementation Plan. Then in January 2014, the Council convened a statewide meeting, which included Council staff who administer the above noted federal grants, along with other state and community level stakeholders to coordinate planning and identify priority needs for victim services, prosecution, law enforcement and judicial offices as related to training and services for survivors of domestic violence, teen dating violence, and sexual assault and stalking. The five victim service objectives resulting from the meeting include:

- maintaining skills and increasing the knowledge of legal advocates and attorneys leading to increased victim safety and understanding of the needs of underserved populations;
- maintain a pro bono legal referral and mentoring project;
- provide civil legal advocacy and outreach to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking including traditionally underserved populations such as racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer and Intersexed (LGBTQI), and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected and outreach to Tribes and Tribal Members;
- evaluate barriers to women's participation within the legal system, women's knowledge and ability to exercise legal rights and options, and systems effectiveness; and,
- provide outreach to rural and bush communities with legal advocates.

These priority areas along with the Council's strategic plan developed by statewide committee in 2008 serves to guide the Council and their partners engaged in addressing family and sexual violence; align missions; identify underserved populations; inform culturally appropriate services and point to common goals and reinforce one another's work.

The committee reviewed previous STOP funded projects; identified what is working well and gaps in service; discussed possible evaluation steps; decided to develop a plan that continues funding current intervention efforts; and, agreed to prioritize access to services to underserved

populations including LGBTQI, Alaska Native people, people with disabilities, and people with language barriers and those in rural areas. The rough draft of the STOP Three Year Implementation Plan was drafted and submitted to implementation plan planning partners and the Council for review and input.

*Description of how Alaska meets the 10 percent set-aside for culturally specific organizations within the victim services allocation*

The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVS) is the recipient of the victim services allocation of the STOP formula grant funding and uses at least 10 percent of the allocation for culturally specific organizations. ANDVSA will work with culturally specific organizations within Alaska. ANDVSA legal staff will continue to provide training, support and coordination with underserved populations, culturally specific organizations, Alaska Native organizations including the STOP Violence Against Native Women grantees, FVPSA tribal grantees, the Alaska Native Justice Center, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and others. ANDVSA has funded advocates from various Alaska Native organizations within Alaska to consult, plan, attend and present at our annual statewide conferences.

*Planning activities throughout the life of the plan:*

Subgrantees will meet quarterly to discuss progress on implementing plan projects and program evaluation. At least annually, invitations will be extended to Alaska tribes to participate in the review of the Three-Year STOP Implementation Plan. Comments from the tribe review and the subgrantees will be taken to the Council for possible inclusion in plan revisions. The implementation plan planning partners will again be consulted for recommendations after the first year of the plan. The Council will review the plan annually, making adjustments when needed to ensure project completion.

### **III. Needs and Context**

*Geographical and Demographic Information*

The State of Alaska ranks as the largest state and encompasses 587,878 square miles of land. It is 1,400 miles long and 2,700 miles wide and is 16.1 percent of the US square mileage, with over 47,000 miles of coastline. The average temperatures for the city of Anchorage, home to 41 percent of Alaska's population, averages highs in the 20's Fahrenheit for four months of the year and in the 60s for three months. Less than 10 percent of the state has a road system. The state is divided into 16 boroughs, which are legal forms of government equivalent to counties in other states.

The 2010 US Census derived the Alaska Population Overview 2012 Estimates, which estimates Alaska's population to be 732,298, of which 48% are female and the median age is 34.1. Historically, Alaska's very small population at the turn of the century held steady at about 60,000 for 40 years. Alaska's population has increased in a few booms since then with only two years, 1986 to 1988, when it decreased. Alaska's population doubled from 1945 to 1953, from 103,000 to 200,100. It doubled again from 1953 to 1975 to 409,800. In 2012 it is at 732,298.

Alaskan cities with more than 10,000 people in 2012 included Anchorage (298,842), Juneau (32,832), and Fairbanks (32,070). These three cities are home to 49.7 percent of Alaska's population. 80 percent of Alaska's population lived in cities or places with populations of 2,500 or more in 2012. Alaska ranked 47<sup>th</sup> in the US, in population, in 2012. The states with fewer people were Wyoming (576,412); Vermont (626,011); the District of Columbia (632,323); and, North Dakota (699,628).

Over 368,346 rural Alaskans (20 percent of Alaska's 2012 total) are spread out in a few small towns and in numerous smaller communities and villages, many accessible only by small plane and boat and then only if weather permits such travel. If Anchorage is excluded, the rest of Alaska averages 0.8 people per square mile in contrast to 88.9 people per square mile for the US as a whole.

There are 228 federally recognized tribes in Alaska. Each tribe is a unique government with differing organizational structures, distinct customs, traditions, practices and values. 14.8 percent of Alaska's population identifies as Alaska Native (106,268) and just over 60 percent (65,028) of Alaska Native people live in rural areas. Another way in which Alaska is unique is that tribes in Alaska are not on reservations and tribes exist throughout Alaska and Alaska Native people may live in cities, towns, or villages, in other words, anywhere in Alaska.

In 2012, 67.5 percent of the population identified as White, 6.1 percent as Hispanic or Latino, 7.1 percent were persons reporting two or more races, 5.8 percent as Asian, 3.7 percent as African American, and 1.2 percent as Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.

The majority of people living in Alaska are migrants to the state; as of the 2010 Census, only 39.1 percent of Alaskans were born in Alaska, contrast that to 75 percent of residents of rural Alaska. Alaska's foreign born population increased 50 percent during the 1990s. Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 7.2 percent of Alaskans were foreign-born in 2012, up from 5.9 percent from the 2000 Census.

Taken from 2010 Alaska Population Estimates, in Anchorage the number of foreign-born residents is higher than 7.2 percent. One in eleven people was born outside of the United States and one in seven speaks a language other than English at home. As of 2005, there were 93 different languages spoken in the Anchorage School District. In Kodiak, an island community located approximately 250 miles south of Anchorage, the Department of Homeland Security estimates that 45 percent of the community's population is foreign born.

The Alaska Population Overview – 2012 Estimates say that according to IRS tax statistics show that Alaska has among the highest rates of migration turnover in the nation. Even when not counting seasonal workforce migration, at 14.5 percent, Alaska still has the second-highest rate of gross migration, (in-migration plus out-migration, divided by total population) in the nation for 2009 to 2010, the national average being 9.7 percent.

In 2012, Alaska had 259,858 households, a slight increase of 1.1 percent over 2011. Each of these households averaged approximately 2.71 people in 2012. 36.1 percent of households had one or more people under age 18, and 17.7 percent had one or more people age 65 or older. The

median age of Alaska's population in 2012 is 34.1 years; the national median is 37.4. The school age population of children ages 5 to 17 was 134,676 in 2012, or 18.4 percent of the total.

Alaska has 22,438 active duty military personnel in 2012, representing about 3.1 percent of the population. Additionally, the state had 36,565 military dependents, 4.9 percent of the state's total population. When these two percentages are combined, active duty military with dependents equal 8% of Alaska's total population. Active duty military personnel are primarily located in the areas of the state with military bases, the Municipality of Anchorage, 10,967; Fairbanks North Star Borough, 9,216; and Kodiak Island Borough, 974, though active duty military are located in other areas of the state as well.

### *Context*

The Council partnered with the University of Alaska Justice Center to conduct a statewide victimization survey during the spring of 2010. The survey was modeled after the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Surveillance System (lead by CDC). The survey was conducted by phone in May and June. Due to funding constraints, survey respondents were limited to English-speaking adult women residing in a household with at least one land or cell phone line. Sampling weights were used to control for selection, non-response and coverage. The survey measured the number of victims not the number of victimizations and did not measure all forms of intimate partner or sexual violence therefore the estimates are conservative.

2010 statewide results indicated that 58.6 percent of adult women in the State of Alaska experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both at some point in their lifetime. 47.6% experienced intimate partner violence and 37.1 percent experienced sexual violence. Additional results show that 31.0 percent experienced threats of physical violence, 44.8 percent experienced physical violence, 26.8 percent experienced at least one alcohol or drug involved sexual assault, and 25.6 percent experienced at least one forcible sexual assault. Almost 10 percent experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in the past year.

Further surveying following the same methods as the 2010 statewide survey were conducted by region. In 2011, women in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Bristol Bay were surveyed. In 2012 women in Kodiak, Sitka and the Yukon-Kuskokwim regions were surveyed. And, in 2013, women in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough were surveyed and the results indicate that 42.5 percent experienced intimate partner violence, 33.2 percent experienced sexual violence. In 2013, women in the Kenai Peninsula Borough were surveyed and key estimates are that 43 percent experienced intimate partner violence, and 30.1 percent experienced sexual violence. In the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in 2013, the victimization survey found that 45.5 percent experienced intimate partner violence and 33.7 percent experienced sexual violence.

### *Needs*

#### *Victim Services*

The victim services portion of STOP funds supports the legal advocacy and pro bono program within the statewide coalition, the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

(ANDVSA). Victims need assistance in navigating both the civil and criminal justice system as they seek safety and justice. Unless a person has prior personal experience with the court system, it is unlikely that someone who has been assaulted will know how to interact with the courts to best get their needs met whether they need a protective order or are going through the criminal justice process dealing with a sexual assault or stalking. The court system has a unique jargon and structure that is not easily understood, even differing between civil and criminal matters.

Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault as well as service providers continue to identify the need for legal advocacy and legal representation as a top priority for victim services in Alaska. In July 2007, the Alaska Judicial Council released a report which assessed the effectiveness of advocates for petitioners in the protective order process, collected data about the civil protective order petitions filed in Anchorage, and interviewed practitioners about procedures for making decisions in the protective order process. They recommended having more advocates available, for more hours. In all of the communities, when the advocate was on duty in the court house, stakeholders were pleased with her effectiveness. They believed that she helped petitioners file better organized petitions, and be better informed about what to expect from the process. Court staff were happy to have someone who could calm petitioners, and refer them to resources such as transportation. They were pleased that the advocate could take the time to explain the differences among the court processes such as custody orders, criminal prosecutions, and divorce/dissolution proceedings, and the civil DV process. A 2010 article in the Alaska Justice Forum documents the huge unmet legal needs in Alaska. Domestic violence and sexual assault advocates from Alaska's eighteen ANDVSA member programs continue to identify the need for legal representation in family law cases as a top priority for keeping victims safe within Alaska. Advocates and national studies have found that because direct legal services help survivors with practical matters such as child support, child custody, divorce, and protective orders, this presents real, long-term options to enhance victims safety.

In the "Court Innovations in Domestic Violence Cases, August 2005 Report" prepared by the Alaska Judicial Council, stakeholders were asked if having a legal advocate helped/hindered/or had no significant effect on petitioners in the domestic violence protective order process. Interviewees unanimously reported that the advocate had a positive effect on petitioners. Effects included the ability to help petitioners navigate the court system and proceedings, the ability of the advocate to provide information on self-care issues, the advocate having a calming effect on petitioners, empowering petitioners by giving them more information, providing crisis intervention and allowing petitioners to be more emotionally comfortable in courts.

In order to provide optimal legal advocacy, advocates require training to keep current on legal options available to victims; protective order petition processes; current federal and state statutes and state regulations addressing domestic violence and sexual assault; courtroom procedures and other systems interactions that might affect victims as they navigate through the civil or criminal justice systems. Due to staff turnover in domestic violence/sexual assault programs and the degree of difficulty in many cases, ongoing training and updated legal resource materials are critical to ensuring victims have access to the civil and criminal justice systems within Alaska. ANDVSA trains legal advocates and provides continuing legal education and mentoring to attorneys who will perform pro bono services for victims.

Federal and state funding cuts to Alaska Legal Services in the mid-1990s drastically reduced the availability of attorneys to provide representation to victims. To address this problem the ANDVSA formed a Pro Bono component to their services. In May of 1999, the project responded to the growing need for victims to have legal representation and formed the Pro Bono Program. Since STOP funding, more than 400 Alaska attorneys have volunteered with ANDVSA. Volunteer attorneys donate on average between 25-85 hours to each case, equaling millions of dollars in attorney time donated to the project. In FY 2013 alone, volunteers donated 1.2 million dollars in donated time to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault through the Pro Bono Program. ANDVSA also operates an Information and Referral Legal Hotline answering requests for legal information and assistance from victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The statewide toll free hotline is staffed by volunteer attorneys who provide brief legal assistance every other week. The hotline provides information and referral resources to approximately 6-8 domestic violence and sexual assault victims each month.

The intersection of domestic violence, limited English proficiency, immigration status, and unfamiliarity with the U.S. civil and criminal justice systems create lethal and complicated legal situations. In Alaska these issues are exacerbated by geographic isolation, the lack of qualified interpreters, and the lack of culturally and linguistically appropriate services. The Alaska Immigration Justice agency reports that the majority of immigrant domestic violence victims in Alaska who seek services are married to U.S. citizens who may as a victimization tactic, threaten deportation as a means of exerting enormous control over non-citizen partners and spouses and who may not comply with US immigration laws in order to control their spouse. After the first year of the 2014-2016 STOP 3 Year Implementation Plan, Alaska will use a portion of the discretionary allocation through a request for proposal process to provide comprehensive low-cost legal services to low-income immigrants and refugees to meet the immediate legal needs of immigrant victims.

### *Prosecution*

The prosecutor portion of STOP funds training and support for state and municipal prosecutors and paralegal/victim witness coordinators. The criminal division of the department of law is responsible for prosecuting all felony domestic violence, sexual assault and most misdemeanor domestic violence cases in Alaska. The criminal division has thirteen regional offices, some of which are staffed by only one attorney. During 2013, over 1,493 felony and 3,688 misdemeanor domestic violence cases, 285 felony sexual assaults and 636 violations of protective orders were referred for prosecution. Each year the criminal division experiences turnover in staff. New attorneys and paralegals are unlikely to have had any training regarding the impact of victimization, the rights of crime victims, and the specialized skills to prosecute domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking cases. Aggressive and consistent prosecution can make an important contribution to a community's efforts to ending domestic violence and sexual assault. Comprehensive training for both attorneys and paralegals is key to successfully handling such cases.

A paralegal/victim witness coordinator may be the only person in the regional office that notifies victims of their rights, assists them with court appearances and helps them understand

prosecutorial procedures. It can be an isolating job experience. A statewide victim witness program coordinator provides oversight of the victim witness services within the thirteen district attorney offices to ensure consistent treatment of victims throughout Alaska; ensure compliance with Alaska statutes requiring victim notification of all criminal proceedings and provide guidance to the paralegal/victim witness coordinators.

### *Law Enforcement*

The law enforcement portion of STOP funds training and materials for the Alaska State Troopers (AST), Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO), Municipal Law Enforcement Officers, and medical providers conducting sexual assault forensic exams. Among the most daunting challenges to law enforcement officers in investigating domestic violence and sexual assault crimes in rural Alaska are weather and distance. Less than 10% of the state has road services. Law enforcement in most rural areas is the primary responsibility of AST. For example, AST's "C" detachment, with only 56 authorized commissioned positions, covers all of western Alaska from Kotzebue to Kodiak, excluding those few communities served by municipal police departments. Troopers responding to domestic violence or sexual assault-related calls in rural Alaska are often unable to reach the scene for several hours or even days, depending on the distance, trooper post staffing, bad weather and lack of transportation resources. It is common for a trooper to respond to the scene by boat, snow machine or chartered aircraft. More often than not, the responding trooper's backup is over 100 miles away. As a result, the majority of cases in rural Alaska are investigated by a single law enforcement officer, which creates a significant need for crime scene investigation training.

The unique issues of policing in Alaska dictate the necessity for consistent and quality training specific to domestic violence, sex crimes and stalking. Difficulty in training law enforcement officers across the state is exacerbated by the geographical size of Alaska. There are over 50 municipal police departments in Alaska. Many of the rural municipal departments do not have the funding to send their officers to training outside of their communities as travel within the state is very costly. As a result, many of the smaller departments are unable to participate in training that is offered in the "urban" areas. Practically speaking, training for the majority of rural police departments does not occur without the support of STOP funding. Even when training conferences are offered in local jurisdictions, municipal departments absorb overtime costs and so are unable to commit many officers to training.

The Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) Program was designed to train and employ individuals residing in the village as "first responders" to public safety emergencies such as search and rescue, emergency medical services and law enforcement support. The VPSOs are instrumental in providing an immediate response to all emergencies. In domestic violence and sexual assault cases the initial complaint is often reported to either the VPSO or the Community Health Aide. VPSOs are an essential component to the overall success of the investigation and ensuring the safety of the victim. Currently, there are 121 funded VPSO positions, of which only 88 are filled. VPSOs benefit from first responder training specific to domestic violence and sexual assault.

As a result of Tribal Consultation, tribes will be informed of trainings being offered in their region and invitations extended to the law enforcement entities, including VPSOs, Village Police Officers (VPO) and Tribal Police Officers (TPO) in the region.

### *State Courts*

The Alaska Court System (ACS) is a unified court system. There are no local or municipal courts in Alaska. Thus, ACS judges hear all domestic violence protective orders requested under state law, all state and municipal prosecutions of domestic violence crimes, and all domestic relations matters (except some child custody matters involving tribal members may be handled by tribal courts). Many of the cases that come before the state court judges involve domestic violence, and the dynamics and unique issues presented by these cases continue to challenge the court system's ability to provide due process for those accused of domestic violence crimes while preserving the safety of victims. Statewide, 6,603 ex parte petitions and 6,098 long-term petitions were filed in 2013. Judicial training, use of qualified interpreters and an improved system of notifying law enforcement of bail conditions will strengthen the justice system's ability to handle these cases.

Education of judicial officers and employees is particularly challenging and expensive because of the state's geography. Many court locations are not accessible by road, making travel expensive, time-consuming and uncertain due to possible weather conditions. It is difficult to arrange coverage for the many rural judges who serve in single-judge locations. These realities make it difficult to deliver educational programs to judges and court employees. However, when judicial officers are provided training, the uniqueness of Alaska, and the needs of underserved and inadequately served victims will be included.

There is no funding for interpretation services in civil cases in Alaska, and petitioners often cannot afford to hire their own interpreters. Making language interpretation services available at no charge for protective order hearings encourages the use of qualified interpreters. Before STOP funding, few petitioners brought interpreters to protective order proceedings, and almost none brought qualified interpreters. Petitioners often brought bilingual friends or even witnesses to interpret for them. The use of unskilled interpreters sometimes resulted in miscommunications with judicial officers. This also gave rise to parties' lack of understanding of the proceedings and nature of the order. Some victims who could not find an interpreter declined to file petitions, resulting in lack of access to the justice system. The lack of qualified, neutral interpreters compromised the fairness and accuracy of protective order proceedings.

Except for the successful pilot information technology bail conditions of release (BCOR) project over 2011-2013, partially funded through ACS STOP funds, courts handwrite or type the BCOR on paper forms and distribute the orders to law enforcement and corrections agencies manually. There is no systematic entry of this information into any statewide information system maintained by the court system or by the Department of Public Safety. Because the information is not entered into the court system's case management system, it is unavailable to law enforcement agencies unless they call the local court or the booking office at the detention facility. Thus, law enforcement officers often are unaware of BCOR that apply to subjects they encounter. This weakens enforcement of the conditions of release orders and jeopardizes public and victim safety, especially for BCOR involving crimes of domestic violence and ACS is

committed to using technology to enhance the efficiency of its operations and is making the move beyond the pilot project to on-line BCOR as funding allows.

## **IV. Plan Priorities and Approaches**

### **A. Identified Goals**

#### *Description of Current Project Goals and Objectives*

##### *Victim Services*

The current victim service goal is to expand and maintain a sustainable network of legal advocates and attorneys providing increased victim safety and greater accountability of perpetrators. The ANDVSA will develop resources and provide training for legal advocates and attorneys statewide, in the areas of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking for all underserved populations including the traditionally underserved - racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, immigrants, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected

Five victim services objectives include

- 1) maintaining skills and increasing the knowledge of legal advocates and attorneys leading to increased victim safety and understanding of the needs of underserved populations;
- 2) maintain a pro bono referral and mentoring project;
- 3) provide civil legal advocacy and outreach to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking including traditionally underserved populations such as racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer and Intersexed (LGBTQI), and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected;
- 4) evaluate barriers to women's participation within the legal system, women's knowledge and ability to exercise legal rights and options, and systems effectiveness; and,
- 5) provide outreach to rural and bush communities with legal advocates.

##### *Prosecution*

The prosecution goals are to focus an emphasis on our previous plan goals and hone in to more effectively identify, hold those responsible accountable, and respond to violent crimes against women and underserved populations who are victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking including racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected. The Department of Law (DOL) criminal division will develop and provide training for prosecutors and victim/witness paralegals statewide, in the areas of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and to more effectively enable the department to address the needs of victims of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic

violence, and stalking the DOL criminal division will maintain the statewide victim witness program.

Four prosecution objectives include

- 1) sponsor three mandatory statewide two-day conferences to increase the knowledge and skills of approximately 100 prosecutors and 30 paralegals to effectively prosecute sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking cases and will include education on assisting underserved victims, including racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected,
- 2) send a minimum of fifteen prosecutors and nine paralegals to five-day Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) training courses held in different communities throughout Alaska;
- 3) send a minimum of nine prosecutors and six paralegals to specialized training conferences sponsored by the National District Attorneys' Association (NDAA) on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and,
- 4) annually fund a statewide victim witness program coordinator position to oversee the victim witness program.

#### *Law Enforcement*

The current law enforcement goals are to provide discipline-specific and multi-disciplinary training for law enforcement personnel and first responders across the state including VPSOs, VPOs, TPOs when trainings are offered in local region; to increase victim safety, to enhance the overall quality of evidence collection and crime scene documentation through use of technology; and to maintain coordinated training, outreach efforts and implementation of the law enforcement segment of Alaska's STOP plan.

Five law enforcement objectives include

- 1) law enforcement personnel will gain skills to better respond to and investigate crimes against women and to victims within underserved populations who are victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking including racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, immigrants, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected;
- 2) to increase victim safety and reduce domestic violence-related homicides by continuing to train officers on recognizing lethality indicators;
- 3) to provide sexual assault response multi-disciplinary training to first responders across the state including VPSOs, VPOs and TPOs, and explore ways to provide domestic violence training in a multi-disciplinary format;
- 4) to ensure trooper detachments and/or posts as well as municipal departments have adequate equipment; and,
- 5) to retain AST's STOP Program Coordinator

### *State Courts*

The current state court goals are to encourage use of qualified language interpreters in domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and civil sexual assault proceedings; provide education to court employees and judicial officers regarding the issues of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking and on the needs of victims including the traditionally underserved including racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, immigrants, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected; and use E-Bail Conditions of Release Pilot Project, and develop a plan to allow for video conferencing hearings and language interpreters.

Five state court objectives include

- 1) provide free language interpreter services for participants in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking restraining order proceedings and develop statewide policies and procedures for recruiting, training and using court language interpreters;
- 2) encourage efforts to recruit and adequately train bilingual people to provide court language interpretation services;
- 3) provide in-state and out-of-state training opportunities, self-study and reference materials to court employees and judicial officers on the issues of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking and the needs of victims including the traditionally underserved including racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, immigrants, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected;
- 4) support its ongoing pilot project at the Fairbanks court to offer current bail conditions of release in electronic format.
- 5) assess equipment needs and procedures and policies for the wider use of video instead of telephonic participation by parties and interpreters in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking restraining order proceedings.

### *Goals for 2014-2016*

The state intends to keep the goals from the previous three-year plan and add to the objectives to specifically address serving underserved populations and the requirement of the Reauthorized Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 2013.

Training is clearly emphasized in each purpose area of the plan. Generally, when people understand their roles and the responsibilities and limitations involved in responding to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking they are more confident in interacting with both victims and offenders. Hopefully, the process in which the victim participates becomes easier to navigate. STOP funds allow people new to the issues to get grounded in the basics of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking response in their respective fields--law enforcement, prosecution, advocacy and the judiciary. It also allows people who have been in the field awhile to hone their skills and enhance their expertise.

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) training includes Alaska's prohibition against charging victims of sexual assault for forensic medical exams and will include information to health care providers to notify sexual assault victims of the availability of rape exams at no cost to the victims. Alaska will ensure it incurs the full out-of-pocket expense for sexual assault forensic medical exams. At least 20% of Alaska's STOP funds go to sexual assault across at least two allocations, prosecution and law enforcement, for SART statewide training.

The plan intends to be inclusive of underserved populations and specifically highlights access for underserved populations including traditionally underserved such as racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, immigrants, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected

The goals and objectives for reducing domestic violence-related homicides within Alaska are included in goals and objectives in law enforcement.

*Specific tasks and activities necessary for accomplishing each goal and objective and time frames that identifies when activities will be accomplished*

#### *Victim Services*

**Goal One:** Expand and maintain a sustainable network of trained legal advocates and attorneys providing increased victim safety and greater accountability of perpetrators.

**Objective 1:** Throughout the three years of the plan, maintain the skills and increase the knowledge of legal advocates and attorneys about laws pertaining to domestic violence and sexual assault, legal options, and understanding the needs of underserved populations and the role of advocacy within the legal system.

**Activities:** Over the next three years, The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) will provide an annual Legal Advocacy conference. The annual training will include statewide coordination with law enforcement, prosecution and the courts to provide a statewide multi-disciplinary training including victim advocates and service providers knowledgeable of underserved populations.

Additional statewide trainings over the three years will include a combination of teleconference web-cast trainings and in-person trainings as funding allows.

ANDVSA will annually update legal resources as needed including the Legal Advocacy Curriculum, Women's Legal Rights Handbook, and brochures on Federal Domestic Violence Laws and Full Faith & Credit of Protective Orders.

**Objective 2:** To maintain a pro bono referral and mentoring project to ensure access to legal representation for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in divorce, child custody and protective order proceedings.

**Activities:** Over the next three years, ANDVSA will provide volunteer attorneys to represent victims of domestic violence/sexual assault in civil cases. Referrals to the ANDVSA pro bono program will come through the legal advocates in community based victim services programs.

The ANDVSA attorneys will screen applicants and recruit, train and mentor volunteer attorneys for these cases.

The ANDVSA will also network with legal advocates across the state and provide technical assistance.

The ANDVSA will provide annual continuing legal education training for volunteer attorneys during the next three years as funding allows.

**Objective 3:** To provide legal advocacy and outreach to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking including traditionally underserved populations such as racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members,; individuals experiencing disabilities; the elderly and teens, language minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI) victims, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected. This includes the provision of advocacy and legal resource materials in as many different languages as possible.

**Activities:** Over the next three years, ANDVSA will coordinate with the Alaska Institute for Justice (AIJ) statewide court interpreter center for the use of qualified, trained interpreters in working with limited English proficient victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The ANDVSA will make available to programs and others advocacy and legal resource materials in as many different languages as possible.

The ANDVSA will work closely with representatives from underserved populations including culturally specific organizations such as tribes and Alaska Native organizations to ensure that legal and support services are available to traditionally underserved populations within the state.

**Objective 4:** To evaluate barriers to women's participation within the legal system, women's knowledge and ability to exercise legal rights and options, and systems effectiveness.

**Activities:** Over the next three years, ANDVSA will continue to work to improve the response to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual assault within Alaska. This includes working with department of law, court system personnel, medical providers, family law attorneys, child protective service workers, and law enforcement on domestic violence and sexual assault protocols, court forms, gaps in the civil and criminal systems, and effectively implementing state and federal domestic violence/sexual assault laws.

**Objective 5:** To provide outreach to village, rural and bush communities with legal advocates.

**Activities:** Over the next three years, ANDVSA staff will travel to at least four villages, rural or bush communities within Alaska to conduct outreach and provide support services to domestic violence and sexual assault programs.

#### *Prosecution*

**Goal One:** The Department of Law (DOL) criminal division will develop and provide training for prosecutors and victim/witness paralegals statewide, in the areas of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and about the needs of victims in underserved populations to more effectively enable the department to address the needs of victims of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking

**Objective 1:** The criminal division will sponsor mandatory statewide two-day conferences to increase the knowledge and skills of approximately 100 prosecutors and 30 paralegals to effectively prosecute sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking cases and will include education on assisting underserved victims.

**Activities:** The criminal division will sponsor two days of training in Alaska for all department attorneys and paralegals each of the three years, focusing on strategies for the successful prosecution of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases. Local, state, and nationally renowned practitioners in these fields and those who are knowledgeable about specific underserved populations will be invited to present at the conferences. In addition, break out work sessions will be offered at each conference to discuss techniques and strategies specifically designed for the various levels of expertise among the staff. The criminal division will coordinate with victim advocacy, law enforcement and the courts to provide multi-disciplinary training for SARTs.

**Objective 2:** The criminal division will send a select number of prosecutors and paralegals to five-day, multi-disciplinary Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) training courses held in different communities throughout Alaska.

**Activities:** Prosecutors and paralegals will attend SART training annually for each of the three plan years. The SART training courses the staff will attend focus on a multi-disciplinary response to adolescent/adult sexual assault and the medical-forensic exam and will include training and will include information that Alaska will ensure it incurs the full out-of-pocket expense for sexual assault forensic medical exams and that health care providers notify sexual assault victims of the availability of rape exams at no cost to the victims.

**Objective 3:** The criminal division, depending on funding, will annually send a select number of prosecutors and paralegals to specialized training conferences on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking sponsored by the National District Attorneys' Association (NDAA).

**Activities:** The criminal division will send prosecutors and paralegals to recommended training and conferences that provide comprehensive and technical assistance to improve skills and

treatment of victims including victims who are in underserved populations of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking annually for each of the three plan years.

**Goal Two:** The DOL criminal division will maintain the statewide victim witness program.

**Objective 1:** Annually retain a statewide victim witness program coordinator position to oversee the victim witness program.

**Activities:** The victim witness coordinator will provide oversight of the victim witness services within the thirteen district attorney offices statewide to enable the department to more effectively address the needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and to ensure compliance with Alaska statutes requiring victim notification of all criminal proceedings.

### *Law Enforcement*

**Goal One:** To provide multi-disciplinary and discipline-specific training for law enforcement personnel and first responders across the state

**Objective 1:** Law enforcement personnel will gain skills to increase victim safety, and to better investigate crimes against women and underserved populations who are victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking including racial, cultural or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, immigrants, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not on the road system..

**Activities:**

Alaska State Troopers (AST) will coordinate with victim advocacy, prosecution and the courts to provide multi-disciplinary training.

Discipline-specific training will include academy level training and in-service training as well as advanced level training. Academy and in-service training will continue to focus on the fundamentals of domestic violence and sex crime investigations with a focus on principal physical aggressor assessments. Advanced level training will focus on crime scene documentation and interview and interrogation techniques. Secondary trauma, victim dynamics and cross-cultural communication, and the needs of victims who are members of underserved populations will also be addressed. AST will develop, coordinate and organize all training in consultation with other law enforcement agencies, DOL, victim advocacy and medical providers.

AST will continue to provide training to municipal police departments. Training may be provided as available to local 911 dispatch on request. Training will be available during all three years of the plan. Training will focus on issues and needs identified by the command staff of municipal departments. AST will continue to consult with local prosecutors and local domestic violence and sexual assault programs prior to providing training.

AST will continue to sponsor crime scene documentation training. The training will utilize experts within the department. Rural posts have been identified as the areas where the greatest need for training and technical support exists. In rural posts it is standard for one trooper to handle felony sex crimes and domestic violence investigations without any assistance from the Alaska Bureau of Investigation.

AST will focus a portion of the advanced level training on the interview and interrogation of suspects in both domestic violence and sex crime cases. In many instances, sex crime cases do not benefit from evidence collected in a SART exam, as the assault is often not reported immediately. In these cases, the suspect interview is one of the most important aspects of the investigation. Also, a large number of sex cases in Alaska involve victims who were incapacitated due to alcohol. In these cases, the defense is almost always a consent defense. Thus, the suspect interview becomes more important than DNA evidence. Training on interview and interrogation will focus on overcoming the consent defense as well as assessing for principal physical aggressor.

The first responder training will focus on Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO), Village Police Officers, Tribal Police Officers, Village Health Aides, and Behavioral Health Aides, and may include local 911 dispatchers when requested and when trainers are available. We will partner and coordinate with the local domestic violence and sexual assault programs and the local Alaska Native Health Corporations. Training will focus on the laws, roles of each of the disciplines, mandatory reporting, responding to trauma, historical trauma, responding to underserved populations, evidence preservation and safety planning. Trainers from the local community will be utilized, if they are available.

Academy level training will continue to focus on the requirements outlined in state statute with an emphasis on principal physical aggressor assessment. Domestic violence and sexual assault programs will continue to be offered the opportunity to provide referral information to recruits regarding the services available to victims and survivors and batterers. Program staff will continue to be offered the opportunity to assist training in domestic violence investigation scenarios. This includes participating in the evaluation/critique process.

To increase victim safety and reduce domestic violence-related homicides, academy level training will also continue to include training officers on recognizing lethality indicators.

**Objective 2:** To provide sexual assault response multi-disciplinary training to first responders across the state. AST will also begin exploring ways to provide domestic violence training in a multi-disciplinary format.

**Activities:** AST will partner with the Council, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (the Network), the University Of Alaska Anchorage School Of Nursing, DOL and the crime lab to provide training. AST will provide trainers and participate on the statewide planning committee. AST will begin reviewing ways to provide domestic violence training in a multi-disciplinary format.

The statewide planning committee will partner with local communities to provide a fixed schedule of trainings for the last week of March and first week of November. Locations will be based on community application, readiness and length of time from last training in that community and law enforcement needs.

The training covers the roles of the team members, evidence collection and documentation, anatomy and physiology, trauma responses to sexual victimization, drug facilitated sexual assault, strangulation, interviews, interrogations, expert witness testimony and cross-cultural issues and underserved populations including Alaska Native tribal members, and that Alaska will ensure it incurs the full out-of-pocket costs for forensic medical exams and will train that health care providers to notify victims of sexual assault of the availability of rape exams at no cost to the victims.

STOP funds will be used to cover the costs of the majority of the lead presenters including speakers' fees, airfare, hotel costs and meals. In addition, funding will also pay for specific supplies such as binders, tab inserts, and/or thumb drives, certificates and name tags.

**Goal Two:** To enhance the overall quality of evidence collection and crime scene documentation through use of technology.

**Objective 1:** To ensure trooper detachment and/or posts as well as municipal departments have adequate equipment.

**Activities:** Each year, AST will determine which trooper detachment and/or posts as well as municipal departments are in greatest need of equipment. In an effort to establish need, surveys will be sent to municipal departments. Training will be provided specific to all new equipment purchased.

**Goal Three:** To maintain coordinated training, outreach efforts and implementation of the law enforcement segment of Alaska's STOP 3 Year Implementation plan.

**Objective 1:** Retain AST's STOP Program Coordinator.

**Activities:** The AST Program Coordinator is responsible for the implementation of the law enforcement portion of the STOP Three Year Implementation Plan. The success of all of the law enforcement activities in this plan are the primary responsibility of the Program Coordinator.

In addition to the activities listed above, the AST Program Coordinator acts as the primary instructor for the Department of Public Safety specific to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking as well as conducts periodic assessments and research for AST. The Program Coordinator provides the majority of academy level and in-service training for the Department.

Eleven years ago, the AST Program Coordinator was made a full-time position with the Alaska State Troopers. STOP funds will be used to support 73% of the total costs of this position and the Alaska State Troopers will incur the remaining 27% of the total costs. This position is directly

accountable to the Director of the Alaska State Troopers. The AST Program Coordinator is an on-going position, which will require funding in future years. The level of funding for this position will increase incrementally each year as a result of merit increases as well as cost-of-living increases.

#### *State Courts*

**Goal One:** To encourage use of qualified language interpreters in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence or stalking civil legal proceedings.

Making language interpretation services available at no charge for protective order hearings encourages the use of qualified interpreters. The first objective is to continue to provide these services, using both telephonic and in-person providers as feasible. Telephonic interpreter services can be used for short or uncomplicated hearings but are not preferred. Telephonic interpretation is not appropriate for trials or other complicated evidentiary hearings. Because there is a dearth of trained and qualified interpreters in Alaska, the second objective is to support efforts to improve access to legally certified interpreters.

**Objective 1 (a):** Provide free language interpreter services for participants in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking restraining order proceedings and develop statewide policies and procedures for recruiting, training and using court language interpreters..

**Activities:** The Alaska Court System (ACS) intends to continue efforts to improve access to qualified and impartial interpreters in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking protective order proceedings.

**Objective 1 (b):** Encourage efforts to recruit and adequately train bilingual people to provide court language interpretation services

#### **Activities:**

The Language Interpreter Center, established in the fall of 2007, was created when ACS began an initiative to partner with other state and federal agencies and with private businesses and nonprofits to create a statewide language interpreter referral and training center. The center receives funding from a combination of state, federal and private foundations and is a nonprofit agency. ACS purchases interpreter training for bilingual individuals deemed to show promise for becoming qualified interpreters. The courts find domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking civil cases difficult to handle when they involve recent immigrants with limited English proficiency parties or other limited English proficiency parties. To address these problems, the court system will continue to use STOP funds to support statewide language interpreter training and referral center.

#### **Goal Two:** Judicial Education

**Objective 1:** Train court employees and judicial officers on issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking and the needs of victims including the traditionally underserved such as racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members,

immigrants, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected;

**Activities:** Training needs for judges, magistrates and ACS employees are determined by the Judicial Education Coordinator, the Conference Planning Committee, the Magistrate Training Judges and Magistrate Education Coordinator, the Resource Development Officer and the Clerks' Conference Planning Committee. Depending on the training needs and opportunities identified by these persons and entities, STOP funds may be used for domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking and the needs of victims including the traditionally underserved including racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, immigrants, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, LGBTQI, and domestic violence/sexual assault victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected for in-house training, for outside conferences, or for purchase of self-study and reference materials annually for each year of the plan.

**Goal Three:** Support the ongoing pilot project at the Fairbanks court to offer current bail conditions of release in electronic format to law enforcement and others and to create electronic filing of petitions for domestic violence protective orders.

**Objective 1:** The ACS is committed to using technology to enhance the efficiency of its operation whenever possible.

**Activities:** The Fairbanks court is using a special electronic document to enter bail conditions of release; including a notation of whether the charges are domestic violence-related and the information is deposited in an electronic bail repository. Next steps will include possible revisions to the bail form and planning how to take the project to additional court locations.

Work with E-filing vendor to create an electronic petition for domestic violence protective order. The electronic process would enable petitioners to get notice of when the order is served, information not currently available to petitioners.

**Goal Four:** Assess equipment needs and procedures and policies for the wider use of video instead of telephonic participation by parties and language interpreters in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking protective order proceedings.

**Objective 1:** assess equipment needs.

**Objective 2:** write policies and procedures.

## **B. Relation to Prior STOP Implementation Plans**

*Description of how this implementation plan builds on efforts of previous years*

### *Victim Services*

The Legal Advocacy Project (LAP) within ANDVSA started during the first year of the STOP program as a small project providing training and technical assistance to victim advocacy program staff throughout the state. Then in 1998, the STOP Violence Against Women Grants Office recognized the LAP as an innovative and promising state practice in improving the justice system response to violence against women. Since the start of the project through June 2013, staff has provided more than 26,000 legal case consultations with an average of 30 requests per week from domestic violence/sexual assault programs.

In May of 1999, the project responded to the growing need for victims to have legal representation and formed the Pro Bono Project. Since STOP funding, more than 400 Alaska attorneys have volunteered with the LAP. Volunteer attorneys donate on average between 25-85 hours to each case, equaling millions of dollars in attorney time donated to the project. In FY 2013 alone, volunteers donated 1.2 million dollars in donated time to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault through the Pro Bono Program. ANDVSA also operates an Information and Referral Legal Hotline answering requests for legal information and assistance from victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The statewide toll free hotline is staffed by volunteer attorneys who provide brief legal assistance every other week. The hotline provides information and referral resources to approximately 6-8 domestic violence and sexual assault victims each month.

Before STOP funding legal advocacy training was either non-existent or very limited within the state. The LAP has successfully implemented 15 statewide legal advocacy conferences, 15 continuing legal-education trainings, and numerous special topic web/ teleconference trainings. Hundreds of attorneys have been trained through ANDVSA's legal program to provide quality legal services to victims.

Due to staff turnover in domestic violence/sexual assault programs and the degree of difficulty in many cases, ongoing training and updated legal resource materials are critical to ensuring victims have access to the civil and criminal justice systems within Alaska. The LAP will continue to train legal advocates and provide continuing legal education and mentoring to attorneys who will perform pro bono services for victims. Training over the next three years will focus on access issues to include working with victims experiencing disabilities; working with victims whose first language is not English; and, improving cross-cultural communication. The LAP will continue to work cooperatively with statewide partners to provide services to immigrant victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The LAP will join with the other plan disciplines to provide interdisciplinary training throughout the three years of the plan. Further, the LAP will continue to update and revise written and oral materials covering legal issues important to Alaskan victims.

### *Prosecution*

Each year the DOL criminal division experiences a significant statewide turnover in attorney and paralegal staff, which dictates the on-going necessity for consistent and quality education, training, and technical assistance for the prosecution of criminal cases involving violence against women. This plan reaffirms the ongoing effort by the criminal division to ensure that all prosecution staff has a basic understanding about the dynamics of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking to ensure that crimes against women are fairly assessed and cases are meritoriously prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law while taking into consideration the rights of the victims and witnesses. Committed to expanding education and training efforts, the mandatory statewide two-day conferences, SART and National District Attorney Association training courses provide knowledgeable practitioners, up-to-date resources, and victim related training including the traditionally underserved populations for the newly hired personnel and continuing education programs for existing staff. Going forward training and education will include information on the VAWA expanded definition of underserved populations.

Additionally, funding for the victim witness coordinator position continues and this position does much to coordinate a consistent statewide approach for working with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking victims.

### *Law Enforcement*

The unique issues in Alaska dictate the necessity for consistent and quality training specific to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sex crimes. Training law enforcement officers across the state is another issue that is exacerbated by the vast geographical size of Alaska and the isolated communities dotted across the state without a connecting road system. Many of the rural municipal departments do not have funding to send their officers to training outside of their communities as travel within the state is very costly. High travel cost and minimal training budgets preclude many of the smaller, rural municipal departments from participating in ongoing and advanced level training that is offered in the "urban" areas. Essentially, training specific to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking does not occur for the majority of rural municipal departments without the support of OVW funding as they do not have the resources to support the much-needed training.

The AST Program Coordinator position has been filled since April of 1999. Maintaining the funding and support for this position is paramount to the success of implementing the STOP grant activities listed in this plan. For example, the AST Program Coordinator is directly responsible for the development and organization of training Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs), Tribal Police Officers, and Village Police Officers (TPO/VPO) as well as training for all commissioned law enforcement officers. Coordination of training will entail working with Alaska Native non-profit corporations, domestic violence and sexual assault programs, and AST's VPSO coordinator as well as selecting training locations, dates and most importantly, curriculum development. In addition, the AST Program Coordinator is tasked with developing, organizing and presenting at academy level, in-service, advanced level and SART training. Continued funding of the AST Program Coordinator position is necessary to implement all aspects of the three year plan.

### *State Courts*

With STOP funding, ACS has taken many significant steps to meet the needs of victims involved in domestic-violence-, dating violence-, sexual assault- and stalking-related cases. These steps include staffing domestic violence offices in the higher volume courts of Anchorage and Fairbanks, having regular domestic violence protective order calendars in the higher-volume courts, writing grants, and supporting grants submitted by others to have domestic violence and sexual assault advocates work directly in the courts, and having a grant-based domestic violence initiatives position within the central administrative office. In some court locations, court staff participates in local task forces on domestic violence and sexual assault. ACS seeks funding from a variety of sources to enhance its handling of domestic-violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking cases; however, STOP funds are an important and irreplaceable part of the court system's overall strategy to meet these challenges.

This STOP Three Year Implementation Plan includes continuation of two goals from earlier plans—court personnel training and language interpreters. From the beginning, training for judicial officers has been an integral part of ACS' STOP program, when ACS held its first statewide judicial conference devoted to domestic violence in 1996. Ensuing years have included various other trainings that touched virtually all judicial officers (magistrates, special masters and judges). This plan continues ACS's ongoing emphasis on training, taking into account the need for new employee training as well as to providing advanced training for more senior employees. The lack of qualified, neutral language interpreters compromised the fairness and accuracy of protective order proceedings. For the past several years the court system has used STOP funds to pay for trained, qualified and impartial interpreters in protective order hearings. Also, the court system led the effort to found a statewide language interpreter referral and training center in Alaska. The Alaska Court System used STOP funding in the most recent (2010-2013) STOP three year implementation plan to pilot a Bail Conditions of Release information technology system in Fairbanks and studied the issue of how to capture conditions of release in an electronic case management system. ACS completed the initial effort and is proceeding with planning for a statewide system based upon the successful pilot project.

### *Discretionary*

Additionally, within the first year of the 2014-2016 STOP Three Year Implementation Plan, Alaska will assess the need for and as indicated, release a request for proposal for a portion of the discretionary allocation for years two and three for providing immigration legal services to immigrant women experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, human and/or sex trafficking, dating violence or stalking.

## **C. Priority Areas**

STOP funds are one component of the State of Alaska's overall initiative to end domestic violence and sexual assault. Concentrating STOP funds on training, providing accessible services and necessary legal information and representation to victims including underserved victims is integral to the intervention efforts in Alaska. Including providing civil legal advocacy

and outreach to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking including traditionally underserved populations:

- racial,
- cultural or ethnic minorities,
- individuals experiencing disabilities,
- the elderly and teens,
- language minorities,
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer and Intersexed (LGBTQI), and
- domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected, and
- tribes and tribal members.

Fully trained first responders significantly improve the ways in which the system interacts with victims and holds offenders accountable for their actions. A trained judiciary ensures that victims' rights are protected and offender sentencing will be carried out in a thoughtful manner.

Programs and projects supported with STOP grant dollars are generally statewide in application with an emphasis on ensuring participation from rural isolated areas of the state. Since the beginning of the STOP program, Alaska's plans have emphasized improving the availability and provision of services statewide. Comprehensive outreach and services to rural areas are a priority for all projects in Alaska. Villages are small, with limited access and have little or no resources to address domestic violence and sexual assault within the village itself. As a result, there is a strong commitment to prioritize and incorporate rural Alaskan communities in all activities identified within the state plan. While Anchorage meets the definition of an urban area, projects in this plan include service provision to Anchorage due to the high rates of domestic violence against Alaska Native women and the high rate of sexual assault against the population as a whole in that community.

The plan addresses the following STOP purposes:

1. Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence.
3. Developing and implementing more effective police, court and prosecution policies, protocols, orders and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence.
5. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services programs, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence programs, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking and dating violence.
7. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing the needs/circumstances of Indian tribes in dealing with violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence.

9. Training of sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners in the collection and preservation of evidence, analysis, prevention, and providing expert testimony and treatment of trauma related to sexual assault.

10. Developing, enlarging or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, including recognizing, investigating and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals.

12. Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families.

15. Developing, implementing, or enhancing Sexual Assault Response Teams, or other similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault.

16. Developing and strengthening policies, protocols, best practices, and training for law enforcement agencies and prosecutors relating to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims.

Though the plan does not address purpose 17, the Council will coordinate with other agencies to begin the PREA compliance process for Alaska. In 2013, the Department of Corrections (DOC) PREA Coordinator submitted a report to the Council about compliance. The DOC PREA Coordinator also is a member of the STOP Three Year Implementation Plan planning committee. Alaska intends to use 5 percent of covered funds from the discretionary allocation to assist compliance efforts.

*How funds will be distributed each year:*

<b>STOP</b>		<b>Match</b>
<b>211,986</b>	30% - Victim Services	
<b>176,655</b>	25% - Law	<b>117,770</b>
<b>176,655</b>	25% -Alaska State Troopers	<b>117,770</b>
<b>105,993</b>	15% - Discretionary	
<b>35,331</b>	5% - Courts	<b>26,171</b>
<b>78,512</b>	Up to 10 % - Admin (from all allocations)	
<b>785,132</b>	Total	<b>261,711</b>

*Match:*

While not required, the ANDVSA LAP has volunteered to assist the state of Alaska in providing matching funds for the total STOP award if needed. The Victim Services match will be provided by volunteer attorneys donating hours to the pro bono project.

ACS will meet its match with 10% of the Judicial Education Coordinator's time. Additional match will be provided via judges and other court employees' time who attend training.

DOL will meet its match through the monetary value of time contributed by prosecutors and victim/witness paralegals attendance at the annual Department of Law's District Attorney / Victim Witness Paralegal Conference, and specialized training courses on sexual assault sponsored by a partnership between the Department of Public Safety and DOL, and the domestic violence and sexual assault training course offered by NDAA.

AST will meet its match through the monetary value of time contributed by the Trooper personnel who attend training and by state general funds contributed to the Program Coordinator's salary.

Alaska has for many years used at least 20 percent of STOP funding for sexual assault purposes across two or more allocations as can be seen in past year's STOP plans and progress reports. Currently, Alaska uses the majority of the 15 percent discretionary allocation for sexual assault response team (SART) training and at least 40 percent of prosecution allocation for sexual assault purposes including sending prosecuting personnel as community team members to SART training. Currently, at least 60 percent of the law enforcement allocation is used for sexual assault purposes including sending officers as community team members to SART training. While the department of public safety has matching funds for SART kits and exams, STOP funds would be used from the law enforcement allocation to cover the cost of the exams and kits, especially for the smaller jurisdictions, if the matching funds did not completely cover costs. Currently, the Alaska Court System reports using 10 percent of their allocation for sexual assault purposes. The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault currently reports using 25 percent of the victim services allocation for sexual assault purposes. Alaska intends to continue using at least 20 percent of STOP funding for sexual assault purposes across two or more allocations.

#### **D. Grant-making Strategy**

The state will continue to give priority to agencies able to provide a state-wide approach to implementing projects funded with STOP dollars. Agencies with infrastructure in place to travel within the state; to communicate with member organizations throughout the state; and, to create and/or reproduce training and other materials are best suited to reach the most Alaskans.

The Governor has authorized the state departments of Public Safety and Law as well as the Alaska Court System to expend STOP funds under the designations appropriate to their functions: law enforcement, prosecutors and state courts. The Council allocates the Victim Services and Discretionary STOP funds and has the overall responsibility for STOP implementation.

The timeline for the STOP grant cycle follows the federal fiscal year and begins when the grant award has been successfully negotiated with OVW.

The Council provides pre-proposal technical assistance to prospective applicants of Victim Services and Discretionary funds via teleconference to ensure that the proposed activities are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims, and provides post award technical assistance teleconferences to grantees regarding grants management and reporting requirements.

STOP sub-grant projects will be funded on a single-year basis for the first year of this three-year plan. Subsequent awards may be on a multiple-year basis.

### **E. Addressing the Needs of Underserved Victims**

The STOP Three Year Implementation Plan planning committee focused on barriers and providing services to the traditionally underserved. Victims in remote areas, Alaska Natives, people with disabilities and immigrants are some underserved populations in Alaska. The planning committee discussed these populations and VAWA 2013's addition of other populations to the underserved list. The committee discussed ways to determine improvement toward moving a population out of the underserved category and the feasibility of such few dollars adequately addressing needs of all populations or if work with one population should be emphasized during this particular plan period.

Committee members were not comfortable with only focusing on one underserved population so plan activities will to the extent possible include each identified underserved population including racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities including Alaska Native tribal members, individuals experiencing disabilities, the elderly and teens, language minorities, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer and Intersexed (LGBTQI), and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking victims in geographically isolated rural and bush communities which are not road connected. Toward the end of the first year of the plan, the STOP Three Year Implementation Plan planning committee will met again and review ways to determine improvement of effort in serving specific populations. Measurements will be agreed upon and implemented during the second and third years of the plan. Simultaneously, activities mentioned throughout the plan to support underserved populations such as interpreters for people with limited English proficiency, to train village first responders, to support services in remote areas of the state, access for LGBTQI, and access for people experiencing disabilities will be carried out.

As an example of addressing the needs of Alaska Native victims of violence, the plan calls for inclusivity and outreach to tribes and tribal organizations ongoing in the plan and plan review.

As an example of addressing the needs of victims with disabilities, the Center for Human Development's Disability Justice Initiative is partnering with the Council to provide training to first responders as part of the SART training occurring during each year of the plan.

## **F. Barriers to Implementation**

Significant barriers are not expected at this time. The political will of the state for addressing violence against women is very strong. There is focused attention across state departments, municipalities, tribes, faith-based, and grassroots organizations on anti-violence work for domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. STOP funded projects contribute in a direct way to that effort.

## **V. Monitoring and Evaluation**

### *Monitoring*

Though this section is not required with the 2014 implementation plan checklist, it is included as optional information. The Council's program staff monitors victim service and discretionary subgrantees. Quarterly narrative and financial reports are required and STOP funds and activities are specifically reviewed during routine on-site visits to funded agencies.

The Council enters into reimbursable services agreements with AST, DOL and ACS to transfer STOP funds to them. They in turn must report expenditures to the Council. In addition to routine budget forms, they also report quarterly on match amounts provided for the STOP funds. During the course of the state departments and court system's annual audit these agreements are reviewed by state auditors. Additionally, the coordinators from the respective groups meet quarterly with the Council STOP Administrator to discuss implementation of projects and progress toward completing STOP goals and objectives.

### *Evaluation*

A statewide review of data gathering and evaluation methods across disciplines is underway as part of the Governor's Initiative. The Governor believes that everyone has a right to feel and be safe in their own homes and that is the overarching goal of the initiative. STOP goals and objectives fit very well under the umbrella of this goal.

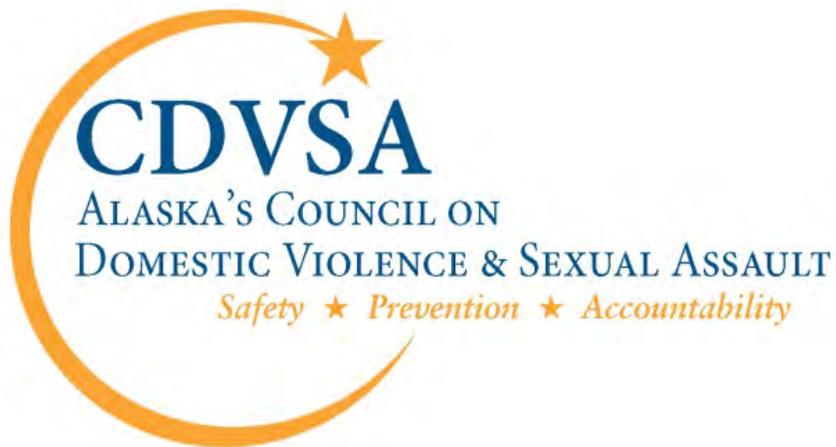
The state moved from output evaluation of activities only to include outcome measures as a way of determining whether or not what is being done meets victims' needs, holds offenders accountable and works in communities to create an atmosphere of non-violence.

The prior year STOP plan was used to assist with the development of the statewide evaluation effort called the Alaska Dashboard and to incorporate outcome measures into STOP goals and objectives. The Dashboard is in its third year. The Dashboard looks at reported incidents, service utilization, protective factors, and offender accountability and victimization survey results to date. The Council uses Dashboard indicators to monitor trends, strengthen policy and practices to enhance intervention efforts, implement prevention strategies and when necessary, make changes/revise program development to adopt practices better suited to ending domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska.

Current evaluation efforts that measure work volume and sequence such as number of trainings, number of first responders reached through training, pre- and post- testing of training participants to gauge increases in knowledge and skills will continue during the life of the plan.

## **VI. Conclusion**

This plan is a guide. STOP funds continue to be a critical part of the work to end violence against Alaskan women. The STOP Three Year Implementation Plan planning committee and partners are heartened to see the increased interest and commitment to expand the state's resources beyond STOP-funded activities to include primary prevention efforts, coordinated health and behavioral care services, increased housing capacity and community organizing. We believe the elements of this plan will prepare justice system partners to fully participate in the integrated efforts now forming.



## Department of Public Safety

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### Coordinated Prevention Plan

The Council convened a State Agency Workgroup on Prevention to establish a consistent time and forum where colleagues whose day to day work focuses on prevention programming meet and share information across state agencies. The Workgroup provides a forum to identify areas of common ground including funding opportunities, joint training and concentration areas for complementary projects. It also provides a forum to clarify and maintain areas of prevention work that need unique and concentrated efforts. Finally, the Workgroup provides a forum to shape state prevention policy.

The following is a report documenting prevention priority recommendations across state agencies and health concerns. These priorities will guide future cooperative efforts to move prevention forward to build a statewide culture of health and respect.

**Investing in Prevention:  
Working Together in Early  
Childhood for Healthy  
Alaskan Children, Families,  
and Communities**

**2015**



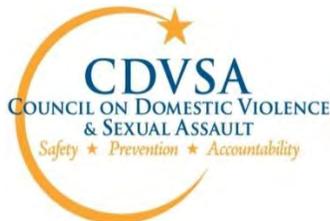
**Priorities for  
Prevention**



## Investing in Prevention: Working Together in Early Childhood for Healthy Alaskan Children, Families, and Communities

### The Interagency Prevention Workgroup

In February 2013, subject matter experts from the State of Alaska Departments of Public Safety, Health and Social Services, and Education & Early Development came together to identify opportunities for information sharing, coordinating, planning, and policy development on primary prevention programming. The goal of this interagency workgroup is to identify and strengthen efforts to work collaboratively towards the prevention of Alaska's pervasive health and social challenges.



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## Executive Summary

**High rates of suicide, child abuse and neglect, domestic and sexual violence, and substance abuse are widespread in Alaska and continually reflect some of the highest per capita rates in the nation.**

**Suicide.** Alaska continues to report some of the highest rates of suicide in the nation and is generally twice the US rate.<sup>1</sup> In 2012, *suicide was the leading cause of death of Alaskans ages 15-24.*<sup>2</sup>

**Child Abuse and Neglect.** Alaska's rates of child abuse, neglect, and sexual maltreatment – already some of the highest in the nation – have increased. Alaska's rate of reported and substantiated child abuse and neglect is 1.7 times the national rate.<sup>3</sup>

**Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Alaska.** *Alaska has the highest rate of forcible rape in the nation<sup>4</sup> and a rate of reported rape that is three times the national average.*<sup>5</sup> More than 9% of Alaskan high school students have experienced sexual violence.<sup>6</sup> According to the 2010 UAA/CDVSA Alaska Victimization Survey, about 59% of adult women in Alaska have experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence or both in their lifetime.

**Substance Abuse.** Alaska has some of the highest mortality and injury rates for alcohol and alcohol-related injuries in the nation.<sup>7 8</sup> Alaska's adults and youth have higher rates of per capita substance abuse.<sup>9 10</sup> About one in three Alaskan adolescents - approximately 10,000 Alaskan teens - perceive no great risk from drinking five or more alcoholic drinks once or twice per week.<sup>11</sup>

These problems are best addressed through a coordinated effort to implement prevention programs across multiple settings and populations. Research indicates the majority of these health and social challenges are interconnected and often share the same root causes. In order to reduce health care costs and improve the health and well-being of Alaskans, the following steps need to be taken to address these root causes:

- 1. Support quality early childhood programs**
- 2. Ensure access to health care including behavioral health care**
- 3. Strengthen capacity for social emotional learning throughout Alaska's schools**
- 4. Maintain and expand prevention efforts that have proven to be effective**

## Why Focus on Prevention?

Along the bank of a wide, fast-moving stream, small wood houses line a path that winds through the cottonwood, connecting one family's camp to the next. Ulus are sharpened as strong Russian tea stays hot in a pot set over glowing coals. Suddenly, a shout is heard from the stream. A mother looks and sees a man struggling to stay afloat as he is carried down the river. She calls to her husband and eldest son to come and help. Together, they rescue the shivering man from the water. No sooner is he seated on the shore than they hear another cry from the stream. The father runs back into the freezing water. The mother fetches more blankets and the rest of their children come out to help. As more cries from the stream are heard, neighbors come and quickly jump into the stream to help.

Exhausted, the mother pauses to look upstream and sees several more people struggling to stay afloat as they are carried down. "Husband!" She calls. "Stay here and do what you can with our neighbors to rescue these people." She turns and begins up the path. "But where are you going?" asks her husband. As she hurries up the path, she turns over her shoulder to say "*I'm going upstream to find out why all of these people are falling in!*"

This story is an example of primary **prevention**. Primary prevention works to reduce incidences of life-harmful situations. For example, rather than addressing the life-long, devastating ramifications of child abuse, primary prevention works to stop child abuse before it occurs. At its core, primary prevention work seeks to understand the varied and often complex social and environmental elements that can increase or decrease the likelihood of an individual's risk. Once identified, primary prevention programming either reduces the identified risks (**risk factors**) or builds upon the elements that have been shown to be protective (**protective factors**).



# Adverse Childhood Experiences

**Brains are not born; they are built throughout childhood, with experiences and interactions creating lifelong foundations.** Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are stressful or traumatic experiences during childhood, including abuse, neglect, witnessing domestic violence, or growing up with substance abuse, mental illness, or a parent in jail. Countless studies have demonstrated these types of childhood trauma dramatically increase the risk of serious health problems that last into adulthood and even affect future generations.



Many of our health and social problems can be attributed to and even predicted by our childhood experiences. Brain science demonstrates that in an absence of protective factors, toxic stress occurs, damaging developing brains. Toxic stress can be the response to growing up in a family where violence, substance abuse, neglect, abuse, or depression is prevalent. Childhood exposure to these kinds of chronic stressful events disrupts neurodevelopment; the brain's ability to learn, make responsible decisions, and think rationally may shut down. As a result, children may develop cognitive and emotional impairments. In this way, trauma from exposure to ACEs can have an enormous impact on the process of learning, forming relationships, and the choices youth make throughout their lives.

**Life expectancy for adults who experienced six or more ACEs is reduced by 20 years.**

Life expectancy in adults who have experienced six or more ACEs is reduced by 20 years.<sup>12</sup> ACEs are potent risk factors for involvement in domestic violence<sup>6</sup>, alcohol dependence,<sup>7</sup> and suicide attempts.<sup>9</sup> They are also risk factors for medical conditions well into adulthood, including heart disease, chronic lung diseases and cancer.<sup>10</sup> The risk of

suicide increases by two to five times when adverse childhood experiences are present.<sup>13</sup> Multiple ACEs increases the risk for domestic violence, alcohol abuse, and drug use by as much as 400-500%. Attempted suicide risks increase by as much as 5000% and heart disease risk increases by over 300%.<sup>14</sup>

## Adverse Childhood Experiences in Alaska<sup>16</sup>

Before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday...

- More than 11% of Alaskans lived in a household where someone is incarcerated.
- More than 21% of Alaskan girls and more than 17% of Alaskan boys were physically abused. Of these, 55% witnessed domestic violence.
- More than one third lived in a household where substance abuse was present.
- More than one in five lived in a household where mental illness was present.
- Almost 15% of Alaskan adults reported having been sexually abused; 23.1% of girls and 7.2% of boys.

### Types and prevalence of ACEs in Alaska<sup>15</sup>

Substance abuse	19%
Parental separation/divorce	32%
Mental illness	22%
Witnessed domestic violence	19%
Criminal behavior	11%
Psychological abuse	31%
Physical abuse	19%
Sexual abuse	15%

## Why Prevention in Early Childhood?

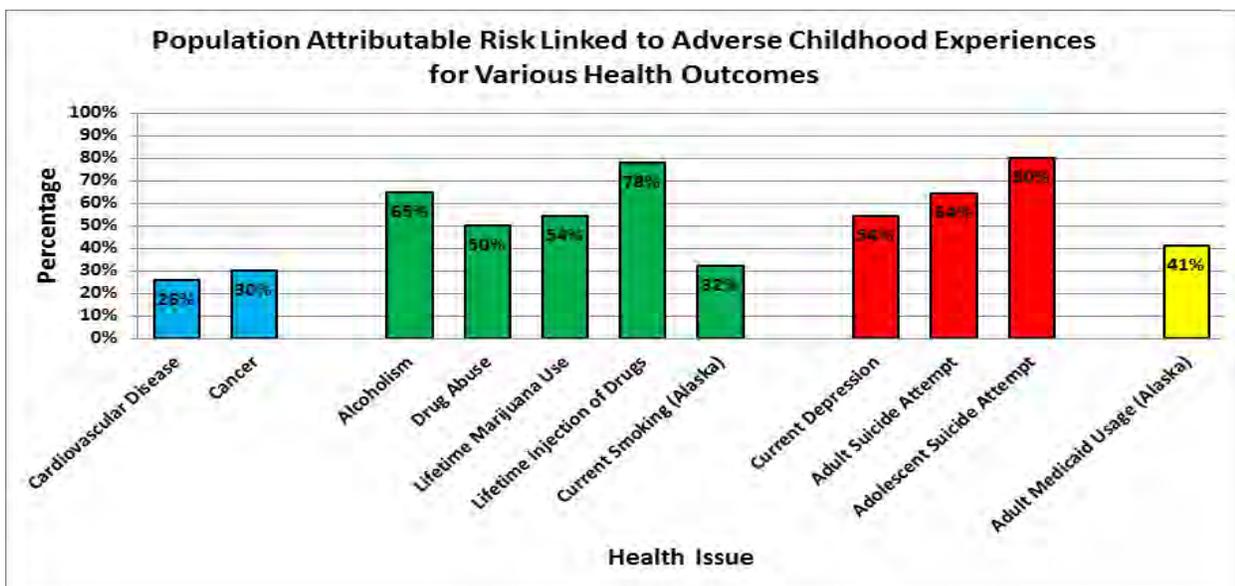
*“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”- Benjamin Franklin*

### Prevention Reduces Incidence and Improves Long-Term Health and Wellness



Intervention and crisis response are necessary to save lives. But we can reduce the need for life saving interventions by *reducing the circumstances that are putting these lives at risk*. Instead of treating illness, primary prevention uses proven strategies to prevent people from getting sick in the first place. And this saves significant money down the line.

Prevention during early childhood is key because it reduces *a lifetime* of adverse health issues. For example, preventing early age alcohol use reduces substance use related problems. People who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence and 2.5 times more likely to become alcohol abusers.<sup>17</sup> As early substance abuse is linked to violence, depression, mental illness, and a range of other issues, preventing substance abuse at an early age, prevents a lifetime of escalating and co-occurring problems. And it's not just alcohol-related adversity. As demonstrated by the table below, ACEs are linked to a myriad of health problems.



Through prevention we can reduce ACEs, thereby reducing countless health problems that may occur throughout an individual's lifespan; health problems that ripple out to affect not only their lives, but the lives of their family, friends, and community.

### Prevention is Cost Effective

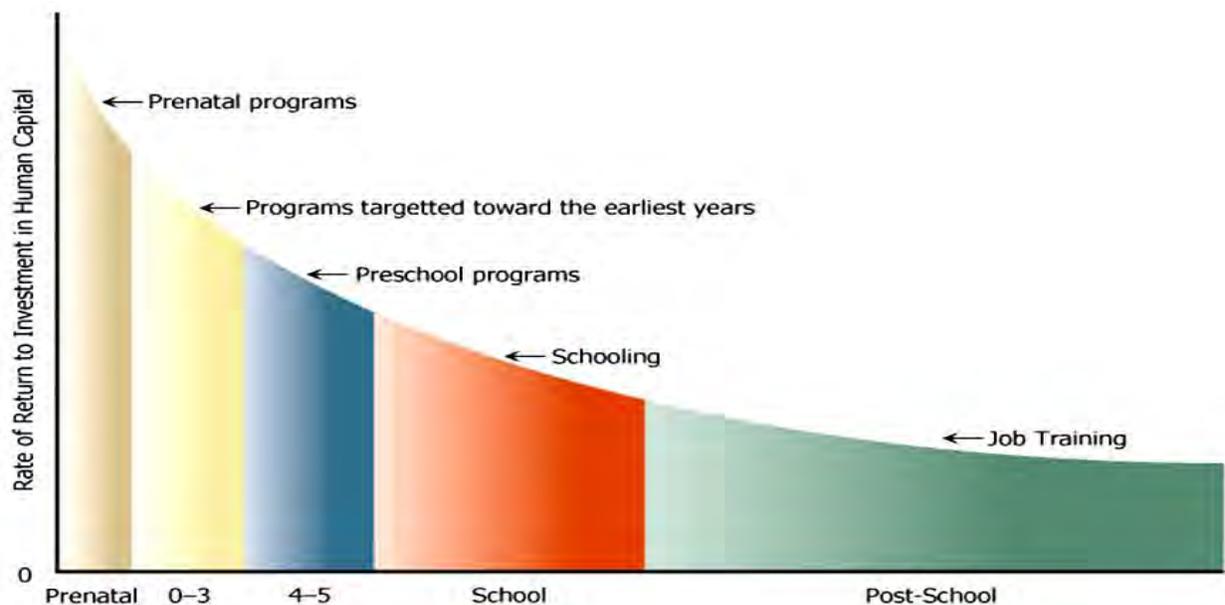
**Effective primary prevention strategies deliver a five-to-one return on investment in five years.**<sup>18</sup> It could potentially save Alaska millions of dollars each year.

- 💰 Nationally, **suicide** costs more than \$44 billion per year.<sup>19</sup>
- 💰 In 2010, **substance abuse** cost Alaska over \$1,191,900,000, which is equivalent to \$38,000 for every child in Alaska aged 0-5.<sup>20</sup>
- 💰 Nationally, the total lifetime costs associated with just one year of confirmed cases of **child maltreatment** is approximately \$124 billion.
- 💰 Alaskan adults with four or more **ACEs** are 27% more likely to be unable to work, 92% more likely to make less than \$20,000 per year, and three times more likely to rely on government or community food assistance programs than Alaskans with zero ACEs. Conservative estimates suggest 20% of Alaska's substance abuse costs and 41% of Alaska's Medicaid costs are directly linked to ACEs.

### Investing in Early Childhood is Cost Effective

**Investing in high quality early childhood education is essential to the economic development of Alaska.** When more is spent on early childhood education, the returns to society per dollar spent are higher.<sup>21</sup> Not only does high quality early childhood education decrease high risk behaviors and their associated costs, it also provides a foundation for the economic development of Alaska by developing a skilled, reliable workforce. Neuroscience research demonstrates healthy development in early childhood increases the likelihood children will succeed in school, succeed economically, and contribute to society and our economy as adults. Conversely, a lack of support during early childhood increases the likelihood children will drop out of school, rely on government programs, earn low wages, or be incarcerated.<sup>22</sup>

James J. Heckman, a Nobel Laureate in Economics, has done significant research into the economic benefits of early childhood investment. As demonstrated by the graph below, his research demonstrates that the rate of return to investment in human capital is *significantly higher* with programs focused on prenatal and early childhood than at any other stage of life.



Source: Heckman (2008)

## Prevention Programs in Early Childhood can *Reverse* Negative Consequences

It is essential that we provide high-quality early childhood care and education. Positive experiences – such as exposure to environments rich in a range of developmentally appropriate opportunities for social play and exploration – can compensate for *and even reverse* the negative consequences of stress and neglect by creating adaptive changes in the developing brain. In order to create these positive changes, however, efforts during early childhood are essential. The developing brain is not infinitely malleable; over time, some stress-induced detriments are increasingly resistant to reversal.<sup>23</sup>



## A Call to Action

### Priorities for Prevention

The reduction of childhood adversities, the early identification of health, mental health and developmental concerns, and access to quality, age-appropriate services are key to ensuring the healthy development of Alaskans in the most cost effective manner. With this in mind, the workgroup has identified the following priorities for prevention:

**1. Support quality early childhood programs.** As demonstrated, investing in Alaska’s children through programs like Head Start, Early Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Pre-Kindergarten, and other quality child care programs will pay enormous dividends in the future. Support for evidence-based programs such as Strengthening Families – which supports family strengths and resiliency focused on protective factors – is a cost effective, proven way to improve health and well-being.

**2. Ensure access to health care including behavioral health care.** Comprehensive health care services provide opportunities for preventing and identifying adverse experiences and the resulting poor health outcomes. Care for children should include regular well child check-ups with comprehensive screening for developmental delays, social and emotional concerns, and exposure to high risk environments. Screening for depression, domestic violence and substance abuse should be available for pregnant women and new parents. Routine care should provide information about healthy relationships and the health effects of victimization. Parents should receive anticipatory guidance on child development and information about the effects of interpersonal violence and other adverse experiences on children.

**3. Strengthen capacity for social emotional learning throughout Alaska’s schools.** Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to:

- Recognize and manage their emotions
- Set and achieve positive goals
- Demonstrate caring and concern for others
- Establish and maintain positive relationships
- Make responsible decisions
- Handle interpersonal situations effectively

These critical social-emotional competencies involve skills that enable children to calm themselves when angry, initiate friendships and resolve conflicts respectfully, make ethical and safe choices, and contribute constructively to their community.<sup>24</sup> SEL programming promotes students’ social-emotional skills and positive attitudes, which, in turn, lead to improved adjustment and academic performance as reflected in more positive social behaviors, fewer conduct problems, less emotional distress, and better grades and achievement test scores.<sup>25</sup>

**4. Maintain and expand prevention efforts that have proven to be effective.** Collaborative prevention efforts increase opportunities for braided and blended funding streams and provide additional infrastructure for collaboration. All parties with a vested interest should be engaged, including seemingly unlikely partners, such as the business community, law enforcement, faith communities, etc. Successful community led efforts should be supported with technical assistance and information on practice informed and evidence-based practices.

## Conclusion

**The reduction of childhood adversities, the early identification of health, mental health and developmental concerns, and access to quality, age-appropriate services are key ingredients for ensuring the development of a healthy child and adult.** By focusing on shared prevention priorities and strategies across different health concerns, our efforts are more efficient, more cost effective, and more relevant throughout Alaska. Working collaboratively, we strengthen each other's prevention efforts, programs, and funding streams. As domestic and sexual violence, child abuse and neglect, suicide, and substance abuse are so often interrelated, this shared focus will allow each of our individual efforts to help construct the foundation for healthy communities.

Focusing on the priorities for prevention in this report is essential not only to improve the health and wellness of Alaskans, but to build a statewide culture of health that encourages everyone in our community of Alaska to lead healthier lives now, and generations from now.

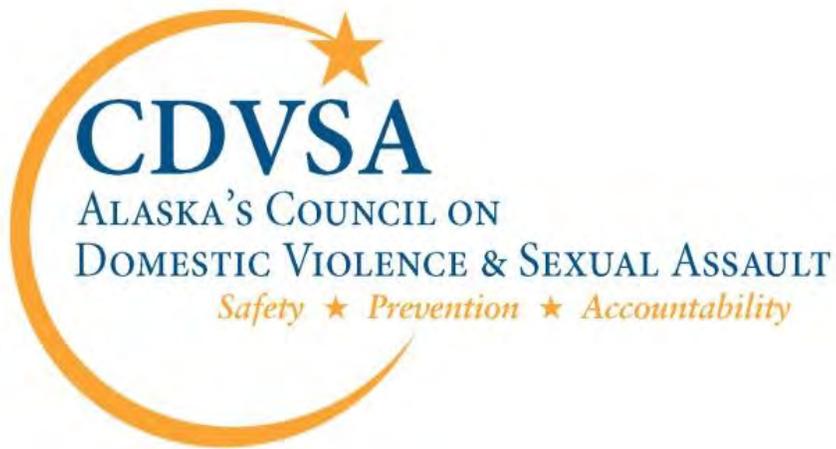


*“We are depending on our young to have the inner strength and productivity to see future generations through... That is a lot to put on their shoulders, but I know they can do it.”*

*-Georgianna Lincoln*

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## Department of Public Safety

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& SEXUAL ASSAULT  
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### Kids Club and Mom's Empowerment Program Update June 2015

It has been a busy three months since our last report on the Kids Club and Mom's Empowerment Program (KCME)! February brought the official start of the KCME Groups at our four active sites across the state, with an additional two sites conducting solely interviews to serve as our baseline research data. While only two of the four sites were successful in completing the full round of the groups, each location learned a lot about recruitment, implementation, and resource sharing amongst social service providers.

Sites that were unable to successfully complete the first round of KCME reported issues with recruitment as well as lack of consistent turnout once the groups began, which was an issue experienced with both the sites that successfully completed the round and those who did not. This issue brings to light the demands of women living in shelter and the hardships faced when juggling everyday life in crisis. Most often, women are also attending the many appointments required to receive services in order to obtain independence. All sites within the project found this a struggle for the women; most often lack of attendance or unwillingness to commit to the groups was not due to lack of interest, but simply to not having the time or energy to participate in another scheduled commitment. This is an issue we know we will continue to face in future rounds, and we are discussing ways to make the groups more accessible to our already-busy moms and kids.

On April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, each location's advocates came to Juneau for the Round One KCME Workshop. This day and a half event allowed us to share our experiences, successes, challenges, and ideas for the next round of KCME. Each site left the workshop stating they felt more confident with strategies to use for the next round, as well as feeling grateful to have even more contacts for idea sharing and support.

Following the Workshop, KCME Project Coordinator Marybeth Gagnon traveled to Ann Arbor, Michigan to meet with KCME developer Dr. Sandra Graham-Bermann and the University of Michigan's research team and on April 7-9. This meeting allowed Marybeth to bring forth some of the challenges reported during the Workshop, view the data vetting process, and discuss ways our research can help women and children experiencing domestic violence in the future. An outline of topics for discussion and consultation was developed for the June KCME Round Two Workshop in which Dr. Graham-Bermann will be in attendance.

Round Two KCME groups started the week of April 19<sup>th</sup>. Thus far, three of our four active sites were able to get off the ground, and our control sites were successful in obtaining more interviews for the baseline data. The groups are scheduled to complete Round Two the end of May, with the Round Two Workshop scheduled for June 10-11 in Juneau, Alaska.



## First Session 29<sup>th</sup> Legislature-Update

May 29, 2015

### Bills Passed First Session

HB 15      Electronic Monitoring Credits; Mitigating Factors sponsored by Rep. Wilson  
Current Status: Passed and signed into law effective 8/12/15.

The bill allows courts to grant a defendant credit toward a sentence of imprisonment for time spent under electronic monitoring. Credit may be considered if the person has not committed a criminal offense while under electronic monitoring and the court imposes restrictions on the person's freedom of movement and behavior while under the electronic monitoring—the person would be confined to a residence except for a court appearance; meeting with counsel; or period during which the person is at a location ordered by the court for the purposes of employment, attending educational or vocational training, performing community volunteer work, or attending a rehabilitative activity or medical appointment

### Bills in Committee for Work during Second Session

HB11      No Internet Access to Some Criminal Cases sponsored by Rep. Wilson  
Current Status: Senate Rules (RLS)

The bill prohibits the Court System from publishing a court record of a criminal case on a publicly available website if 60 days have elapsed from the date of acquittal or dismissal and the defendant was acquitted of all charges fined or all criminal charges against the defendant in the case have been dismissed and were not dismissed as part of a plea agreement in another criminal case or the defendant was acquitted of some of the criminal charges in the case and the remaining charges were dismissed

HB16      Child Protection Records Disclosure sponsored by Rep. Wilson  
Current Status: House Health and Social Services (HSS)-this bill was not heard during the first session; it is referred to HSS and Judiciary (JUD)

The bill requires HSS to disclose appropriate confidential information to the parent or guardian who is the alleged perpetrator named in one or more reports of harm if the department obtained the info as part of a court-ordered evaluation program of the parent or guardian; finds based on substantial evidence, that the parent or guardian needs the info for participation in court-ordered treatment and

the disclosure is in the best interest of the child; or finds, based on substantial evidence, that the parent needs the info to exercise residual parental rights.

HB22

Probation and Parole Officers' Caseloads sponsored by Rep. Tuck/Josephson  
Current Status: House State Affairs (STA)-this bill was not heard during the first session; it is referred to STA and Finance (FIN)

The bill would limit the caseload of a probation officer or a parole officer to no more than 60 persons, except in temporary or extraordinary circumstances approved by the commissioner

HB36

Prekindergarten School Programs/Plans sponsored by Rep. Kawasaki/Gara  
Current Status: House Education (EDC)-this bill was not heard during the first session; it is referred to EDC and FIN

This bill allows school districts to provide a prekindergarten program for students who are four on or before September 1 and who resides in the district if the program is optional for the student; supervised by EDC and consistent with regulations adopted by the local board. It also requires EDC to devise a statewide early childhood education plan.

HB60

Military; Sexual Assault sponsored by Rep. Tuck and Josephson  
Current Status: House Military and Veterans Affairs (MLV)-this bill was not heard during the first session; it is referred to MLV and JUD

This bill opens up the legislation that established the Council and adds duties to the Council of receiving reports of criminal offenses. It requires that information about victims of crime be kept confidential from employers or reporters. Requires the Council to annually report to the Governor about certain offenses by members of the National Guard and requires standards and procedures for the National Guard's interactions with victims of offenses of sexual assault and requires the Council to consult with the National Guard on training, prevention efforts for victims of certain offenses. This bill would also require the Council to receive reports from victims wishing to report a sexual assault offense.

HB69

Board of Child Custody Investigation; Courts sponsored by Rep. Millett  
Current Status: House Labor and Commerce (L&C). This bill was not heard during the first session; it is referred to L&C then JUD and FIN.

This bill established a Board of Child Custody Investigators in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development; and amends Rule 90.6, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure by requiring licensing of individuals who investigate and provide an opinion on child custody, access and visitation-proceedings in which the custody of a child is at issue.

HB106 Uniform Interstate Child Support; Parentage requested by Governor  
Current Status: Passed and transmitted to Governor for signature.

This bill relates to the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, including jurisdiction by tribunals of the state, registration and proceedings related to support orders from other state tribunals, foreign support orders, foreign tribunal, and certain persons residing in foreign countries; relating to determination of parentage of a child; and establishes an effective date. This bill helps Alaska children receive support no matter where a parent resides.

HB117 Sexual Assault Examination Kits sponsored by Rep. Tarr  
Current Status: House Finance. Companion bill to SB54. This bill was heard in State Affairs and Judiciary and now referred to (H) FIN.

This bill requires a report on untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits and provides for an effective date. This bill will provide the legislature with real numbers from an audit to assess whether or not the state has a backlog of untested rape kits and determine a course of action.

HB129 Child Abuse; Mental Injury and Restraint sponsored by Rep. Ortiz  
Current Status: House Health and Social Services (HSS). Did not pass out of committee.

This bill relates to child-in-need-of-aid determinations. This bill adds language to the Child In Need of Aid (CINA) description to include that if a parent, guardian or custodian secluded the child, restrained the child, or placed the child in a cage; resulting in a substantial risk of physical harm or mental injury to the child this makes the child a CINA.

HB147 Animals: Protection/Release/Custody sponsored by Rep. Vazquez  
Current Status: House Judiciary (JUD)

This bill opens the Protective Order statutes. It adds language to the statute about removal of animals from a person to include that a peace officer in a domestic violence call out may prohibit an abuser from removing, harming, or disposing of an animal owned or possessed by the victim, the abuser, or any other person living in the residence, or authorize the victim to remove an animal from the abuser and grant the victim exclusive care, custody and control of an animal. Also amends divorce/dissolution to include this language. In removal by authorities' cases, allows for cost of care be the responsibility of the owner even if animals are removed for cruelty and neglect.

HB154 Civil Legal Services Fund sponsored by Rep. Edgmon  
Current Status: House Rules (RLS). Heard in (H) JUD and FIN

This act allows appropriations to the civil legal services fund from court filing fees and makes a stable funding mechanism for the Alaska Legal Services.

HB165 Mitigating Factor: Sexual Assault PTSD sponsored by Rep. Gara  
Current Status: House Judiciary (JUD). This bill has not been heard.

This bill allows for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) stemming from a sexual assault to be considered a mitigating factor at sentencing for defendants at conviction of some crimes.

HB196 Sentencing Procedures; Good Time Credit sponsored by Rep. Claman  
Current Status: House Judiciary (JUD). This bill was read once and referred.

This bill clarifies what treatment programs would substitute for time-served. This bill does not include BIPS since participants are not confined. The bill allows courts to grant a defendant credit toward a sentence of imprisonment for time spent in a program that furthers the reformation and rehabilitation of the defendant if the court finds that the program places a substantial restriction on the defendant's freedom of movement and behavior and replaces day for day the sentence; and if the court ordered the participation before the defendant entered the program. The court must consider the defendant's restriction of freedom of movement; circumstances under which the defendant enrolled in the program; residency requirements, physical custody of the defendant; if the defendant is allowed to leave the program and under what circumstances, sanctions of the program for noncompliance and whether electronic monitoring is used.

HB201 Parent-Guardian/Child: Temporary Power of Attorney sponsored by Rep. Keller.  
Current Status: House Health and Social Services. This bill was read the first time and referred to (H) HSS and JUD.

This bill relates to the temporary delegation by a parent or guardian of powers related to a child; adoption; distribution of information on family support services to a parent or guardian in a child protection situation. This bill adds that parents or guardians of adults who are incapacitated may temporarily delegate power of attorney to another person.

HB205 Criminal Law/Procedure; Driver's License; Public Aid sponsored by Rep. Millett  
Current Status: House Judiciary

This bill, first introduced April 17, relates to conditions of release; community work service; credit for electronic monitoring in certain conditions, driver's license restoration. This bill would establish that a person must comply with electronic monitoring, if ordered, and allow for a defendant to use as credit

toward time served the time spent on electronic monitoring; would increase the surcharge for a convictions by \$25 for some levels and \$5 for others; allows for community work as authorized punishment for certain offenses and changes the value of community work in lieu of a fine to the State minimum wage instead of \$3 per hour.

This bill changes the period of probation to 10 years for an unclassified or class A felony or to five years for any other offense. Establishes that victims of sexual assault of any class and victims of felony crimes have rights to be notified if the probation office reduces the probationary period and requires victim notification if a probation officer has filed a recommendation for a reduction in a person's probation. This bill allows for in certain circumstances the restoration of a driver's license if the person successfully completes a treatment program. This bill adds that a prisoner is not eligible for electronic monitoring if a domestic violence offense was committed against a household member. After (H) JUD then it is referred to (H) FIN.

#### HCR1

Governor: Tribal Sovereignty and Jurisdiction sponsored by Rep Edgmon  
Current Status: House Rules

This bill urges the Governor to acknowledge officially the sovereignty of Alaska tribal governments to create clear and consistent policies for increased state collaboration and partnership with tribes and requires the attorney general to a review of state litigation against AK tribes and urges the Governor to acknowledge the inherent criminal jurisdiction of Alaska tribal governments over tribal members within the boundaries of their villages and urges the Governor to cooperate with tribes efforts to transfer Native land to trust. This bill also urges support for overall cooperation between state government, municipalities and tribes. Heard in (H) CRA and JUD before referred to (H) RLS.

#### SB21

Affirmative Defense to Prostitution sponsored by Sen. Gardner  
Current Status: Senate Judiciary (JUD). This bill has not moved.

This bill creates an affirmative defense to the charge of prostitution. If the person was induced or caused to engage in prostitution by a sex trafficker an affirmative defense can be asserted. The intention behind the bill is to keep from re-victimizing the person who is being prostituted.

#### SB25

Military Sexual Assault sponsored by Sen. Wielechowski  
Current Status: Senate State Affairs (STA). This bill has not moved. This is a companion bill to HB 60.

This bill opens up the legislation that established the Council and adds duties to the Council of receiving reports of criminal offenses. It requires that information about victims of crime be kept confidential from employers or reporters. Requires the Council to annually report to the Governor about certain offenses by members of the National Guard and requires standards and procedures for the National

Guard's interactions with victims of offenses of sexual assault and requires the Council to consult with the National Guard on training, prevention efforts for victims of certain offenses. This bill would also require the Council to receive reports from victims wishing to report a sexual assault offense.

SB49 Civil Legal Services Fund sponsored by Sen. McGuire  
Current Status: Senate Finance. Moved from (S) JUD and referred to Finance.

This bill would allow for up to 25% of the filing fees received by the Alaska Court System during the previous fiscal year be deposited in the Civil Legal Services Fund which is already established in the General Fund to be used for civil legal services for low income individuals.

SB54 Sexual Assault Examination Kits sponsored by Sen. Gardner  
Current Status: Senate State Affairs (STA). Companion bill to HB117. This bill has not moved.

This bill requires a report on untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits and provides for an effective date. This bill will provide the legislature with real numbers from an audit to assess whether or not the state has a backlog of untested rape kits and determine a course of action.

SB82 Alcohol/Substance Abuse Program Mitigation sponsored by Sen. McGuire  
Current Status: Senate Rules (RLS)

This bill adds a paragraph to AS 12.55.155(D) regarding Alaska criminal sentencing structure that would mitigate sentencing if the defendant complies with the condition of an alcohol and substance abuse monitoring program. This bill moved from (S) JUD and referred to (S) RLS.

SB91 Criminal Law/Procedure; Driver's License/ Public Aid sponsored by Sen. Coghill  
Current Status: Senate State Affairs (STA) then JUD and FIN. This bill has not moved.

This bill opens the Protective Order statute. It deletes language added to the statute in 1996 that explains contact initiated by the petitioner does not nullify the respondent's responsibility to abide by the order that prohibits the respondent from contacting the petitioner; allows for electronic monitoring of offenders and allows time spent on electronic monitoring to be counted as time-served; allows for work service for certain offenses and work service to be a condition of release; and, reduces periods of probation to five years for offenses outside of unclassified felonies or Class A felonies or felony sex offenses (sex offenses remain at 25 years).

The bill also allows for the return of revoked or restricted driving privileges upon certain conditions; gives Probation Officers the ability to recommend reducing probation periods for good conduct; establishes minimum standards and procedures for e-monitoring and contracting with private contractors; and, omits persons convicted of DV assault from electronic monitoring.

SB117

Indian Tribe Criminal Procedure sponsored by Sen. Coghill

Current Status: Senate State Affairs (STA) then referred to JUD. This bill was introduced, read the first time, and referred to STA on April 24 and no other action taken.

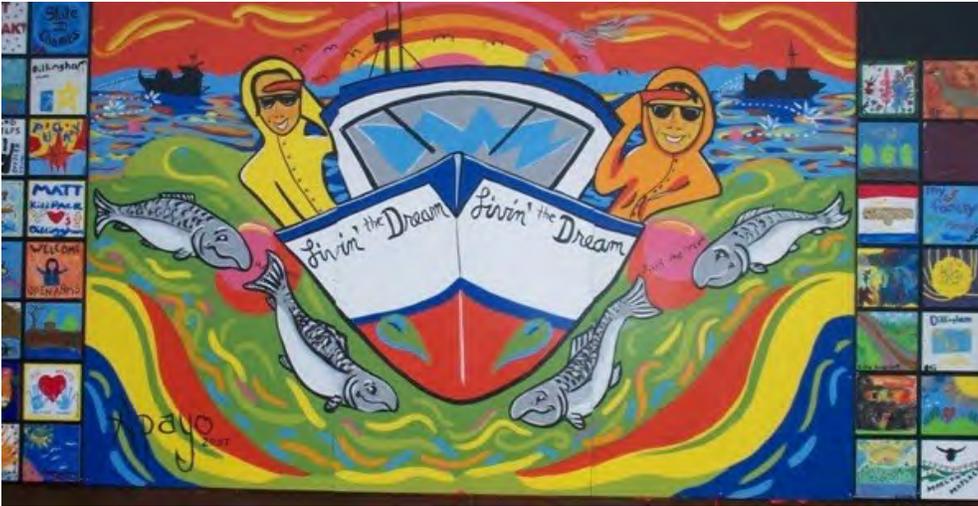
This bill relates to a tribal court diversion program for tribal members for certain offenses; and to superior court jurisdiction; and also Alaska's Rules of Appellate Procedure. This bill establishes procedures for Alaska Courts to refer cases to tribal courts. If the tribal member defendant has previously committed sexual assault or assault in the 4<sup>th</sup> degree then the defendant is ineligible for referral by the state to a tribal court diversion program. The state may not make a referral to a tribal court for defendants referred two or more times.

The state is required to consult with the victim first before referring a defendant but the bill does not require the victim to agree to the referral to tribal court. The state may not refer a defendant unless the state gets written consent from the tribal member defendant. The state may prosecute the defendant in state court if the tribal member defendant does not comply with the tribal court program.

**STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**



**FY2009-2019 STRATEGIC PLAN**



Joseph A. Masters, Commissioner  
Department of Public Safety

Ann House, Chair  
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

*Cover picture is a healthy community mural created by Dillingham youth courtesy of  
Safe and Fear Free Environment.*



# State of Alaska Department of Public Safety Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

**Sarah Palin, Governor**  
**Joseph A. Masters, Commissioner**

February 5, 2009

Dear Alaskan:

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is in its twenty-seventh year of providing domestic violence and sexual assault safety, prevention and accountability services to Alaska. In order to strengthen our capacity to achieve the Council's vision of a Violence Free Alaska, we have crafted a 10-year Strategic Plan. It is our intention that these goals and objectives chart a course for statewide action aimed at eliminating domestic and sexual violence.

Alaska has significant challenges with exceedingly high rates of interpersonal violence. We have the shameful distinction of the highest rates of reported sexual assault in the country. Our rates are 2.5 times the national average with Native women victimized at much higher rates. These are just the reported assaults. National data suggests only 1 in 10 is ever reported. In a 2006 survey, 75% of Alaskans said they have experienced or know someone who has experienced domestic violence or sexual assault. Clearly, we have much work to do to reduce the rates and attain our vision.

In 2008, the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) Legislative Task Force acknowledged the extent of the problem and the threat it poses to so many Alaskans. Their overarching recommendation to the Council was to develop and implement a strategic plan. The Council wholeheartedly agreed and began the process of developing this plan.

Guided by our vision of an Alaska free from domestic and sexual violence and our mission to provide safety through a system of statewide crisis intervention, perpetrator accountability and prevention services, the plan is built around three program areas: Prevention, Crisis Management and Intervention, and Perpetrator Accountability. A fourth strategic area, Council Effectiveness, is added to ensure solid agency operations. The Council has goals and objectives for each area. We also have a separate action plan to guide Council staff and our partners in accomplishing these objectives. The action plan gives us the tools to keep us on target by monitoring our progress and measuring our performance.

Domestic and sexual violence impacts all of us – victims, children, families, employers, neighbors, abusers, clergy, teachers, and friends. It is going to take a coordinated community response across Alaska to stop it. This plan aims to incorporate best practices for addressing domestic violence and sexual assault and brings our partners to the table in the effort.

We look forward to working with legislators, community and tribal organizations, law enforcement, prosecutors, court personnel, community leaders and Alaskans from all walks of life to focus on prevention of these crimes so that Alaskans will no longer suffer these senseless acts of violence.

Sincerely,

## ***The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault***

Ann House, Public Member, Chair  
Rick Svobodny, Department of Law, Vice-Chair  
Stephanie McFadden, Public Member  
Yvonne Sarren, Public Member  
Col. Audie Holloway, Department of Public Safety  
Beverly Wooley, Department of Health and Social Services  
Cynthia Curran, Department of Education and Early Development

***"Public Safety through Public Service"***

**Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault**  
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## PURPOSE



The purpose of the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (Council or CDVSA) defined in Alaska Statute 18.66.010.

“There is established in the Department of Public Safety the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The purpose of the council is to provide for planning and coordination of services to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault or to their families, and to perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to provide for crisis intervention and prevention programs.”

## VISION

This is what drives the Council’s work and inspires its service.

**Alaska, free from domestic and sexual violence.**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Council’s Mission Statement defines its job and is realistic and measurable.

**The Council promotes the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault and provides safety for Alaskans victimized or impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault through a statewide system of crisis intervention and support, and by demanding perpetrator accountability.**

# INTRODUCTION - CDVSA 2009-2019 STRATEGIC PLAN

In January 2009 the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault adopted this ten year Strategic Plan.

This Strategic Plan values and respects the ongoing work and accomplishments of the Council's many partners and recognizes the need for continued collaboration. Our hope is that the Strategic Plan will be a tool that all who are engaged in addressing domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska use to align missions, point to common goals, and reinforce one another's work.

The Council acknowledges and highly values the work of its partners that is already underway to accomplish some of this plan's goals and objectives. The Council's statutory mandates cannot be accomplished without the collaboration of many partners, including faith communities, Native organizations and tribes, and health care providers. Neither the Council nor any other single organization "leads" this work or is the single "inspiration" for this hard work. Rather, we must work together and depend on each other to achieve a violence free Alaska.

The Council depends on good coordination and communication. To be effective this must be a statewide effort that reaches all communities and people. The State representatives on the Council\* must continue to be two-way conduits of information between the Council and their agencies. Likewise, each public member on the Council must communicate the Council's plans, goals and actions to their communities and organizations. We hope that establishing the 2009-2019 Strategic Plan and corresponding two-year Action Plans strengthens all communication and relationships.

To address the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska, this Strategic Plan establishes three program areas for the Council to achieve our vision of a violence free Alaska:

- Prevention
- Crisis Management and Intervention
- Perpetrator Accountability.

The Council, in collaboration with its partners, has identified six goals in these program areas. A fourth strategic area, Council Effectiveness, has three additional goals.

Objectives are also established for each goal. The objectives are more concrete statements that describe how the goals will be achieved. Over the ten year course of this Plan, it is expected that some objectives will be accomplished or will no longer be relevant. New objectives will emerge as the Council and staff stay current with domestic violence and sexual assault research, practices and needs and adjust to the changing needs of new realities.

A Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Action Plan is also available that lists specific actions, linked to priority objectives the Council is working to accomplish.



\* State agencies represented on the Council include the Departments of Law, Education, Health and Social Services, and Public Safety.

# PREVENTION

## ***What is Prevention?***

Prevention works to proactively modify or entirely eliminate events, conditions or exposure to risk factors that can result in or cause violence to reoccur. Prevention of interpersonal violence is a systematic process that promotes healthy environments and behaviors. Short-term needs are acute and literally affect life and safety, however successful prevention is cost effective in the long-term.

## **Goal 1. Coordinate domestic violence and sexual assault prevention efforts in Alaska.**

Objective 1A - Promote education and programs to prevent future incidents of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Objective 1B – Identify and adopt evidence-based measures to ensure effective prevention programming.

Objective 1C - Increase community awareness of the need for prevention activities.

Objective 1D – Work to shape public policy and attitudes to reduce tolerance for interpersonal violence.



*Bethel residents march for peace at home.*

## **Goal 2. Obtain funding dedicated to prevention programs.**

Objective 2A - Develop a plan for prevention programming.

Objective 2B - Determine scope and cost of viable, measurable projects.

# CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND INTERVENTION

## ***What is Crisis Management?***

Crisis management is the immediate and short-term response to domestic violence and sexual assault. Crisis management addresses the immediate issues of safety and support services.

## ***What is Intervention?***

Intervention is the long-term response after domestic violence and sexual assault has occurred, following the immediate crisis management response. Intervention addresses the long-term consequences of such violence.

## **Goal 3. Provide immediate, appropriate crisis response, intervention and shelter.**

Objective 3A - Determine the operational costs to provide comprehensive domestic violence and sexual assault victim services including shelter.

Objective 3B - Seek adequate funding for victim service programs to ensure safety and services are available for all in need.

Objective 3C - Increase the knowledge and skills of Alaska's first responders (law enforcement, medical providers, child welfare, etc.)

Objective 3D - Initiate immediate law enforcement response.

Objective 3E - Improve the ability of the justice system to enhance victim safety through appropriate sanctions, orders and judgments.

Objective 3F - Ensure funded programs' compliance with CDVSA regulations and grant conditions.

Objective 3G - Increase access to legal resources for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault who are involved in the civil and criminal justice systems.

*“Though I may say it often, this is one official “thank you” for being a very amazing group of people I could not formerly imagine existed in such a setting as this especially. Thank You for restoring much of the hope & faith I often times now have. Thank You for helping me imagine strength & safety could be built by these tattered hands of mine.”*

*- thank you letter written to staff of an Alaska shelter*

#### **Goal 4. Enhance the understanding of the prevalence and impact of domestic violence and sexual assault in the State of Alaska.**

Objective 4A - Build public awareness and support for crisis management and intervention services. Enhance understanding of the scope of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska.



*Crisis management and intervention services in Alaska are provided locally by community-based shelter and non-residential domestic violence and sexual assault programs with the support of grants provided by the Council.*

*The shelter pictured above is the Tundra Women's Coalition located in Bethel.*

# PERPETRATOR ACCOUNTABILITY

***What is Perpetrator Accountability?*** Within the context of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault programs, accountability is defined as holding perpetrators accountable for their actions through corrective and rehabilitative programs. Accountability includes all components of the criminal justice system holding perpetrators of domestic or sexual violence responsible.

## **Goal 6. Perpetrators will be held accountable for their actions.**

Objective 6A - Determine effectiveness of batterer intervention programs.

Objective 6B - Ensure perpetrator accountability programs are available.



*Men fly messages of love, support, and respect about their partners, daughters, mothers. This project is supported by Alaska Family Services (Palmer) and the Sunshine Clinic (Talkeetna)..*

# COUNCIL EFFECTIVENESS

**Why review Council effectiveness?** All agencies and organizations must periodically review internal needs, resources, capacity and processes to ensure operations are efficient, equitable and effective.

## **Goal 7. Implement and maintain best practices in the operation of programs providing domestic violence and sexual assault services.**

Objective 7A - Identify core services of and standards for domestic violence and sexual assault programs.

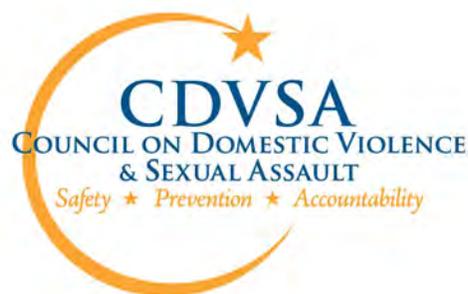
Objective 7B - Assess the effectiveness of domestic violence and sexual assault services.

## **Goal 8. Define and describe the scope and impact of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska.**

Objective 8A - Obtain consistent and complete data on domestic violence and sexual assault incidents in Alaska.

Objective 8B – Coordinate with others to compile all relevant existing data on domestic violence and sexual assault

Objective 8C - Support and encourage independent academic research on domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska.



## COUNCIL EFFECTIVENESS - continued

### Goal 9. Ensure effective Council administration.

Objective 9A - Council members and staff are knowledgeable and understand current domestic violence and sexual assault issues.

Objective 9B - Distribute funds and grants in an efficient and equitable manner.

Objective 9C - Ensure Council has staff resources and capacity to work effectively.

Objective 9D - Maintain compliance with federal grant requirements.

Objective 9E - Develop Memoranda of Understanding to improve coordination of services between state agencies.



*Picture created by program participants at Arctic Women in Crisis, Barrow.*

## AFS-Alaska Family Services – Mat-Su

### SUCSESSES

AFS attended the 2015 Prevention Summit with partners from our DVSA Taskforce. AFS continued to develop and begin to implement AFS's community outreach and prevention plan that was based off AFS's results from the Tri-Ethic Community Readiness Survey.

AFS hosted Choose Respect marches in Wasilla and Palmer where the Palmer march had about 600 people in attendance. AFS plans to provide support to the Sunshine Clinic which scheduled their Choose Respect march for April 11<sup>th</sup> in the Upper Su.

AFS has had a lot of success with working with the Mat-Su School District this year and year-to-date AFS provided 21 presentations to over 2000 students.

AFS is excited for the events for Sexual Assault Awareness month in April and some of the scheduled activities are "NO More" Mat-Su Summit, Choose Respect –Willow, sexual assault presentations to Job Corps students, Paint the Town Teal for Wasilla, Palmer and Upper Su, Denim Day and the Clothesline Project.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

AFS presented on "Coaching Boys into Men" and "Compass Program" to the Wasilla Sunrise Rotary. AFS had an informational/resource booth at the Mat-Su Homeless Connect. The Boys and Girls Club invited AFS to give presentations on teen dating violence, DV and sexual assault.

AFS presented on DV to Wasilla High School students. AFS gave SART presentations to the Sunshine Clinic. AFS presented the Su Valley Jr/Sr High peer helpers on Teen Dating Violence. Job Corps invited AFS to give an overview of the SART program and to educate their staff of 125 on sexual assault. AFS provided Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month activities at Wasilla High School. AFS also met with local agencies to discuss starting a Girls on the Run program.

AFS presented on effects of DV on children to CCS Early Learning staff in Wasilla.

On April 18, 2015 AFS will hold the first "No More Mat-Su" summit to end domestic violence and sexual assault. AFS is working with the Wasilla Sunrise Rotary, Mat-Su Seahawks, and Mat-Su Regional Medical Center to host the event. The decision was made to combine the national NO MORE campaign and the ANDVSA Compass Program.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

None reported.

## AVV-Advocates for Victims of Violence - VALDEZ

### SUCSESSES

For the last two years AVV provided services and support to a woman that was a victim of kidnapping, sexual and physical assault. A man in mask approached her in her driveway and forced her into her car. He fired his gun twice and drove her car 90mph. She was hostage for hours. After two years the case went to trial. He was found guilty of 18 of the 23 counts. The sentencing is scheduled later in May.

AVV had a successful campaign for Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention in February. The month kicked off with the reading and signing of the Proclamation by the Mayor at a City Council Meeting. A high school counselor and students joined AVV staff at the reading. AVV did healthy relationships and interactive activities with students.

Our elementary after school programs, which started in October, ended. We had about 47 sessions of Express Yourself and Girl's Time, for 470 children - 45 kids averaged 15 kids each session.

On March 26 AVV joined other Alaskan communities to "Choose Respect." The participation of community members was bigger this year with students from Gilson Middle School as the new additions to the march. Men from different sectors came out and led the march from Eagle's Lodge to Valdez High School, almost 220 attendees showed their support and encouragement to end Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Valdez and in Alaska.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

AVV staff and board members were invited at Coffee Break show at KCHU to talk about the upcoming Choose Respect march. We also have advertisements for the Choose Respect advertised on another radio station KVAK and in their email blast every Monday.

AVV participates in almost all of the community events. AVV partnered with A Daughter's Heart of Alaska to bring the second annual Father Daughter Dance to Valdez.

AVV collaborates with Providence Valdez Medical Center for SART. The only missing partner in the team is the nurses. The idea of the SART is very well accepted by the hospital. In March, the team attended SART training in Fairbanks. It was a good start. Unexpected funds were donated by Valdez Providence Medical Center philanthropy funds. This will be used to start a primary prevention program. AVV will partner with AWARE to bring Girls On The Run to Valdez.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

There were no deaths that were direct result of domestic violence. Although, two of the long time participants of AVV passed away during this quarter. One of them was at the shelter recently. Both a lot of medical issues that was caused by domestic violence.

## AWAIC-Abused Women's Aid in Crisis - ANCHORAGE

### SUCSESSES

AWAIC proudly reports that Alaskans are demonstrating support for our mission in a very big way. Of all the eligible non-profits across the state, AWAIC ranked number 6 in terms of total Pick.Click.Give charitable contributions for this year. AWAIC received pledges from 1,598 Alaskans for a total of \$90,475.

AWAIC continues work on furthering the Green Dot bystander strategy. Community planning continues towards filming PSAs in April, two youth summits in May, and continued overview talks and bystander trainings. The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation worked to incorporate Green Dot values into safety discussions in downtown.

AWAIC has been invited by the National Education Association Alaska to plan a tract of the April Leadership Conference. AWAIC is working with local and state trainers to ensure a wider range of domestic violence and sexual assault and prevention experts are involved in the training. The topics covered will be DV/SA Basics, Mandated Reporting, Trauma Informed Schools and Communication, Green Dot Bystander Intervention, Safety Planning and others as requested.

Anchorage partnered with Green Dot, Etc. and a trainer from Green Dot Homer to host a conference for new Green Dot instructors over three days. It was attended by over 40 community members. Evaluations demonstrate the attendees have developed new prosocial bystander behaviors as a result of attending.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

AWAIC is working with Cook Inlet Tribal Council and Cook Inlet Native Head Start to plan for the implementation of the Flourishing Child Project funded by the Office on Violence Against Women. The project will provide training to AWAIC staff and other victim-service agencies relative to the impact of trauma on children and implementing trauma informed programming. Additionally, the grant will provide a clinician to work directly with children and families at AWAIC.

AWAIC participants have repeatedly requested a group on managing the emotion of anger. This quarter AWAIC partnered with Anchorage Community Mental Health to provide a 12-week group entitled "Managing your Emotions" that had a specific focus on processing anger in healthy ways. The group was led by a clinician from ACMHS that works with AWAIC's participants. The group was well attended and will become a regular part of our group rotation.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

AWAIC's Shelter Manager has been meeting regularly with a liaison from the Office of Children's Services to ensure effective communication, troubleshoot issues as they arise and work together to better serve families in crisis. These meetings have been beneficial to staff from both agencies.

## AWARE-Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies-JUNEAU

### SUCSESSES

FY2015 is AWARE's busiest year to date. During the third quarter, AWARE housed 36 women and 27 children in emergency safe shelter for a total of 2,327 shelter nights. Thus far in FY2015, AWARE has provided 7, 920 nights of safe shelter to victims of domestic and sexual violence in Juneau and rural service areas. While shelter staff is very busy addressing immediate safety needs, they are also trying to better organize efforts at longer-term planning with women in shelter.

During this quarter, AWARE has been working to review and finalize the "Boys Run: i toowú klatseen, Strengthen Your Spirit" curriculum. Following last fall's pilot season of Boys Run, AWARE's Prevention team, in partnership with SAFV in Sitka, reviewed feedback from both coaches and participants and is making revisions to ensure that the curriculum is more streamlined and reflective of Alaska Native values. Also, Coaching Boys into Men has been implemented with both the TMHS and JDHS basketball teams. Coaches have been deeply supportive of the program and students from both teams attended the One Billion Rising event in February as their overtime project.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

During this quarter, AWARE staff participated in the planning of and celebration for Juneau's One Billion Rising event on February 13<sup>th</sup>. The event was inspiring and the community response was heartfelt and affirming.

In early March, AWARE hosted the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Women of Distinction Gala and Silent Auction. It was a beautiful evening of celebration, with many reminders of just how important this work is in the lives of women in our community.

AWARE also took up the challenge of organizing this year's *Choose Respect March*. On March 27<sup>th</sup>, community leaders, dancers, students and advocates took part in a rally on the Capitol Steps, followed by a march to the waterfront, in support of ending domestic and sexual violence in Alaska. Governor Bill Walker gave the keynote address for the event and spoke of prioritizing safety.

Also during this busy quarter, AWARE hosted our biennial Volunteer Advocacy Training. Over 18 new staff, volunteers, and community members gained a new appreciation for the complexities of trauma and the challenges of advocacy for victims.

Senator Dan Sullivan visited AWARE in March. Sen. Sullivan met with administrative personnel as well as with several women and children currently staying in AWARE's emergency shelter. Staff spent some time trying to answer the question "What do the women here need?" by talking about the effects of trauma and poverty on families.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS:

None noted at this time

## AWIC-Arctic Women in Crisis-BARROW

### SUCSESSES

During the 3rd quarter, AWIC provided residential services for a total of twenty-three (23) women and twenty-six (26) children and provided 1,201 safe-bed nights. On-call counselors responded to three (3) SART calls; the Crisis Line responded to 103 crisis calls.

SART continues to meet formally once a month— AWIC advocates and representatives from the NSBPD, ASNA, and when possible, the Barrow DA, attend meetings. At the January meeting, the SART training which was scheduled for February in Fairbanks was discussed. AWIC sent three advocates to the training and three police officers attended as part of our SART.

In March, AWIC held its Advisory Board Meeting and discussed prevention and education plans, and the upcoming Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) site visit which will occur in May.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

AWIC has formed cooperative relationships with local police, medical, mental health, and social service organizations in the community. An information sharing and cooperative effort between agencies ensures that victims receive the services they need. The NSB has a new police chief, Jon Owen, who met with AWIC staff in February. The Chief was previously stationed on the Slope and is guiding his department toward community policing.

AWIC facilitated the sixth annual *Choose Respect March* on Thursday, March 26. With the sun shining, community residents met at the main Borough building and made their way to the Matsutani Community Center. The North Slope Borough Mayor and North Slope Borough School District Superintendent joined honored guest Alaska Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott to eloquently speak to the gathering. After the walk, in partnership with Integrated Behavioral health, a community potluck was hosted and served over 80 community members.

The North Slope Borough Police Department honored AWIC and the Coordinator with their *Citizen of the Year Award*, honoring their commitment to further the investigation of sex-related crimes.

The NSB MDT held its first strategic meeting at AWIC on March 9. In attendance were representatives from NSBHDAWIC, the Office of Children's Services, The North Slope Borough Police Department, Arctic Slope Native Association, and Integrated Behavioral Health. The first case review will be held on April 6 at AWIC.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

None noted at this time

## BSWG – Bering Sea Women’s Group - NOME

### SUCSESSES

BSWG seated a new member to the Board of Directors. Board seats are now complete and membership includes representation of the regional Alaska Native people and communities plus social service and education disciplines.

In January, BSWG sponsored its first Disability Abuse Response Team (DART) meeting.

In January, the BSWG Executive Director participated in a New Director Orientation in Juneau and met with ANDVSA and CDVSA staff members.

BSWG applied to be a Pick.Click.Give organization.

BSWG staff members participated in a Strengthening Families training and a Green Dot presentation was provided for BSWG clients.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

BSWG planned and sponsored a Choose Respect March on March 25, 2015.

BSWG participated in an ANDVSA Training by Ariel Herman

BSWG presented to Nome Public Schools Junior High students.

BSWG and the partners of the Disability Abuse Response Team (DART) established a Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Goals

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

Esther Lincoln, of White Mountain, was killed in January.

## CFRC –Cordova Family Resource Center - CORDOVA

### SUCSESSES

The Believe It or Not I Care (B.I.O.N.I.C) group students continue to meet, working on their project from Lead-on. They presented power-points to the school board about bullying, drugs, and the Lead-on experience.

CFRC held its Annual Dinner in February where informational flyers, brochures and lipstick holders with educational information (myths and facts, signs/symptoms, and resources) for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims were distributed.

The month of March was very busy with the Choose Respect March, annual Easter Basket Auction and Parenting classes for our clients. 1) CFRC held a presentation at the high school for the Choose Respect March for grades 7-12. CFRC then headed to Main Street and marched down Main Street back to the school. The B.I.O.N.I.C students made signs for the March. 2) The Easter Basket Auction is an annual fundraising event. The Seward community looks forward to it every year. CFRC raised \$2,800 and had 96 baskets donated from local and state-wide business. 3) Parenting Class is a 6 week class this is our second session. We had a total of 5 parents participate.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

SART team has all policies in place, a SART exam room, and a Colposcopy for the exams. Cordova SART is fully operational with only some weeks not operational due to medical leave.

B.I.O.N.I.C. youth group meets weekly at the high school. There are a total of about 30 students in the B.I.O.N.I.C group. These students presented to Sound Alternatives and CFRC staff. They will do a presentation to the elementary youth as well as the 4<sup>th</sup> R plus curriculum.

CFRC, Infant Learning, Native Village of Eyak and Public Health Nurse have made several attempts to get to both Chenega Bay and Tatitlek. Finally during February we were able to travel to Chenega, and presented to 40 individuals on DV and community resources including the availability of SART. We still have been unsuccessful traveling to Tatitlek will try again in April and May.

CFRC held an informational meeting for providers about DART. CFRC is planning a training for program participants as well as reaching out to the local providers.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

Sound Alternative behavioral health and CFRC collaborate to provide counseling to program participants at the CFRC facility. Some concerns CFRC has with this program is that now some of our program participants cannot afford to continue counseling. The payment structure is not as initially explained. Participants are being billed now for services from last January-March. And bills are being sent to collections. We went from almost 20 clients seeking services to none. This is something that Sound Alternatives and CFRC are working together to find a solution.

## IAC-Interior Alaskan Center for Non-Violent Living-FAIRBANKS

### SUCSESSES

IAC has successfully implemented an on-staff attorney. This is a very exciting new addition that gives those that IAC serves resources that have not been available in the past. Having an on staff attorney has allowed the program to offer legal services to those that have been unable to obtain legal representation through other means. IAC has seen an increase in safety checks and safety plans with individuals who do not feel that they are in need of shelter, but feel they need some extra support to remain safe in their own home.

IAC began doing interviews as a control site for the Kids Club/Mom's Empowerment group. While they have not begun to run the groups, it has been a positive experience for those they have interviewed. IAC is excited to continue with this program as funding allows and begin the groups in the future.

IAC is seeing an increase in the attendance of both the adult and children's Art Healing groups. This is a great group that allows individuals to receive support services in a comfortable and unassuming atmosphere.

The PSH and Transitional programs remain in high demand with many requests for these services and not enough slots for all those who desire the services. Even though there is not the space for the demand, this has given IAC the ability to work with individuals in a more intensive case management role.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

One of the biggest highlights of this quarter for IAC was the very successful *Choose Respect Rally* that took place March 26<sup>th</sup> and was sponsored by the Fairbanks Rotary. Over 150 individuals attended this event that highlighted the prevalence of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska. Many speakers including the president of the Rotary, Fairbanks Police Departments Chief, IAC's Executive Director and many more spoke about the need to speak out against the issue and get involved to help end this epidemic in their communities.

IAC's Prevention Program has had a busy quarter with both radio and news spots highlighting *Choose Respect* and the Green Dot Prevention campaign. In January, 30 faculty and students attended a three day UAF Green Dot Training raising awareness on the importance of bystander intervention to make a difference on campuses and in the community. The IAC Prevention Coordinator also attended a Coaching Boys into Men (CBIM) training in Anchorage with coaches and prevention staff from around the state in order to gain ideas and advice on how to implement CBIM in the local community.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

None noted at this time

## KWRCC-Kodiak Women's Resource and Crisis Center-KODIAK

### SUCSESSES

KWRCC continued to perform core services this quarter, providing for the safety needs of victims. There were no clients not admitted to shelter due to lack of bed availability.

KWRCC started the annual Advanced Advocacy class. There are currently 4 people in attendance.

KWRCC continues to sit on two MDT's. One team addresses child cases and one addresses the adult sexual assault cases as well domestic violence cases. KWRCC consults and provides victim advocate services to both.

KWRCC was able to send three advocates to the Rural Safety and Justice Conference in February, which covered working with immigrant victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and human trafficking.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

March 28<sup>th</sup> KWRCC held the annual *Choose Respect March*. There were 90 in attendance. This year the State Youth Teen Court participated. The keynote speech in the event was given by a senior in high school talking about how important the *Choose Respect Campaign* is to younger generations. It was very powerful.

March 27<sup>th</sup> Old Harbor held their Annual *Choose Respect March*. In Old Harbor it was an all-day community event. The day started off with community participation in prepping for the march by making signs and sharing stories. Then the community marched together, and the day way topped off with a community BBQ. It was a very successful event.

KWRCC staff were able to attend several different trainings this Quarter. 4 people from the Kodiak community attended the SART training held in Fairbanks in March, and 2 advocates attended the Advanced Sexual Assault and Wellness Conference put on by ANDVSA in February. Three advocates attend the Rural Safety and Justice Conference in February and the new Outreach Coordinator attended the Prevention Summit in March.

KWRCC's Outreach Team spent a lot of time in the schools this quarter. They went into both the middle school as well as the high school for two weeks of presentations on internet safety, dating violence and date rape. The team covered both prevention and resources available if ever needed.

KWRCC continues the collaborative work built through the SAFTEE project in Kodiak. This project is collaboration between shelters, OCS, and tribes to create a safer way to work with mothers whose children are in the OCS system due to domestic violence in their homes. This project's goal is to work to keep children with the non-offending parent, while maintaining safety.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

None noted at this time.

## LSC-The LeeShore Center-KENAI

### SUCSESSES

A single female immigrant that had recently attained her US Citizenship came to LSC for shelter as she was going through a divorce due to domestic violence. She was working full time and going to college part time. LSC was able to refer her to the Empowering Choice housing assistance. She was successful in obtaining housing and has moved into her new home. She was very thankful for all of the services and made a point of letting LSC staff and the other shelter residents know how lucky we are to live in the United States and have the victim service programs available to them that other countries just don't have. She was very inspiring to both staff and residents.

LSC was able to assist a single female with chronic mental health issues and limited life skills retain her independence from having an appointed guardian. LSC was able to provide her with community resources to assist her with the areas of concern that may have caused her to be appointed a public guardian. The participant now has the public benefits she qualified for, a payee to assist her with finances, and was able to obtain an Empowering Choice subsidized rental where she is happily now living.

A young woman came to the shelter due to domestic violence. She had recently lost her only living relative so was feeling very alone in the world. She was an active alcoholic upon arrival. While at LSC she was able to obtain her GED, find employment, join AA, and celebrate 30 days sobriety. She was able to obtain a subsidized rental unit through the Empowering Choice program that is within walking distance of her place of employment.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

LeeShore's 6<sup>th</sup> annual *Choose Respect* event was a great success! Seventy-two community members participated in the event. Guest speakers included Elizabeth Schultz, assistant to First Lady Donna Walker, Senator Peter Micciche (via taped video), Kenai Mayor Pat Porter, and Borough Mayor Mike Navarre.

The Executive Director and members of the board of directors attended the Governor's Ball in Kenai at the invitation of First Lady Donna Walker. The First Lady designated proceeds of the event to LeeShore; a total of \$5000.

Kenai held its 5<sup>th</sup> annual Project Homeless Connect event in January. A total of 89 individuals (189 in households) were provided services and resources.

LeeShore's Executive Director joined the United Way Director in presenting information to local Food Bank staff on how United Way funds help community agencies and clients served.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

The remains of a family missing for the past 10 months were discovered. Although nothing official has been released, their deaths are believed to be due to domestic violence.

## SAFE – Safe and Fear Free Environment - DILLINGHAM

### SUCSESSES

SAFE Board and staff updated the Strategic Plan that included a significant reorganization of staff and program resources in the wake of a 40% reduction in SAFE's annual operating budget for FY15.

FY14 audit was completed with no exceptions or findings, making it the 28<sup>th</sup> year of 'clean' audits.

SAFE worked with a young man conducting a research project on sexual assault in rural Alaska for his dissertation for a PhD in public health. The project included interviewing and analyzing the response of victims to help determine the scope and impact of sexual assault with a special inquiry into obstacles to reporting and responding to sexual assault in very small, tightly knit communities. 14 interviews had been completed. The researcher shared an interviewee reported that the interview process was constructive and cathartic.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

The 2015 Choose Respect March was the biggest march SAFE has sponsored yet with nearly 130 participants including an increasing number of men and boys (nearly 40%) and youth (about 30%).

SAFE's ED and Youth Services/Myspace Youth Wellness Center Manager met with Curyung Tribe, Bristol Bay Native Association tribal services staff, elders and community members to plan and prepare for the Summer Youth Services/Cultural Camp operations that begin in mid-May and continue through mid-August. An average of 120-150 youth age 4-18 participate in SYS/Culture Camp each year. The program is primarily managed by SAFE in close partnership with the tribe and our other community partners.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

A local woman who was a long term survivor of both battering and sexual assault was found beaten to death in her own home. Her death is listed as a homicide and is currently under investigation. Primary suspects/persons of interest are near and/or extended family members.

A program participant complained to the Board of Directors once they discovered that SAFE provided services to the person the participant had named as an abuser and respondent in a Protective Order (that was not granted by the courts). The program participant continues to receive services from SAFE. The board and staff met and as a result SAFE instituted several changes to increase safety and security for program participants and staff.

SAFE is seeing an increase in child custody disputes in cases where there is ongoing sexual or physical violence, especially when one or both adults are impacted by substance abuse.

SAFE discovered that a thrift shop employee had been misappropriating funds for several months. The employee conceded to the theft and was let go. SAFE chose not to pursue criminal charges as action would not be in the best interest of either SAFE or the offender. Total loss is estimated between \$4,000 and \$6,000.

## SAFV – Sitkans Against Family Violence - SITKA

### SUCCESES

This year more money than ever before was raised at the Family Fiesta event, demonstrating increased community support. Several individual desserts sold for \$400-\$500.

SAFV began implementing the Kids Club and Moms Empowerment Program (KCMEP) t. One of the moms said, “This is one of the most useful groups I’ve ever attended”, and several moms had equally positive comments. At the end of March SAFV facilitators attended KCMEP training through CDVSA, to debrief and receive feedback on how to better implement the group.

SAFV was officially approved for two more Jesuit Volunteers for the upcoming fiscal year.

Girls on the Run (GOTR) is well into their seventh season in Sitka! SAFV has a great group of coaches including recruits from partners at both Youth Advocates of Sitka and Sitka Counseling. There are 34 girls split between two teams.

SAFV has been working with the school district in Kake to support Kake’s first Girls On The Run program.

Topics discussed at the Pathways Retreat included overview of the radio lab story highlighting the work of the Pathways collation.

The Children’s Program Coordinator continued lunch groups for children at risk who are identified and referred by school personnel, both at Baranof School for kindergarten to 1<sup>st</sup> grade and Keet Elementary School for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She completed a total of 23 groups.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

Sitka Tribe of Alaska’s Transitional Housing Program (of which SAFV is a primary partner) started their program. SAFV made three referrals, two of which should be receiving housing very soon.

SAFV sent out approximately 750 newsletters to organizations and households. SAFV’s newly launched website, [www.safv.org](http://www.safv.org), has turned into a valuable resource for people seeking services. The prevention e-newsletter was released in mid-January.

The SAFV director has had several meetings with two newly hired Lieutenants in the Sitka Police Department (SPD).

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

SAFV’s Youth Education Specialist works with Blatchley Middle School on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Fourth R and 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade healthy relationships lessons. Unfortunately, the budget cuts and testing have taken precedence and no movement beyond planning has occurred. It is too late to fully implement the Fourth R.

## SCS – Seaview Community Services- Seward

### SUCSESSES

SCS met with the Seward Police Department, Alaska State Troopers, the Child Advocacy Center and the Office of Children's Services.

We are in the process of forming a DV Task force but have not yet set a date for when our first meeting will be held.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

On March 28<sup>th</sup> SCS hosted the Choose Respect March. This event was well attended by members of our community including staff from the Spring Creek Correctional Facility. The Choose Respect march was covered in our both of our local papers.

The SCS Executive Director is on her third year with SCS and reports "I feel that we have gained amazing strides with our community partners and we are collaborating more with each other to better service our community."

The SCS Executive Director attended the ANDVSA Network meetings. SCS completed response for the CDVSA grant.

SCS held two big events the choose respect march and the annual carnival.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

None reported.

## SPHH – South Peninsula Haven House - HOMER

### SUCSESSES

SPHH successfully managed a full shelter while offering numerous support services. Alaska Housing continues to distribute vouchers for housing at this time which is promising. Also Homer has recently had some Empowering Choice vouchers come back to our community so we can assist those experiencing DV find housing.

A young mother working with OCS over the past several months is shortly going to have her case closed. Because of her time at Haven House she was able to work towards reunification with her son. She continues to receive parenting support and assistance from advocates.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

SPHH hosted an annual Women of Distinction fundraiser and awards ceremony. About 175 people attended. This was the most successful fundraiser ever. The staff award, Hero of the Heart, went to Representative Paul Seaton.

For Girls on the Run afterschool program, SPHH hosted SPHH's first of three "Family Fun Nights", meant to reinforce the concepts 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade participants of Girls on the Run are learning with their parents. We adapted a game from a Girls on the Run "Positive Self-Talk and Why I Choose It" lesson to include parents. It was amazing to see the girls so empowered, confident and excited to share GOTR concepts. The parents expressed enthusiasm for the activities and excitement in connecting with each other.

SPHH hosted a Green Dot one-hour overview to the City Council. It was well received. SPHH also presented a two-hour Green Dot community training in collaboration with the Seldovia Village Tribe's Wellness Center and began introducing Green Dot concepts to high school staff and student groups.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

Again, SPHH has been at shelter capacity the majority of the time. SPHH has several young families. Advocates offer parenting support, provide individual and group child activities and other services as needed. SPHH also is working with several young women residents struggling with maintaining sobriety.

SPHH is concerned about protective order rulings by our local judge, which seem biased against victims. Additionally, our adult and child cases are still taking extensive amounts of time.

SPHH has noticed an increase in the amount of landlord tenant issues including eviction and allegations of stalking by landlord as well. Also when necessary SPHH have offered referrals to community partners for financial assistance for trying to avoid eviction.

## STAR-Standing Together Against Rape-ANCHORAGE

### SUCSESSES

STAR began co-facilitating a support group for parents and caregivers, whose children have experienced child sexual abuse. This group is co-facilitated by STAR's Counselor and a Counselor from Alaska CARES.

A STAR "Wellness Week", incorporating a variety of activities and tools to emphasize wellness and a healthy work-life balance, occurred in March. Some of the activities included a daily assortment of fine teas and hot and cold drinks offered in a "beverage bar", a breakfast potluck, an introduction to aromatherapy, guidance with mindful meditation, tips on discovering your "Dosha", learning to crochet, make sushi, a class on discovering your "love language", wellness mapping, and puppy palooza, where staff members brought their dogs to a local park to play together.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

STAR is an active participant with community partners as part of the collaborative response to human trafficking under a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, and attends regular meetings hosted by the Alaska Institute for Justice. STAR Advocates attended a conference in Anchorage on Sex Trafficking, focused on how the problem presents in Rural Alaska.

Alaska *Ski for Women* occurred February 2<sup>nd</sup>. STAR had volunteers who participated in the registration and staff helped out at the event. For not having a very good snow year, there was a great turnout and everyone was super excited to be helping support necessary social services for women throughout Anchorage and Alaska.

STAR participated in Anchorage Homeless Connect and distributed bags of clothing, reflectors, blinking visibility lights, and information to people experiencing homelessness

STAR provided training as part of a professional panel to Community Health Aides, through the Alaska Tribal Health Consortium.

The Anchorage multidisciplinary center, co-housing Alaska CARES and the SART clinic, as well as co-located offices of the Anchorage Police Department, Alaska State Troopers, and the Office of Children's Services, has been given notice they will need to move in the next couple of years. Planning meetings are under way to find a suitable building location, and all agency needs are being addressed by an architectural firm.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

Rosemary Owens, STAR's Operations Manager and most tenured employee (April would be 12 years with STAR), left the state in February to undergo medical testing and procedures in Washington. Unfortunately, she lost her fight to cancer on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. She is terribly missed by everyone at STAR, and by everyone who had a chance to work with her in the community and throughout the state.

## TWC – Tundra Women’s Coalition - BETHEL

### SUCCESES

TWC hosted its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual YukegtaaQ Celebration to honor members of the community for their contributions to this region. Two elders were honored for their subsistence advocacy and practices. It was well attended, well sponsored by local organizations, and well pulled off by the YukegtaaQ staff, who worked to pull this event off. We were able to showcase what TWC did this year and what was upcoming. It was one of the better YukegtaaQ’s in TWC’s history.

Additionally, TWC’s Choose Respect Walk was very well attended by Bethel community members, especially the Alaska State Troopers. This was a smaller event than usual in terms of the potluck because the Kuskokwim University Campus was unable to partner with us this year as they have in the past. However, participation was up.

Participation in the walk and YukegtaaQ’s high attendance was possible in part because TWC recently created a Facebook Group Page which TWC used to advertise for events and post days and times of the events. We are hopeful this page will be a strong arm for outreach in the future.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

- TWC started a Facebook Group Page
- TWC’s Annual YukegtaaQ Celebration
- KYUK covered TWC’s YukegtaaQ event
- Choose Respect March happened (KYUK covered it)
- Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in February—Teens Acting Against Violence (TAAV) did many events including a wear orange day, and tabling at BRHS and KLA (the local high schools).
- TAAV members started filming the new Healthy Relationships video
- The EMB group started work on a PSA
- The prevention summit was hosted in Anchorage and attended by TWC staff, TAAV members, and other Bethel community members.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

- 1/30/15: 25-year-old Toksook Bay woman died in Bethel—homicide suspected.
- 2/21/15: 28-year-old man found dead in Kotlik—homicide suspected
- 2/24/15: 26-year-old woman killed in Bethel. Definite homicide
- 3/9/15: Bethel woman fatally shot in Anchorage

TWC had a lot of significant turnover during this quarter. Funds were not renewed that supported one of the Deputy Director positions, the Executive Director and the Board of Directors experienced a mutual parting of ways, and the shelter manager resigned within a span of two months. The board appointed the other Deputy Director as Interim Executive Director for a period of six months and the remaining people on the management team are committed to building up that resource while TWC transitions. When the transition settles a bit more it is essential that TWC build up more administrative support, potentially with an arm directed towards outreach.

## USAFV-Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence-UNALASKA

### SUCSESSES

In Q3 of FY15, USAFV:

- Had contact with 60 program participants (52 unduplicated)
- Provided 454 services, including individual, systems, and legal advocacy
- Provided 23 days/nights of safe shelter at USAFV & Elsewhere
- Provided food assistance 58 times to individuals and families

Shelter nights continue to be down significantly from last year; it is believed this is simply a fluke and indicative of the unpredictable nature of the "business." USAFV is still quite busy with non-resident program participants, and are still getting referrals. They are still enjoying cooperative and collaborative relationships with community partners, and community members are still attending events and supporting them financially and otherwise.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

In the third quarter of FY15:

- USAFV participated in three public education radio shows on local radio: One on Financial Literacy, one on Teen Dating Violence, and one on Sexual Assault.
- USAFV participated in "Story Time" six times, in cooperation with the recreation center and library, with stories focusing on friendship, feelings, communication, being different, and conflict resolution, and through this had 146 contacts with children.
- USAFV worked with the local Girl Scouts to create Valentine's Cards for regional villagers.
- USAFV hosted the Unalaska Student Council at the shelter, answering questions about the program and planning for collaborative events.
- USAFV hosted a Teen Night for 22 students, which included dinner, videos, and games. The outreach focused on gender stereotypes, violence, and bullying prevention.
- USAFV held their annual SOUP-OFF Potluck & Membership Meeting/Fundraiser, and raised over \$17,000 in one night!

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

None noted at this time.

## VFJ – Victims for Justice - ANCHORAGE

### SUCSESSES

VFJ collaborated with Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) and medical organizations to assist assault victim to financially support medication for crime related mental health symptoms.

VFJ found stable housing for homeless assault victim and assisted with getting support for rent/deposit.

VFJ assisted two displaced robbery victims to move belongings into a secure storage facility and find temporary housing and transportation.

VFJ advocated for two homeless DV victims who were previously denied shelter to be accepted into local organization's housing facility.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

VFJ attended a conference at ChangePoint Church for victims service agencies.

VFJ is working to strengthen VFJ's relationship with Covenant House, and is looking at ways VFJ can encourage youth victims to seek help at Victims for Justice.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

None reported.

## WISH-Women In Safe Homes-KETCHIKAN

### SUCSESSES

After a family relocation to Ketchikan due to the husband's history of alcoholism and violence, the mother hoped for a new beginning for her family. Once in Ketchikan the abusive cycle began again. Late December, after being threatened with a concealed weapon and feeling powerless, the victim came to the WISH shelter requesting legal assistance in the form of a protective order/restraining order, divorce, and custody. A short-term protection order was granted and later a long-term protective order, dissolution of marriage, and temporary full custody. In January the participant was hired with Safeway and was recently promoted with a pay increase. She was also approved for housing through the Empowering Choice Housing Program through the Alaska Housing Corporation.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

In February, Gene Tagaban had a successful trip talking with many organizations about standing up against domestic violence. Gene performed at the Ketchikan Indian Community Elders Luncheon, Schoenbar Middle School and the Organized Village of Saxman. Previously in January, an event was held to discuss COMPASS (Community Partnership for Access Solutions and Success); a program that helps mentor young men/boys in living respectful lives. Eleven program participants from WISH attended. Over 100 people attended the event held at the Saxman Civic Center with people donating food. Gene, an honored guest, led the ceremonial opening dance into the event and shared his traditional dances with the public. WISH's Education Services Manager coordinated the successful event.

A highly successful event for One Billion Rising was held at the Ketchikan High School on February 14<sup>th</sup>. This event was a cooperative effort including WISH, Ketchikan Indian Community, Akeela Gateway Mental Health Services, several high school groups, local businesses, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Recreation Center, and the Wellness Coalition. Over 100 participants took to the gym floor to perform in ending domestic violence and sexual assault. Ketchikan Public Utilities videoed the event and aired it on the public events locally. A link was established on the One Billion Rising website.

The *Choose Respect March* was held on March 26 with WISH, the Day Shelter, and churches marching to show that everyone deserves respect whether they are homeless, hungry, victims of violence, have mental illness or substance abuse issues. This event made front page news in the Ketchikan Daily News.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

WISH is seeing a higher lethality level in the intake process of shelter participants. It appears more victims are moving to Ketchikan from other states and elsewhere, particularly from Prince of Wales. With HOPE (on Prince of Wales) going through substantial changes in their organization, WISH is seeing an increased number of calls and arrivals.

## AFS – Family Violence Intervention Program - PALMER

### OVERVIEW

The AFS BIP staff participated and encouraged our clients to attend the Choose Respect March in Wasilla and Palmer. Staff taught on the theme of what it means to Choose Respect and had clients make posters for the marches.

### SUCCESES

Five participants completed their court-ordered groups for this quarter.

### INTERACTIONS WITH ORGANIZATIONS

- Law Enforcement - Trooper Waychoff, our AST officer assigned to domestic violence (DV) follow-up informed AFS BIP that her position at the Alaska State Troopers may be cut from the budget. She stated that she will inform AFS BIP when that might occur and will still assist us fully in helping the victims of our program participants.
- Prosecutors - AFS BIP plans to set a meeting next quarter to meet with prosecutors about the AFS batterer's intervention program. The FVIP staff attends monthly domestic violence intervention program hearings and provides individual client statuses to the district attorney's (DA) office.
- Court System – AFS BIP have experienced some delays in the court system filling petitions to revoke probation. AFS BIP hopes to work this out next quarter after a meeting with the District Judges and the DA's office.
- Probation/Parole – AFS BIP provided status updates on a regular basis to the individual officers.
- Medical - Public Health and the hospital were involved in monthly DV Task Force meetings.
- Office of Children's Services (OCS) – AFS BIP continues to provide status updates to OCS clients with releases of information. OCS continues to send AFS BIP referrals to conduct intakes on their clients for placement in AFS BIP classes.
- DV Task Force – AFS BIP has participated in monthly Task Force meetings. AFS BIP is working on developing a Community Outreach and Prevention plan.
- Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) – Information is offered to victims during safety checks.
- Behavioral Health – AFS BIP has regular contact and collaboration with local mental health providers regarding coordination of services.
- Other victim services or Batterer Intervention Programs – AFS BIP maintain regular contact with the local DV shelter to coordinate services and provide victim safety checks. AFS BIP continues to coordinate services of our clients with other Batterer Intervention Programs.

## AWARE - Juneau Choice and Accountability Program –JUNEAU

### OVERVIEW

During Q3 JCAP moved to their new location at 114 North Franklin Street. This space affords staff the opportunity to meet regularly with participants in a consistent meeting space and utilize this new space for individual meetings, weekly intake assessments, and monthly orientation.

JCAP continued to enroll men on the waitlist. Staff worked efficiently to complete intake assessments and orientation, as to expedite the enrollment process and have the men begin program. JCAP also successfully hired a new Community Services Manager, Britta Tonnessen.

### SUCSESSES

During Q3, staff worked closely with the men on their accountability, not only regarding their domestic violence assault(s), but in many aspects of their lives, and focused on the topic of “Effects of DV on children”. During a lesson, staff instructed the participants to read a story about a batterer’s impact on the home, and then facilitated a discussion. One participant stated that this scenario was almost exactly everything that he had done - what he had said to her, how the children were affected, and how he knew exactly what he was doing. Peer accountability is quite effective in challenging men to reexamine their own beliefs and behaviors, and this was impactful for the others in the group.

### INTERACTIONS WITH ORGANIZATIONS

- Law Enforcement – JPD is vital to complete intakes during the assessment process. Staff also worked with Sitka Police Department in accessing police records. Staff is appreciative of these departments and their relationship with JCAP, working to provide police reports in a timely manner.
- Prosecutors –This quarter had many non-compliant participants requiring staff to work closely with the prosecutors to clearly discuss program policy and to collaborate regarding the city or the state’s status on the participant.
- Court System –Staff has worked closely with the court system regarding participant status. Staff contacted the CBJ Public Defender to compare current contact information.
- Probation/Parole – Staff worked closely with both field and institutional probation officers this quarter in regard to participant status, compliance, and participation.
- OCS (Office of Children’s Services) – During Q3 staff worked to communicate regularly about mutual clients. Staff provided OCS with copies of JCAP’s pre-intake assessment forms so that they may expedite the referral process on their end.
- DV Task Force – N/A
- Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) – N/A
- Behavioral Health – Staff contacted JAMHI in regard to the eligibility of participants to be able to enroll in and complete JCAP. Staff contacted JAMHI about potential relations regarding mutual clients, and how to discuss compliance.
- Other victim services or Batterer Intervention Programs (BIP) – This quarter staff communicated with staff from the Tukwila, WA *Anger Control Treatment and Therapies* in regard to a participant who is in the process of transferring to that location.

## KIC– Ketchikan Indian Community – KETCHIKAN

### OVERVIEW

KIC works diligently to provide services to survivors and victims of DV. KIC helps BIP participants find tools to help them change their beliefs on abuse, gender roles, power and control. The agency also works on bringing awareness and educating the Ketchikan community on the danger and prevalence of DV/SA.

### SUCSESSES

KIC had several BIP participants complete the program this quarter. Some of these were long-time participants that have been involved with the BIP program for 3-4 years.

This February KIC attended the OVW grantee orientation in Albuquerque, New Mexico. There also was an ICWA (Indian Child Welfare Act) training held in Ketchikan.

In March KIC participated in the DV prevention summit in Anchorage.

The Promoting Respectful Relationships Task Force facilitated the local One Billion Rising event during a basketball game at the high school, and 200 people participated in the event. The event also brought together two major resources to the prevention efforts, as the two dance studios in town helped to teach the Break the Chain dance during workshops. They are excited to be more involved in the future.

### INTERACTIONS WITH ORGANIZATIONS

- Law Enforcement – The Chief of Police sits on several collaborative task forces including DART and the DVTF. KIC has regular contact with the Chief of Police through these meetings.
- Prosecutors – Staff continue to receive client referrals and communicate regarding monitoring. Staff attends status hearings.
- Court System – KIC is involved with the courts and collaborates on referrals and monitoring. Staff attends status update hearings.
- Probation/Parole –KIC communicates frequently with area probation officers about participants.
- Medical –N/A
- OCS (Office of Children’s Services) – This quarter, KIC received one referral from OCS.
- DV Task Force – There have been scheduling difficulties in regard to the DV Task Force, therefore attendance has been low this quarter.
- Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) – N/A
- Behavioral Health – This quarter, several referrals have been made to the KIC Behavioral Health Clinic to address mental health issues with participants.
- Other victim services or Batterer Intervention Programs – KIC is in regular contact with WISH and SAIL

## IAC – Learning to End Abuse Permanently -Fairbanks

### OVERVIEW

The sliding fee scale list has continued to stay full and LEAP has continued to have a wait list of men who qualify, but have to wait to get in due to limited funds. This quarter 6 new people were received into the Sliding Scale BIP program. The rest of the slots remain full.

The number of offender's court ordered to a BIP within the LEAP region has gone down drastically. In surveying their database, LEAP found that only 66 people were court ordered to program in 2014. Comparatively, in 2013 there were 132 and in 2012 there were 205.

### SUCSESSES

LEAP continues to update their curriculum in order to best address the tactics used by abusers to hurt their victims, to target the irrational beliefs they used to justify them, and to teach them why it is important to change these parts of them and how to do it. The staff has continued to work together as a team that supports, encourages and respects one another and has continued to be good role models for participants regarding how to treat others honestly and fairly.

### INTERACTIONS WITH ORGANIZATIONS

- Law Enforcement –Through the CCR and DVTF meetings and via the Community program there is constructive communication with law enforcement; particularly with the Troopers. Fairbanks has new chief of police who has been focusing on community policing and has shown interest in collaborating with the CCR and DVTF.
- Prosecutors – Staff maintains regular contact with the DA by providing them with affidavits of non-compliance on a monthly basis, feedback, and information through the DVTF, CCR meetings, and regular phone and email contacts.
- Court System – LEAP participates in a weekly ongoing status hearing for offenders with the judge. They also provide information on client status upon request.
- Medical – LEAP has regular interaction with Forensic Nursing Services through the CCR meetings. There is a cross-over of offenders who are in jail due to assaults that have required medical treatment for victims. LEAP communicates with Forensic Nursing on these cases when possible.
- OCS – LEAP has regular contact with OCS by making regular reports of harm when applicable. LEAP participates in meetings with caseworkers on client progress or lack thereof, and has ongoing referrals from OCS to the program.
- DV Task Force – LEAP attends the DVTF meetings when they are held.
- Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) - No direct interaction
- Other victim services or Batterer Intervention Programs – The director has regular contact with programs throughout the country and state for referrals and transfers of offenders to other programs, and also to exchange information.
- Probation/Parole – LEAP is regularly in communication with probation and parole and has had a cooperative relationship with them for over 15 years. LEAP provides them with training on DV offenders and understanding treatment for offenders, holds case conferences, and provides insight and suggestions on probationary conditions.

## LSC– Central Peninsula Batterer’s Intervention Program – KENAI

### OVERVIEW

During Q3, 5 new participants entered the CPBIP program and received orientation. There were 3 court hearings to address non-compliance issues. Over this 3 month period several cases were continued to future date: of those, 1 participant was reassigned to The LeeShore Center’s BIP, 3 cases had the BIP requirement deleted with the persons involved taking 30-80 days of jail time, 1 is still in continuance mode, and 1 is set for trial as a felony criminal case.

### SUCSESSES

Participants this quarter completed the Communication module and are currently in the Power & Control module. Participants are asked to read through the DV101 section and the CPBIP facilitator shows video role plays (from Duluth) for each chapter of the section. The men are then required to complete a section of homework as well as a control log based on the role play. Participants have had several great conversations during this module.

### INTERACTIONS WITH ORGANIZATIONS

- Law Enforcement – Kenai Police, Soldotna Police and AST were all involved in the *Choose Respect* event March 24<sup>th</sup>. Kenai Police and FBI officers recently discovered the remains of a local family; their interaction with the community and staff at LeeShore was greatly appreciated during this difficult time.
- Prosecutors – the CPBIP co-facilitator meets with prosecutors monthly during compliance hearings at the Kenai Court system. The results of the BIP annual survey were discussed with the Kenai DA’s office and a future meeting will be held to talk about the roles that each play in the intervention process.
- Court System – the CPBIP co-facilitator attends monthly compliance hearings at the Kenai Court system. After months of continuances for BIP cases, several were adjudicated in March. CPBIP staff testified and was able to discuss the cooperation between a local treatment center (CICADA) and the CPBIP. This cooperation allows men who are ordered to complete both BIP and ASAP to complete each program in a timely manner by cooperating and communicating regarding attendance as classes coincide.
- Medical – SART nurses are involved with the DV/SA Task Force.
- Probation/Parole – several CPBIP participants are referred by Adult Probation. Representatives from DJJ participated in the *Choose Respect* event.
- OCS (Office of Children’s Services) – some CPBIP participants are referred by OCS. In those cases releases are obtained in order to speak with the OCS case workers in regards to compliance.
- DV Task Force – LeeShore’s Executive Director Cheri Smith chairs the task force.
- Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) – shelter advocates help clients to contact VCCB.
- Behavioral Health – A meeting was held to discuss the roles of behavioral health professionals and DART members to better aid people who experience disabilities and are victims of domestic violence.
- Other victim services or Batterer Intervention Programs – CPBIP is open to contact with other agencies for exchange of information as needed.

## SPHH – Domestic Violence Intervention Program – HOMER

### OVERVIEW

This quarter SPHH BIP has been providing coordinated services for a female who was courted ordered to the SPHH BIP program last summer. Due to her history of trauma and abuse she has been meeting on an individual basis, as well as seeing an SPHH victim advocate once per week. She has also been connected with Community Mental Health and is receiving services.

### SUCSESSES

A talented member of the Homer community has been volunteering with the SPHH batterer's intervention program (BIPS). He has co-facilitated batters groups in the past and has years of experience in the mental health and legal fields. He is currently providing support services for our program and will continue throughout the grant cycle.

### INTERACTIONS WITH ORGANIZATIONS

- Law Enforcement - SPHH interactions have been ongoing and positive.
- Prosecutors - On-going contact has been happening with the Homer District Attorney's office. SPHH has also met once face to face to discuss program and Homer community needs for victims of domestic violence (DV).
- Court System – SPHH has attended several status hearings during this quarter. Each hearing was positive.
- Probation/Parole – SPHH has not had any interaction with Probation or Parole this quarter as our clients are on unsupervised probation.
- Medical -
- Office of Children's Services (OCS) –
- DV Task Force –
- Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) –
- Behavioral Health -
- Other victim services or Batterer Intervention Programs -

## HOPE-Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies – CRAIG, Prince of Wales (POW)

### SUCSESSES

Green Dot Training was held in Hydaburg for members of the Southeast Island School District and Hydaburg School Board. Four people attended.

The HOPE Prevention Coordinator and two community members attended the Prevention Summit in Anchorage from March 3-8.

The HOPE Volunteer Coordinator attended Data and Assessment training in Ketchikan from January 26-27<sup>th</sup>.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

HOPE's relations with Community Connections are improved. They will be allowing HOPE in to do a Green Dot presentation for support staff.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

HOPE shut its doors for about six weeks due to its lack of liability insurance. HOPE has also had resignations from four Board members and from our Executive Director, Victim Advocate and Volunteer Coordinator. We have not had a Victim Advocate or Volunteer Coordinator on staff since February. The Interim Executive Director, Tiffany Mills, began work on April 1, 2015. We are currently interviewing for the Victim Advocate and Volunteer Coordinator positions.

## UTWC-Upper Tanana Wellness Court - TOK

### SUCSESSES

Additional training has been discussed and is in the works. UTWC has been in contact with Interior Alaskans for Non-Violent Living Center (IAC) and plan to have other volunteers trained sometime during the next quarter.

Contact has been made with IAC and two volunteers are planning to go to Fairbanks to shadow in the IAC advocacy program during 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Village volunteer has been in contact with each village, pamphlets from IAC were distributed for additional information, and communication was better established.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

The UTWC volunteer has been in contact with each village during this quarter.

UTWC is working with the Tanana Chiefs Conference to add volunteers and getting them trained during the next quarter. One of the newly trained advocates works with the Tok Area Counseling Center.

One of UTWC's new advocates works for Tanana Chiefs Conference and plans to shadow the advocacy program with IAC in Fairbanks.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

Just getting into the villages has been the challenge and UTWC is working on finding a village liaison that would go into each of the villages to advocate for victims. UTWC is hoping to hire someone during the next fiscal year to fill this position. UTWC is looking for additional grants to fund this position and expand our services.

UTWC has applied for a shelter grant with the Council and we are hoping that we are able to hire a full-time shelter "parent" and a village liaison.

## WAVE –Working Against Violence for Everyone - PETERSBURG

### SUCSESSES

WAVE had many public events this quarter. WAVE held our bi-annual fund raiser, Art by the Inch. This is a great opportunity for WAVE to interact with the community in a fun way. WAVE has great support from our talented artists within the Petersburg community.

WAVE held an information table with and at the high school for teen-dating violence month. The WAVE Executive Director had the pleasure of meeting with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade health class and discussing some aspects of healthy relationships. The Petersburg eighth graders are a fun group of excited kids.

Petersburg has a group of ministers that meet monthly over lunch and WAVE was invited to discuss domestic violence (DV) and invited back to discuss DV and religion.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

WAVE's partnership with Petersburg Mental health continues. They are offering a one-hour per week for drop in with a clinician in the WAVE office.

In January WAVE had seven advocates meet for lunch to discuss danger assessments. In March we had six advocates meet and WAVE discussed working with diverse populations.

### CHALLENGES/CONCERNS

WAVE decided to change our trauma group to a closed, women's group. WAVE hopes that this decision will give people a bit more of a sense of confidentiality. WAVE also discussed being open to support a men's group if there is any interest.

FY15 3rd Quarter Outcome Measures

January 1- March 31, 2015

Service	Number of participants this quarter	Number of surveys completed	(1) Yes to Safety	(2) Yes to Resources	(3) Yes to Services for Children	(4) Yes to Feel Less Isolated	(5) Yes to Understanding Crisis/Trauma	(6) Yes to Legal Rights	(7) Yes to Understanding Justice Process
Shelter	534	290	217	215	167	200	210	195	186
Non-residential Support and Advocacy	1279	297	207	208	153	197	193	175	160
Counseling	44	26	21	20	12	20	19	12	11
Non-residential Support Groups	347	178	151	158	124	152	148	135	127
TOTAL	2060	791	597	596	458	570	568	512	484
(N/A) Not applicable			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neutral			21	16	151	30	36	64	78
% Positive Responses			67	55	72	71	73	90	107
			78%	77%	72%	75%	75%	70%	68%

**Behavioral Health Outcome Measure Progress Report FY 15 Quarter 3**

Service	Number of Participants this quarter	Number of Surveys completed	(1) Yes to Motivated to stop	(2) Yes to Affect of alcohol/ drug abuse	(3) Yes to Knowledge about alcohol/ drug abuse	(4) Yes to Referral
Shelter	152	76	39	42	39	36
Non-residential Support and Advocacy	81	20	14	14	14	11
Counseling	1	1	1	1	1	1
Non-residential Support Groups	7	9	7	6	6	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	191	106	61	63	60	52
	0	0	0	0	0	0
(N/A) Not applicable	0	0	29	27	29	34
Neutral	0	0	14	12	15	14
% Positive Responses	0	0	79%	80%	78%	72%