



**Safe & Fear-Free Environment, Inc.**  
**Post Office Box 94 - Dillingham, Alaska 99576**  
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Date: February 2, 2007

**To:** Chief Richard Thompson, DPD  
Ralph Anderson, BBNA  
E.J. Essic, Jake's Place  
Tom Tilden, Curyung Tribal Council  
Rachel Muir, DELTA/CCR

Sergeant Randel McPherron, AST  
Benjamin Hofmeister, ADA  
Mary Gray, OCS  
Dr. Shawn Sedgwick, BBAHC

From: Ginger Baim, SAFE

Re: Memorandum of Understanding  
Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant

**I am faxing and/or emailing this over to ask that you immediately review the Memorandum of Understanding for a continuation grant SAFE is applying for. The grant requires a fairly detailed Memorandum of Understanding signed by parties who will have some role to play in reducing/eliminating domestic violence and child victimization.**

The attached MOU is basically identical to the one most of you (and/or your predecessors) first signed in 2001, again in 2002 and again in 2005 (we got the grant each time, thank you very much). The new/continuation application is due (online) on February 12, 2007. **I need to hear from each of you by Monday, February 5, 2007** as to whether you are willing to sign this agreement (and if there are any changes or corrections you want). If it meets with your approval, we'll bring the original around for your signature later in the week. (Mary Gray, we'll have to fax it to you for final signature)

This grant is for a 24 month time period (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2009) and encompasses a comprehensive community education and outreach program, advocacy training, hiring village based advocates, funding for emergency transportation and communications equipment and enhanced direct services to victims of domestic violence.

Please be aware that BBNA is also applying for a tribal set-aside grant from this same agency (Department of Justice/Violence Against Women Office) and will be bringing around another MOU for your signature that will look very similar to this one. BBNA's grant is in partnership with SAFE not in competition. What they propose to do under their grant program will complement both BBNA and SAFE's work and all of our collaborative efforts. We urge your support and signature for the MOU as well.

Thanks in advance for your help



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## **Memorandum of Understanding**

**Outlining the duties and responsibilities of members**

**In developing and maintaining a Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking and Child Abuse Enforcement Assistance Program for the Bristol Bay Region**

### **The Aurora Project**

**Purpose:** In order to protect and enhance the safety of victims and the children of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and related abuse; to cooperate in the provision of services; to support tribal and community initiatives to prevent violence; to increase knowledge and awareness of the scope and impact of family violence; to provide a coordinated response to persons in need and to define and maintain cooperative relationships between persons and agencies working to reduce and eliminate domestic violence and child victimization in the Bristol Bay region, the below signed parties enter into this Memorandum of Understanding.

**History:** Safe and Fear-Free Environment, Inc. (SAFE), the agency primarily responsible for implementation of the Aurora Project, is a domestic violence and sexual assault victim advocacy program operating in the Bristol Bay region since 1982. Throughout its history, SAFE has maintained close working relationships with each of the parties to this agreement in providing services to victims and in community outreach, education and prevention programs. SAFE has a written Memorandum of Agreement with each of the signing parties that is reviewed and renewed annually. In most cases those MOA's have been in effect for well over a decade. Each signing party is currently active in one or more of the following collaborative groups: (Child Advocacy Center (Multidisciplinary Team), Early Childhood Education & Intervention Team, Community Justice Alliance, Alternative School Partnership Team, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), FAS Diagnostic/Coordinating Team, DELTA/Rural Alliance For Teens, and BBAHC Behavioral Health/Jake's Place Advisory Board. SAFE maintains a key role in each of these community partnerships.

**Partners in Prevention:** Signers to this agreement include the following program or agencies: victim advocacy program (SAFE); regional National Health Initiative Team (Kanakanak Hospital); tribal non-profit consortium Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA's program include the Indian Child Welfare Act/Tribal Children Service Workers (TCSW), Head Start, Family Violence Prevention, STOP Violence Against Indian Women project, Village Public Safety Officers Program and Child Care Development Funds); State of Alaska/Office of Children Services (Anana's House Emergency Receiving Home); Alaska State Troopers; District Attorney; Bristol Bay Area Health Cooperation - Jake's Place (regional Alcohol/Drug Abuse treatment & prevention program/, FAS Diagnostic Team, Counseling and Child Advocacy Center, and the Dillingham Police Department.

**Grant Program Development:** Each of the above entities contributed to the development of the project(s) supported by this grant application through a variety of means including identification of unmet needs of adult and child victim/witnesses of domestic violence, recommendations for meeting those needs, inventory and assessment of resources, technical assistance to SAFE and others working to prevent and reduce violence, and identification of their own training needs. In addition, BBNA, BBAHC, Jake's Place and OCS provide financial support, technical assistance, and collaboration to SAFE through a variety of programs directly related to this grant application (STOP Violence Against Indian Women, Family Violence Prevention, S.I.S.T.R. (Safety In Sobriety Through Recovery) and Anana's House Emergency Receiving Home). These agencies have been primary contributors in developing the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization grant application.

**Scope and Impact of Project:** The Aurora Project is a comprehensive program of community outreach, education and prevention initiatives focused on core issues that contribute to family violence, including substance abuse and fetal alcohol exposure, and expanded services to child and adult victim/witnesses of domestic violence in the Bristol Bay region. The Project funds a full time Outreach and Education Coordinator, partial funding for the SAFE Shelter Manager, Direct Services Coordinator and Children Services, four to six part time paid Village Based Advocates, emergency transportation and communication equipment for victims of violence, skill enhancement training for Advocates, presentations and professional training for law enforcement, service providers, community and tribal groups, criminal justice system, faith community, educators and children. The primary goal of the Aurora Project is personal and systems advocacy to build community capacity to reduce and eliminate child victimization and domestic violence in the Bristol Bay region.

**Roles and Responsibilities:** To ensure the success of the project envisioned under this grant application the below signed parties agree to:

1. Establish and maintain guidelines for coordination of services and participate in a common response to meet the needs of adult and child victim/witnesses of violence, the people who love and care for them, and the communities where they reside.
2. Maintain active participation in the Community Justice Alliance, CAC/Multidisciplinary Team, SART, Rural Alliance for Teens, Early Childhood Intervention team, and other multidisciplinary efforts to coordinate and collaborate for the reduction and elimination of domestic violence.
3. Dedicate staff time and agency resources necessary to attend and participate in meetings and training targeted toward enhancing a coordinated response and improved services to adult and child victims of violence
4. Assure that persons attending and participating in collaborative efforts are authorized to enter into agreements or decision making on behalf of the agency or entity they are representing
5. Assure that the voices, experiences and expressed views of survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault are incorporated into the programs, policies and procedures produced through or supported by this project
6. Provide and participate in agency cross training to assure current and comprehensive information about mutual program services and to stay informed regarding the respective duties and responsibilities of other participating members

**Contributions:** In addition to the general collaborative duties and responsibilities outlined above, the parties referenced below will provide specific contributions to the success of the project described in this Memorandum of Understanding:

1. SAFE will provide project staff, office space, and administrative support services to the project. SAFE will also provide community education and outreach programs and professional training to law enforcement, criminal justice personnel, community and tribal groups, members of the business and faith community, health care providers and others.
2. BBNA will provide collaborative support and technical assistance to SAFE and project members in accordance with written agreements governing mutual programs referenced above and including, but not limited to, other BBNA programs that directly affect the scope and purpose of this project.
3. OCS will provide collaborative support, technical assistance and training to SAFE and project staff in operation of this grant program
4. BBAHC/Jake's Place will provide training, technical assistance and collaborative support to SAFE and project members particularly in areas concerning the impact of drug and alcohol abuse, fetal alcohol exposure, and chemical dependency on domestic violence and the victimization of children

**This Agreement is in effect on February 15, 2007 and will be reviewed and revised annually throughout the life of the projects and initiatives implemented under the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Grant program.**

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Richard Thompson, Chief  
Dillingham Police Department

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Sergeant Randel McPherron  
Alaska State Troopers – Dillingham

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E.J. Essic, PhD, Clinical Director  
BBAHC/Behavioral Health

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Thomas Tilden, Chief/Tribal Court  
Curyung Tribal Council

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Ginger Baim, Executive Director  
Safe & Fear-Free Environment, Inc.

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Ralph Anderson, Chief of Operations  
Bristol Bay Native Association

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Benjamin Hofmeister, District Attorney  
Dillingham/Bristol Bay Court District

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Mary Gray, Social Worker IV  
Office of Children Services

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Dr. Arnold Loera, Medical Director  
BBAHC/Kanakanak Hospital

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Rachel Muir, CCR Representative  
DELTA/Rural Alliance For Teens