

Alaska Native Women's Resource Center



About AKNWRC

The Alaska Native Women's Resource Center (AKNWRC) is a tribal nonprofit organization dedicated to ending violence against women in partnership with Alaska's 229 tribes and allied organizations. AKNWRC's philosophy is that violence against Indigenous women is rooted in the colonization of Indigenous governments. Our goal is to empower tribes to protect their citizens from such violence. We believe each tribe has the knowledge to do this.

AKNWRC Board and Steering Committee members are Native women with over 150 years of combined experience in tribal governments, tribal/state justice systems, nonprofit management and planning, and advocacy on domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse and substance/alcohol abuse. Experience in advocacy includes responding to individual's crisis, system responses and grassroots social change efforts/organizing at the tribal, local, regional, statewide, national and international levels. Such advocacy led to the historic FY 2017 federal appropriation for an Alaska Native Tribal Resource Center (ANTRC) on Domestic Violence to reduce tribal disparities in domestic violence populations in a culturally relevant manner. The AKNWRC now serves as this ANTRC.

Facts & Statistics

- ✓ The Indian Law and Order Commission Report, *A Roadmap for Making Native America Safer* (2013) stated Alaska Native women are over-represented in the domestic violence victim population by 250%; they comprise 19% of the state population, but 47% of reported rape victims.
- ✓ Research results highlight the need for additional services for Native victims of crime. 38% of Native victims are unable to receive necessary services compared to 15% of non-Hispanic white female victims.¹

What We Do and How We Do It (from an Indigenous based view)

- Develop training and technical assistance tools and other resources with villages based on our curriculum and village-specific needs assessments.
- Empower tribes and strengthen local responses to domestic violence.
- Increase access to resources including access to tribal protection orders.
- Create public awareness materials such as webinars, social media, toolkits, and fact sheets to bring attention to domestic and gender-based violence including sexual assault, sex trafficking, and missing and murdered Indigenous women.
- Identify and remove system barriers for the purpose of improving access within villages to victim services.
- Organize an annual Unity Meeting Pre-AFN.
- Provide information and legislative and policy updates at the NCAI VAW Task Force and the Alaska Tribal Caucus.

How to Engage with AKNWRC

- Invite us to your village and regional meetings. Join us at our annual Unity Meeting, use our materials, and participate in our trainings and webinars.

If your community is interested in inviting us to present or to help with Technical Assistance, please contact us at:

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P.O. Box 80382 * Fairbanks, AK 99708 * www.agnwrc.org * (907) 328-3990 office; 1-866-287-8330 fax

The StrongHearts Native Helpline offers culturally appropriate support and resources for Native Americans affected by domestic and dating violence: 1-844-762-8483

¹ Rosay, André B., "Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women and Men," *NIJ Journal* 277 (2016): 38-45, available at <http://nij.gov/journals/277/Pages/violence-against-american-indians-alaska-natives.aspx>.