



Program Fact Sheet

About this fact sheet

This document is updated following the close of each grant year, September 30th. Updates will be published in the first two weeks of October each year. For interim updates as they are available, consult our AMBER Advocate website at <https://amberadvocate.org>, or contact us at askamber@fvtc.edu.

Our mission

The mission of the **AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program (AATTAP)** is to safely recover missing, endangered, and abducted children through the coordinated efforts of law enforcement, media, transportation, and other partners by leveraging training and technology to enhance response capacities and capabilities to increase public participation. As of September 1, 2019, as reported by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), 967 children have been safely recovered as a direct result of the AMBER Alert program. **For more information on successful recoveries, visit NCMEC's AMBER Alert reference page at <http://www.missingkids.org/gethelpnow/amber>.**

About the National AMBER Alert Network

- AATTAP supports training, information sharing and a community practice of collaboration with over 300 AMBER Alert state, local, regional, Tribal, Mexican and Canadian Coordinators, Clearinghouse Managers, CART Coordinators and law enforcement representatives.
- The *AMBER Advocate* newsletter reaches more than 50,000 child protection professionals four times per year through both print and web-based publication.
- Regional and Tribal AMBER Alert Liaisons work with designated geographical regions including all states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Territories, Tribal communities, Canada, and Mexico to provide technical assistance, training, and policy development.

Reach of AMBER Alert Training Programs (October 2013 – September 2019)

- **Training sessions: 430** sessions have been delivered, extending to every state in the U.S. and numerous Tribal communities, Canada and Mexico; representatives from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Guam, Greece, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, France, Portugal and Belgium have attended training sessions as well.
- **Onsite/Classroom Participants: more than 33,400** participants have attended one or more onsite training and technical assistance (TTA) events.
- **Online/eLearning Participants: more than 27,000** participants have completed training through self-directed online courses and live webinar events.
- **Webinars: 49 live training and awareness webinars** have engaged a national audience on topics ranging from child abduction dynamics to developing an interdisciplinary and community-based response to the problems of child sexual exploitation and trafficking.
- **Classroom and Online Training Offerings: 34 classroom and eight eLearning courses** are currently available. In addition, a unique blending of resources offers more than 180 modules of instruction that may be customized for training development through our 'Build a Course' option.
- **Family Roundtables: Six national roundtable meetings** have been held during the reporting period noted above, with 14 meetings in total held since program inception; the events focus on work with parents and siblings of missing and abducted children to identify response concerns and assist in improving services to families, investigations and prosecution.
- **Child Sex Trafficking (CST) Roundtables: Five national roundtable meetings** with survivors of child sex trafficking have been conducted to assist the development of training for first responders, service providers and court personnel dealing with cases involving the trafficking and exploitation of minors.



The Child Abduction Response Team (CART) Network and CART Certification Program

- The National CART Initiative began in 2006. More than 7,400 CART program members have been trained through completion of classroom or online CART training. Those trained represent CART Program reach across 48 US states/territories, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, and Canada.
- AATTAP has confirmed the active status of 129 teams, with 24 of those teams having completed the US-DOJ CART Certification process as of 9/30/19.
- To learn more about this initiative and locate CART specific program resources, information on best practices and the certification process, please visit the AMBER Advocate Website's CART Resource Collection:
<https://www.amberadvocate.org/cartresources/>.



The AMBER Alert in Indian Country Initiative

- The [Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018](#) amends the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to End the Exploitation of Children Today (PROTECT) Act (Public Law 108-21), to reauthorize the AMBER Alert grant program. With passage of the law, the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program (AATTAP) provides guidance and coordination between tribes and states to access and integrate with state AMBER Alert plans.
- **Ongoing activities toward implementation of AMBER Alert in Indian Country include:**
 - **Developing strategies for implementing AMBER Alert plans within Indian Country** through targeted collaboration with designated representatives from Tribal communities and their respective state AMBER Alert programs prior to the occurrence of a child abduction;
 - **National AMBER Alert in Indian Country Symposium Events** bringing together designated Tribal leaders, public safety and emergency management personnel, and AMBER Alert Coordinators to improve the process of integration between state/regional AMBER Alert communication plans with federally recognized tribes from across the nation; and
 - **AMBER Alert in Indian Country Regional Events**, through which Tribal leaders and child protection partners are encouraged to participate in regional AMBER Alert meetings with state and local law enforcement agencies to collaborate and develop strategies for response to and investigation of endangered missing and abducted children in Tribal communities.
- The original AICC initiative began in 2007, with more than 100 Tribal communities partnering with their regional/state AMBER Alert programs, and more than 1600 Tribal officials and community members participating in TTA programs; these efforts have contributed to successful child recoveries involving AMBER Alerts or CART activations in Tribal communities.
- **Four national symposiums on Tribal child protection** have been conducted, bringing together community leaders, child protection officials, and state, local and federal partners to address issues related to the protection of children in Tribal communities.
- **More than 260 community child protection capabilities needs assessments** have been received and addressed through a combination of online tools and virtual meetings, as well as onsite assessment events.
- **The AMBER Alert in Indian Country Website (<https://amber-ic.org>)** provides information, resources, videos and the latest developments from the Tribal child protection work of AATTAP and its partners; addressing a wide array of protection and prevention topics, including investigation, intervention, and prevention of victimization, exploitation and trafficking in Tribal communities.





- Tribal instructors, support of the Indian Country Intelligence Network, trained search trackers for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), bloodhound K9 donations, Cold Case reviews, and infrastructure assessments have been provided through the AIIC initiative.

The Southern Border Initiative

- AATTAP has worked closely with the US Embassy, Mexico City, the US DOJ Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT), Procurador General de la República of Mexico (PGR), and state AMBER Alert Coordinators to develop protocols to create **Protocolo Alerta AMBER**, a federally administered comprehensive child recovery program which is consistent with programs in the U.S. and Canada.
- AATTAP has **trained over 700 state, local and federal child protection officials in the U.S. and Mexico** and has conducted joint training programs and table top exercises involving U.S. and Mexican officials working together to address issues related to cross border abductions, trafficking and exploitation.
- Since 2016, AATTAP has participated in **six regional meetings in the U.S. and Mexico**, including a tri-national AMBER Alert conference.

Program Evaluation Results: Making an Impact (October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019)

- TTA evaluations over the past grant year have been exemplary; with more than **95% of respondents reporting they found AATTAP courses productive and satisfying, gained new insights and information** they can apply to improve both personal approach to their work; and with which they can advocate for or effect changes and improvement to agency plans, policies and/or procedures.
- **Program evaluation results** from three of AATTAP's most-attended courses offer an example of feedback received from participants in key areas of increased and applied knowledge and skills.
 - **Child Abduction Response Team Training (CART)**
 - 97.81% reported the course increased their knowledge in the subject area
 - 96.96% reported they will be able to apply the information or skills obtained from the course in their profession
 - **Child Sex Trafficking for First Responders**
 - 95.68% reported the course increased their knowledge in the subject area
 - 94.84% reported they will be able to apply the information or skills obtained from the course in their profession
 - **Developing a Community Response to High Risk Victims of Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation**
 - 99.11% reported the course increased their knowledge in the subject area
 - 97.91% reported they will be able to apply the information or skills obtained from the course in their profession





Courses for Onsite/Classroom Delivery

In addition to attending or requesting the onsite courses below, the **Build-A-Course Customized Module Design** option allows AATTAP to identify a unique combination of modules of instruction from our total menu of courses, so that specific training, policy and operational needs can be effectively met through training. **Be sure to visit the Training page of the AMBER Advocate website at <https://www.amberadvocate.org/training-resources/> for the most current listing of available courses and links to request/register for training.**

1. Advanced Cold Case Long-Term Missing Investigations
2. Advanced Investigative Strategies for Child Abduction Cases
3. AMBER Alert Training for BIA Tribal Law Enforcement
4. Canvassing, Search and Recovery Strategies for Abducted Children
5. CART Commander Training
6. Child Abduction Response Team Training
7. Child Abduction Response Team Training in Indian Country
8. Child Abduction Tabletop Exercise – 4 hours
9. Child Abduction Tabletop Exercise – 8 hours
10. Child Sex Trafficking for First Responders
11. Community Focus Group on Child Sex Trafficking
12. Community Response to High-Risk Missing and Sex Trafficking Victims
13. Community Workshop on Child Sex Trafficking in Tribal Communities
14. Digital Evidence Investigations
15. Finding the Missing and Abducted: Response and Investigations for Tribal Law Enforcement
16. First Responder Roles in Missing and Abducted Child Cases
17. Initial Crime Scene Response in Child Abduction Investigations
18. Initial Response Strategies and Tactics When Responding to Missing Children Incidents
19. Interrogation Techniques in Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Cases
20. Interviewing Techniques & Case Management for High-Risk Juveniles in Indian Country
21. Investigative Strategies for Child Abduction Cases
22. Law Enforcement Investigative Response to Child Sex Trafficking
23. Leadership for Missing and Abducted Children
24. Leadership for Missing and Abducted Children in Indian Country
25. Major Case Investigative Teams
26. Managing Child Sex Trafficking for System Managers / CEOs
27. Prosecutor Strategies for Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Cases
28. Recognition and Response to Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation at Tribal Casinos
29. Responding to Missing and Abducted College Students
30. Responding to Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation in Tribal Communities
31. SBI Cross Border Child Abduction Training
32. Technology Facilitated Crimes Against Children in Indian Country
33. Technology in Child Abduction Investigations: How to Harness Digital Evidence and Social Media to Locate the Missing Child
34. Telecommunications Best Practices for Missing and Abducted Children

Online, On Demand, Self-Directed Courses and Modules

1. Building AMBER Alert in Indian Country
2. Child Abduction Response Team Training for New Members
3. Child Abduction Response Team Commander Training
4. Child Sex Trafficking: An Introduction to Law Enforcement Response
5. Investigative Strategies for Child Abduction Cases
6. Law Enforcement and Community Response to Child Sex Trafficking in Indian Country
7. Patrol First Response for Missing and Abducted Children
8. Telecommunications Best Practices for Missing and Abducted Children