PUBLIC SAFETY FUNDING AVAILABLE TO FEDERALLY-RECOGNIZED TRIBES AND TRIBAL CONSORTIA.
The United States Department of Justice announced the opening of the grant solicitation period for comprehensive funding to American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments and tribal consortia to support public safety, victim services and crime prevention. The department’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) posts today at https://www.justice.gov/tribal/opensolicitations

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. OVC Resources Raise Awareness about Human Trafficking: Human trafficking is a horrendous crime that impacts communities throughout our nation. With increased awareness, improved services for victims, and effective prosecutions, we can work together to fight this crime and support the survivors. In an effort to help communities prepare for local events for National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month this January, OVC highlights the following resources – Faces of Human Trafficking Resource Guide and the Human Trafficking Task Force E-Guide. https://www.ovc.gov/news/index.html#HTAwareness

SANE-SART Resources Now Available from Office for Victims of Crime TTAC. Visit the new Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Sexual Assault Response Teams (SANE-SART) section of the OVC TTAC website. The page includes easy-to-find resources to help build your capacity to assist victims of sexual violence. https://www.ovcttac.gov/sanesart/


Visit the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC) website to register for Victim Assistance Training (VAT) modules. 50 training modules are currently available and can be taken ONLINE! https://www.ovcttac.gov/views/TrainingMaterials/dspTrainingLanding.cfm

For a complete list of current funding solicitations from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), visit http://www.ojctac.gov/Solicitation.aspx
INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES

Partners in Justice—Bureau of Indian Affairs Victim Specialists is a new video which presents an overview of the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Victim Specialist Program. The video, prepared by OVC and BIA, identifies some of the program’s successes and challenges providing services to victims of crime in Indian Country. The video provides an explanation of the services available to Native victims of crime through the program and how the program complements tribally operated victim services programs. View this video and other OVC materials designed to inform and assist victim service providers and allied professionals in their efforts to help crime victims in Indian Country by visiting the OVC Tribal Multimedia Resources page. https://www.ovc.gov/library/tribal-multimedia-resources.html

The Office on Violence Against Women extends a special thank you to all of the Tribal delegates who presented at the annual Government-to-Government Consultation on Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native women which was held December 6th in Palm Springs, CA. We will be allowing time for additional testimony and recommendations for those who would like to submit to OVW. OVW is requesting authorized written testimony and documentation to be submitted by January 5, 2017. If you are a non-elected Tribal member wanting to submit written testimony, you must submit either an authorizing resolution from your Tribal Council or a letter from the Tribal Chairman authorizing you to offer testimony on behalf of your tribe. Please scan and send this document to info@ovwconsultation.org. If you are unable to scan this document, you can fax your authorization letter to (202) 514-5818, or mail it to: Lorraine Edmo, Tribal Deputy Director | U.S. Department of Justice | Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) | 145 N. St., NE, Suite 10W.121 | Washington, DC 20530
For questions, please direct inquiries to: alparker@chenega.com

Guidelines for Implementing the American Indian Child Welfare Act – December 2016. U.S. Department of the Interior regulations apply to any child custody proceeding initiated on or after December 12, 2016, even if the child has already undergone a child custody proceeding prior to that date to which the regulation did not apply. The statute defines a “child-custody proceeding” as a foster-care placement, a termination of parental rights (TPR), a preadoptive placement, or an adoptive placement; so, if any one of these types of proceedings is initiated on or after December 12, 2016, the rule applies to that proceeding. 1 While not imposing binding requirements, these guidelines provide a reference and resource for all parties involved in child custody proceedings involving Indian children. These guidelines replace the 1979 and 2015 versions of the Department’s guidelines. https://turtletalk.files.wordpress.com/2016/12/december2016guidelines.pdf

TRAININGS AND EVENTS

National Institute of Corrections’ Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Training Courses available online. These eight courses will assist agencies and staff in meeting the requirements of Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). Courses contained on this data DVD are: Audit Process and Instrument Overview, Behavioral Health Care for Sexual Assault Victims in a Confinement Setting, Communicating Effectively and Professionally with LGBTI Offenders, Coordinators’ Roles and Responsibilities, Investigating Sexual Abuse in a Confinement Setting, Medical Health Care for Sexual Assault Victims in a Confinement Setting, PREA: Preventing and Addressing Sexual Abuse in Tribal Detention Facilities, and Your Role Responding to Sexual Assault. http://nicic.gov/library/032783

Early Bird Registration Deadline Extended for National Conference on Juvenile Justice: On February 12-15, 2017, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges will hold its National Conference on Juvenile Justice in New York, NY. This conference will feature cutting-edge information, state-of-the-art programs, and current research related to the juvenile justice system. The deadline for early bird registration has been extended to January 13. Register today to take advantage of early bird rate. https://my.ncjfcj.org/NCJFCJ/Events/Event_Details4.aspx?EventKey=CNCJ1702NY&ed2f26df2d9c416fbdddd2330a778c6=penzxknkn-pogqkzxx

The U.S. Department of Justice’s National Indian Country Training Initiative, together with the FBI-Federal Bureau of Investigation, is pleased to announce the “Human Trafficking in Indian Country” Seminar. The seminar will be held February 28 - March 2, 2017, at the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, South Carolina. Travel and lodging accommodations will be paid for by the Department of Justice’s Office of Legal Education. There is no tuition charge. Contact Leslie A. Hagen -E-Mail: leslie.hagen3@usdoj.gov for application form or for more information. https://www.justice.gov/usao/training/course-offerings/course-descriptions-2017#C00OLE-IND-CS-41
NATIONAL INDIAN NATIONS CONFERENCE: JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

The second week of December 2016 brought another successful Indian Nations Conference. The 15th National Indian Nations: Justice for Victims of Crime Conference, funded by the Office for Victims of Crime, occurred on the Agua Caliente Reservation in Coachella Valley, California. The conference was organized by the Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI) and brought together over 1100 participants, a record number for this conference. Participants included tribal judges, prosecutors, advocates, law enforcement, tribal leaders, victim/survivors and non-tribal federal and state partners from across the country. The theme of the Conference was “Harnessing Our Collective Wisdom: Strengthening the Circle of Safety, Justice and Healing” and included over 70 workshops on topics that enabled presenters and participants to share their knowledge, experiences, and ideas for developing programs that serve the unique needs of crime victims in Indian country.

Conference Highlights

Highlights of the conference included a moving ceremony, referred to as the chair ceremony, during the opening plenary session. This ceremony served as a memorial for relatives lost to violence in 2016 and included a chair for different demographics of Indian victims of crime, including; women, men, children, elders and differently abled, and LGBTQI/2-Spirit people.

TLPI brought two young artists/activists who inspired conference participants; a young Yup’ik musician, Byron Nicholai, from a small village in Alaska, Toksook Bay and Marita Growing Thunder, a high school senior who creates Native dresses and wears them to school every day to bring awareness to murdered and missing Native women and girls.

The Bonnie Heavy Runner Victim Advocacy Award was presented to a record number of people this year. The Tribal Coalitions, comprised of tribal victim advocates who work to end violence against Native women, were presented with the award, 18 coalitions in total. In addition, Alfred Urbina (Pascua Yaqui) and Christina Entrekin Coad (Oneida), were presented with individual awards for their respective work on implementing Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction and advocating for Native children and Youth. Forever humble, Urbina accepted the award on behalf of “the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council, our law enforcement, detention, victim advocates, prosecutors, judges, court clerks, security, social workers, probation officers, and our federal partners.” Coad graciously accepted the award and acknowledge her grandmothers and grandfathers, since her work is not only done for future generations but for them as well.
During the closing plenary, Deborah Parker, past tribal leader from Tulalip, spoke eloquently on the need to move forward with courage and determination, and to continue to raise our voices to further the work to enhance tribal ability to strengthen, safety, justice and healing for victims of crime in Indian country.

About the Tribal Law and Policy Institute

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI) is a 100% Native American operated non-profit corporation organized to design and deliver education, research, training, and technical assistance programs which promote the enhancement of justice in Indian country and the health, well-being, and culture of Native peoples. Created in 1996 through efforts of those concerned with the improvement of tribal court systems and the fair administration of justice in Indian country.

We seek to facilitate the sharing of resources so that Native nations and tribal justice systems have access to cost effective resources which can be adapted to meet the individual needs of their communities. TLPI's mission is to enhance and strengthen tribal sovereignty and justice while honoring community values, protecting rights, and promoting well-being. TLPI’s Vision is to empower Native communities to create and control their own institutions for the benefit/welfare of all community members now and for future generations.

Conference Workshop Highlights

**Purpose Area #6 (CJA) and #7 (CTVA) CTAS Orientation: So You Have an OVC Cooperative Agreement—Now What?**
Overview designed for multiple purposes. A chance for new CTAS grantees to meet Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) staff and Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) providers (Unified and Fox Valley), to learn about financial training resources, how to request training and travel, process for getting a budget approved, important dates and deadlines for progress reports and financial reports, reapproval requirements for events and publications, and approval process for Grant Adjustment Notices (GANs).
Presenters: Office for Victims of Crime staff, Kevin Brennenstuhl (Fox Valley), and Jesucita Hernandez (Unified)

**Compassion Fatigue and Stress Relief for Service Providers in Indian Country**
This workshop is to provide information related to trauma, compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma and stress relief, cultural and no cost, high cost, and low cost stress relief activities and self-tests and life stress tests.
Presenters: Dianne Barker-Harrold (Unified) and Jesucita Hernandez (Unified)

**Cultural Debriefing for Service Providers: Mass Victimization, Critical Incidents, and Crisis Response**
This workshop will provide discussions related to cultural debriefing for service providers in Indian country who are impacted by serving mass victimization, critical incidents, and post-traumatic stress disorders. Types of traumatic events in Indian country and modules for cultural debriefing will be discussed. Participants will learn the phases of crisis and crisis characteristics
Presenters: Dianne Barker-Harrold (Unified) and Gayle Thom (retired FBI)

**Homicide in Indian Country: Advocates Responding to Homicide and Advocacy for Survivors of Homicide Victims**
This workshop is to provide information related to providing services to survivors of victims of homicide and challenges victim advocates encounter. We will identify victim impact in homicide cases and describe 5 duties and 6 challenges for victim advocates in homicide cases.
Presenters: Dianne Barker-Harrold (Unified) and Gayle Thom (retired FBI)

REMINDER: All conference materials (PowerPoints, handouts, etc.) will be available on the Tribal Law and Policy Institute website and the conference website. [www.home.tlpi.org](http://www.home.tlpi.org) and/or [www.ovcinc.org](http://www.ovcinc.org)
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