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An Introduction to Child Abduction Response Teams (CART) in Indian Country

June 22, 2023 | Presented by:

Derek VanLuchene, Project Coordinator, NCJTC

Valerie Bribiescas, Project Coordinator, NCJTC



Grant Funding Acknowledgement

This webinar was provided under award #2020-MC-FX-K003, provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, and supported by the AMBER Alert in Indian Country program.

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AMBER Alert Training & Technical Assistance Program

Mission

To safely recover missing, endangered, or abducted children through the coordinated efforts of law enforcement, media, transportation, and other partners by using training and technology to enhance response capacities and capabilities and increase public participation.



Today's Presenters



Derek VanLuchene
Project Coordinator,
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Valerie Bribiescas
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Learning Objectives

- ✓ Examine the elements of CART.
- ✓ Identify considerations and challenges for implementing a CART in a Tribal Community.
- ✓ Explore ways to engage your Tribal Community in the overall CART concept.
- ✓ Identify techniques to implement CART in your community.



What is CART?

Child Abduction Response Team (CART) is a multi-disciplinary team that responds to incidents of missing, abducted or endangered children.

- Single agency – operations and coordination and response includes one agency (Usually a larger agency).
- Regional – operations and coordination includes several jurisdictions (Includes City/County).
- State-wide – operations and coordination includes a statewide agency managing the team (State Police, DCI).
- Tribal Agency – operations and coordination is specific to Tribal Lands (may include non-tribal agencies with written agreements).

A red pushpin is pinned to a map background. The pushpin is on the left side of the slide, pointing towards the text. The map shows a grid of streets and some green areas.

What is CART?

Teams train and respond together

- Each team has specialized areas of response (Search, Canvass, Investigations, Leads Management, Command Post Coordination, Volunteer Coordination).
- Some tribal communities may have an Emergency Manager or Tribal Emergency Response Coordinator with an Emergency Operations Plan in place.

CART Coordination

- Each team has a CART Coordinator. The job of the CART Coordinator is to oversee the operations of the CART, as well as ensuring that the CART is sustained.
- Consider more than one coordinator in case one person has more than one duty/several roles in community.

CART Coordination

- Develops and implements evidenced-based standards of excellence.
- Builds, executes, and continuously improves capacities, competencies, skill, and abilities to safely recover missing children.
- Enhances community/tribal response

Case Study

Components of CART

CART Component 1: Response Criteria

- Basis for CART activation, mobilization or call out
- Well defined and acknowledged by all agencies
- Includes processes
- Includes area of service

2018 CART Implementation Guide-Fox Valley Technical College- AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program.

CART Component 2: Team Composition

- Personnel selection
 - Criteria
 - Process
- Various stakeholders
- Level of expertise
 - Swift/Accurate response



2018 CART Implementation Guide-Fox Valley Technical College- AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program.

CART Component 3: Notification Protocol

- Means of executing team deployment
- Proven and effective process
- Authority
- Is there a vetting process or is it automatic upon request?
- Redundancy/Back-up
- Notification content



2018 CART Implementation Guide-Fox Valley Technical College- AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program.

CART Component 4: Communications

- Hotline
- Staffing
- Leads Management
- Equipment
- Operational Plan



2018 CART Implementation Guide-Fox Valley Technical College- AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program.

CART Component 5: Command and Control

- Multiple agencies
- Multiple jurisdictions
- Planned strategy
- Roles
 - Internal
 - External
- Understood and agreed upon

2018 CART Implementation Guide-Fox Valley Technical College- AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program.


CART Component 6: Search, Canvass, Rescue



CART Component 7: Training

- Minimum standards
- Training Coordinator
- Frequency
- Type
- Specialized
- Records





CART Component 8: Legal Issues

- Goals
- Legal issues
- Jurisdiction
- Liability
- Prosecutor

CART Component 9: Equipment Inventory

- Physical assets/resources
- Team owned
- Team member issued
- Availability
- Maintenance/Testing
- Response necessities



CART Component 10: CART Protocols



CART Component 11: Victim Assistance and Reunification

- Impact to family
- Impact to community
- Medical
- Counseling
- Reunification
- Long term care

CART Component 12: Community



Considerations & Challenges for CART in Indian Country





Jurisdictional Considerations

- Are there Memorandums of Understandings required to work with non-tribal agencies?
- If there are non-tribal agencies involved, what will tribes require to collaborate with other jurisdictions?

Landscape and Environmental Considerations

- Some tribal communities are rural
- Some roads are unnamed or unmarked
- Weather can change quickly
- Broadband challenges

Cultural Considerations

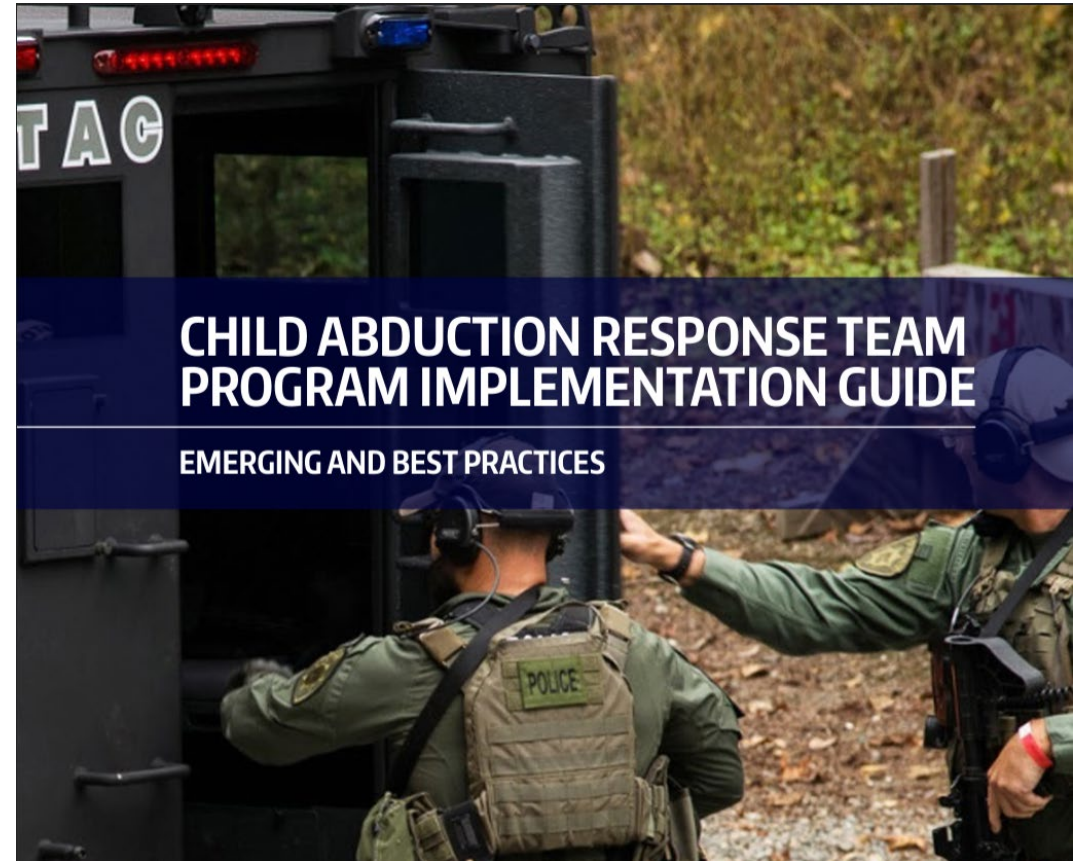
- Searching in a sacred area (burial ground) or ceremonial significant land area? What do you do?
- Language barrier
- Identify High Risk factors of Native American Children

Implementing CART

Group Discussion

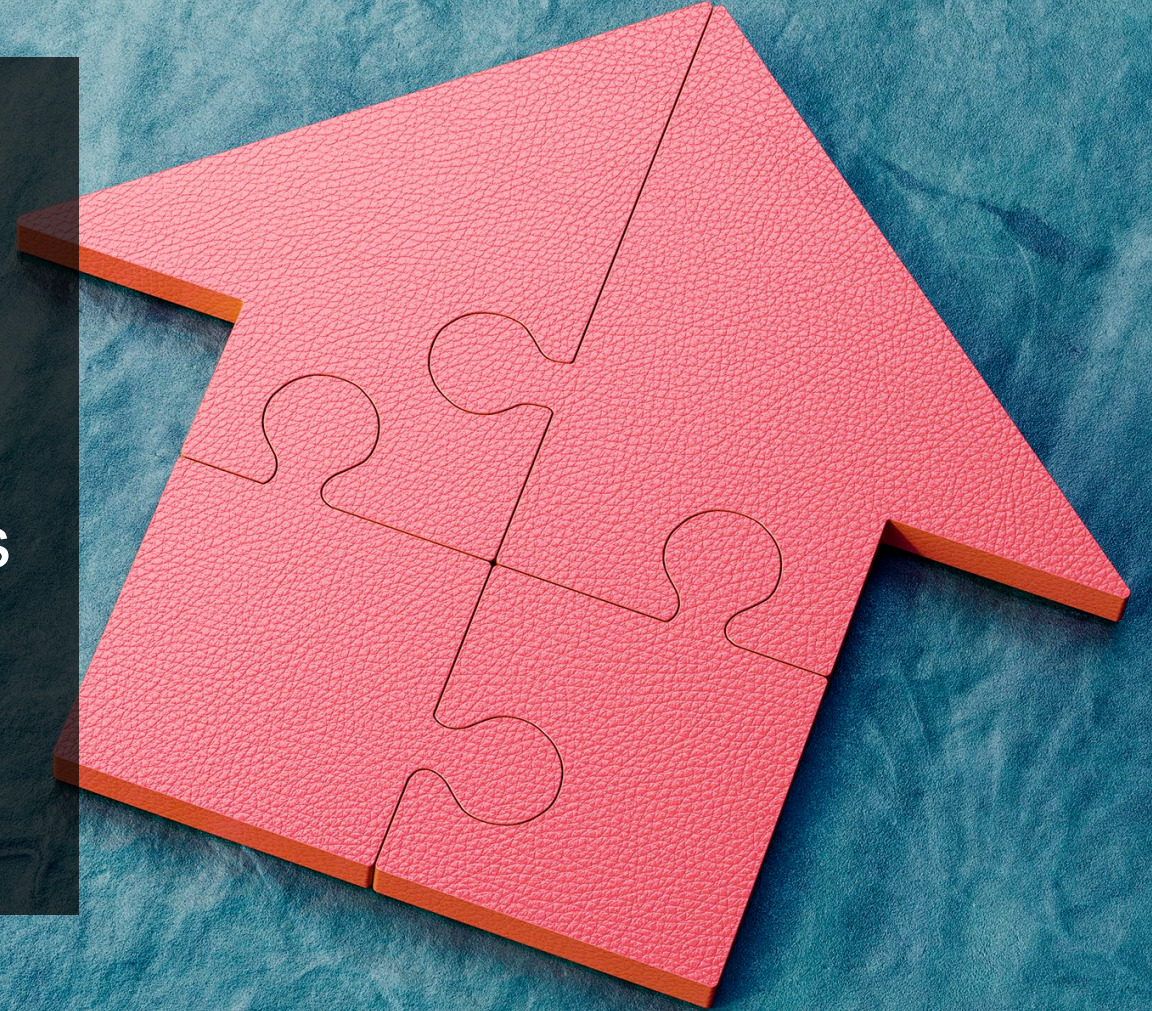
Implementing CART

- Get buy-in – get a sense of who would be committed to the CART (Local Law Enforcement, Tribal Council or Leadership, Community).
- Attend the 3-day CART Training.
- Review the CART Program Implementation Guide (amberadvocate.org/CARTResources)
- Discuss structure of the team



Implementing CART

- Build a resource list (get stakeholders involved)
- Begin to develop CART protocols
- Utilize NCJTC for support (meetings with tribal leaders, key stakeholders)



CART Implementation Plan

Where are we and what are the questions?

Contact Information & Final Q&A



General Inquiries

askamber@fvtc.edu
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(877) 712-6237



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July 20, 2023 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM CT

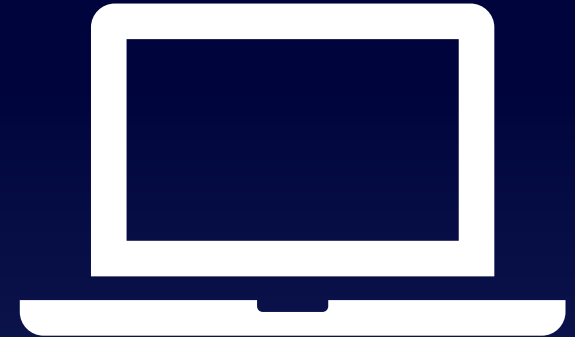
✓ AMBER Alert in Indian Country Update 2023

August 24, 2023 | 9:00 – 10:00 AM CT

✓ *Preventing Child Abduction & Exploitation in Indian Country*

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