What You Need To Know: Responding To American Indian/Alaskan Native Crime Victims With Disabilities

Unified Solutions Tribal Community Development Group, Inc.
Responding To American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) Crime Victims With Disabilities

A 1.5 hour workshop on what law enforcement, victim service providers, probation/parole officers, school personnel, medical and multi-disciplinary team-members need to know about responding to AI/AN victims in a way that respects and honors cultural and spiritual traditions rather than viewing those traditions as complexities. Knowledge, skills, and attitudes of service providers will be enhanced with new and advanced skills to better serve victims of crime, abuse and neglect with disabilities. This presentation will also look at current data, barriers and challenges of this population in seeking and accessing services.

“None of us are as smart as all of us.”

- Proverb
Responding To American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) Crime Victims With Disabilities

Focus: 1st) American Indian 2nd) Alaskan Native

- Information and resources will be provided for law enforcement, victim service providers, probation/parole officers, school personnel, medical and multi-disciplinary team-members to improve lives of AI/AN crime victims with disabilities and their families.

- An evidence-based and experience-based cultural and spiritual approach will be demonstrated for response to AI/AN victims of crime with disabilities.

- Attendees will learn to respond with awareness, support, encouragement, and empowerment for AI/AN persons with disabilities.
Did you know?

550,000

Native American Indians live with disabilities

22%

AI/AN population has 1 or more disabilities

- McNeil 2001
If we consider only the 2.5 million who reported on the 2000 census that identify themselves exclusively as "American Indian or Alaska Native," this means at least 550,000 Indians and Alaska Natives have disabilities.
Crime Victimization Survey 2007

• Rape in general population of persons with disabilities = 1.5% higher than persons without disabilities

• Repeated victimization – Persons with Disabilities

• Victim Reporting
2007 Crime Victimization Survey

- We also know that AI/AN violence is twice as much as the US resident population
- Do the numbers
- NCVS survey=47,000 Rapes of people with disabilities
Unfortunately, no segment of society is immune to disabilities.
Justice Department’s New ADA Rules Compliance March 15, 2012

On March 15, 2011, the U.S. Department of Justice’s revised regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) took effect. The revised rules are the department’s first major revision of its guidance on accessibility in 20 years, and many of the provisions will apply to the Office for Victims of Crime’s (OVC) grantees and subgrantees.

The regulations apply to the activities of more than 80,000 units of state and local government and more than 7 million places of public accommodation, including stores, restaurants, shopping malls, libraries, museums, sporting arenas, movie theaters, doctors and dentists’ offices, hotels, rail and prisons, polling places, and emergency preparedness shelters. The rules were signed by Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr., on July 23, 2010.

“The new rules usher in a new day for the more than 50 million individuals with disabilities in this country,” said Thomas E. Perez, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights.

The new ADA rules adopt the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design and also address making recreation facilities accessible for individuals with disabilities. Entities covered by the ADA have until March 15, 2012, to comply with the 2010 standards. What may be particularly important to OVC and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grantees and subgrantees is that in addition to adopting the new ADA 2010 standards, the amended regulations contain many new or expanded provisions on general nondiscrimination policies, which are effective immediately, including the use of service animals, the use of medical chairs and other power-driven mobility devices, the provision of interpreter services through video conferencing, the sale of tickets for wheelchair-accessible seating at sports and performance venues, and the effect of the new regulations on existing facilities. Grantees who are planning meetings and events will want to pay particular attention to the requirement that organizations are responsible for reserving and guaranteeing accessible rooms at hotels. Unlike the other expanded provisions in the amended regulations, compliance with the hotel reservation provision is not immediate, but will be required beginning March 15, 2012.

For OVC and VOCA grantees and subgrantees looking for technical assistance with the new standards and amended regulations, the ADA Update and ADA 2010 Revised Requirements: Effective Date/Compliance Date are the first of several planned publications aimed at helping businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and state and local governments understand their obligations under the amended Title II and Title III regulations. For copies of the Effective Date/Compliance Date publication, or for more information about the ADA, call the ADA Information Line (1-800-514-0301 voice or 1-800-514-0383 TTY) or access the department’s ADA Web site at www.ada.gov.

(Abridged and amended from the March 14, 2011, Civil Rights Division Press Release)
FBI Director’s Distinguished Service Award for Excellence
the highest award bestowed on FBI employees, for her team’s response to the tragic
Red Lake Nation School shooting in Minnesota
Unfortunately, no segment of society is immune to violent crime.
Minnesota School Shooting: Red Lake Indian Reservation

On March 21, 2005, a troubled high school sophomore went on a shooting rampage.

Initial crime scene: A home
Second crime scene: High School

Here the remaining injuries and fatalities, including the death of the teenage subject, occurred.

• 10 fatalities and 5 seriously injured
• Teachers
• Staff
• Family members of the deceased and injured victims
• Community of Red Lake
Indian Reservations Reeling In Wave of Suicides and Attempts

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center states that suicide is the second leading cause of death for Native Americans between the ages of 10-34.