

WomenSpirit Coalition
Tribal Domestic Violence ADVOCATE
40-hour course overview

Overall Goal

Provide advocacy training for Tribal domestic violence advocates to feel confident in responding to incidents of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence and/or Stalking.

Objectives

- Increase knowledge of Tribal advocacy services available.
- Establish case management, priorities, and provision of “wrap-around” services in response to incidents of violence and coercion.
- Empower the survivor/victim to make decisions best situated to ensuring their own safety.

Objective of Advocacy training

- How to respond compassionately, effectively in response to a survivors and /or victims.
- Be able to refer them to appropriate and available resources.

Length of online training

40 hours minimum for the sixteen (16) tracks. Self- paced.

Overview of Violence Against Women

Advocates will understand the different types of violence.

- Definitions and dynamics of violence against indigenous women and children. (Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Sex Trafficking & Stalking).
- How violence effects the whole family/community. Secondary Victimology.
- Safety planning and continuity/frequency of safety planning.

Anti-Oppression and Cultural Competency

Advocates will understand the dynamics and effects of DV, SA, Dating Violence, Sex Trafficking & Stalking. Also, will effectively provide culturally specific and tailored services to different segments (age groups).

- Dynamics of oppression, power and control (the wheel).
- Identify barriers in providing culturally appropriate services.

Definition and Dynamics of Domestic Violence

Advocates will be able to define domestic violence.

- Legal definitions of domestic violence.
- Types of violence (physical, sexual, emotional, financial, etc.)
- Dynamics of domestic violence (myths, facts and statistics).
- Historical and social context (blaming the victims, gender-role stereotypes, power and control, cultural and individual beliefs).
- Barriers to leaving.
- Coping strategies of victims and survivors.
- Advocate self care.

Stalking

Advocates will be able to identify stalking behavior and provide appropriate resources.

- Definitions and types of stalking.
- Stalking behavior.

- Protection orders (Criminal/Civil).
- Developing Safety plans.

Effects of Survivor/Victims of Trauma

Advocates will learn signs and symptoms and resultant trauma of DV, SA, Dating Violence, Sex Trafficking and Stalking and the impact of trauma on survivors and their family (secondary victimization).

- Childhood abuse, recent or past domestic violence.
- Coping strategies.
- Strategies to reduce trauma.
- Other issues (Mental Health, disability, addictions -alcohol/drugs).
- Suicide awareness.
- Self harming.

Effects of Exposure to Violence on Children

Advocates will understand how violence impacts children.

- Risks of children witnessing violence.
- Range of behavior and emotional response.
- How to develop and strengthen resilience.
- Strategies for children to cope.
- Safety planning.
- Mandatory reporting.

Dynamics of Domestic Violence abusers

Advocates will understand power and control and the abuser's behavior

- Social and institutional norms.
- Tactics of power and control.
- Batterers behavior (intimidation, emotional abuse, threat of violence, violence, using children and pets, finances and sexual abuse).

- Warning signs of an abuser.
- How batterers use children.
- Lethality Assessments.
- Other DV Assessment tools.

Self-care and Vicarious Traumatization

Advocates will learn skills and know the signs of vicarious trauma.

- What is Vicarious trauma?
- Self-care techniques & support.

Effective Advocacy Response

Advocates will be able to navigate the system in response to DV, SA, Sex Trafficking and Stalking by supporting the survivor/victim through medical, legal and other appropriate resources to empower the survivor/victim.

- Crisis dynamics.
- Safety assessment and safety planning.
- Criminal and Civil Laws.
- Protective orders, no harassment orders and civil protection orders?
What's the difference?
- Tribal Laws and Courts.
- State Courts and Laws.
- Federal Court and Laws.
- State Crime Victims Compensation.
- Financial and other resources (housing, food, replace door locks, etc.)
ICVSRRC.

Confidentiality

Advocates will comply with confidentiality requirements and informed consent laws and guidelines.

- Importance of Confidentiality.
- Statutes (State and Federal).
- Sample procedures, practices, protocols and forms.

Advocacy Skills – working with survivors

Advocates will be able respond to survivors in appropriate ways.

- Ask appropriate questions.
- Assess immediate safety to develop a safety plan.
- Active listening.
- Reframe statements (use no victim blaming).
- Complete and follow through with needed documents.
- Provide clear information of options and choices.
- Empower the survivor to make their own informed decisions.
- Provide empathy, sensitivity and culturally appropriate and victim centered services at all times.

Advocacy Skills – working with the system

Advocates will learn and be able to support the survivor through the legal/medical system.

When and How to:

- Request services on behalf of the survivor.
- Negotiate appropriate services.
- Advocate for additional services.
- Work for wraparound response (multidisciplinary approach observing Client Confidentiality).

Adjunct Participation

- Task Forces
- Committees