

Kwey Relatives...

Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April is recognized for raising public awareness about sexual violence and help educate communities on how to prevent it. This year, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is celebrating its 18th anniversary with the theme, “I Ask,” which champions the message that asking for consent is a healthy, normal, and necessary part of everyday interactions.

When someone gives consent, they’re giving permission for something to happen or agreeing to do something. Talking about what you and your partner wants ensures sex is consensual. Learn more about consent at nsvrc.org/SAAM.

Sharing Online: Ask your partner how they feel about you sharing and tagging photos of them and posting about your relationship online. Find out if they’d like to see what they’re posting first or maybe they’re ok with you sharing without asking every time.

Texting and Consent: Just because technology connects us 24/7 doesn’t mean your partner is always available. Check in with your partner about how often you would like to text each other and what you consider a reasonable amount of time to respond.

Sexting and Consent: Sexting means sending sexual photos, videos or messages from your phone or computer. Not everyone feels comfortable sexting and that’s ok. There are good reasons to have concerns about sharing a private image. It’s never ok to send unwanted sexts—even to a long-term partner. If someone says “no” to anything that makes them uncomfortable, respect their decision and right to privacy.



Sexual Assault Awareness Month - Scheduled Activities

Tuesday April 2nd: Wear Teal Day of Action. Wear teal in support of SAAM as a conversation starter about consent, respect and supporting survivors.

Sunday April 7th: Paint and Sip - Women's Group SAAM themed painting at the Maliseet Gym at 1:00pm . Potluck meal included.

Saturday April 13th: Come visit the Penobscot Nation Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center's table at the Wabanaki Spring Social - Anah Shriners Building, Bangor.

Friday April 19th: 3 Sisters Spring Community Celebration. In collaboration with Wabanaki Public Health, welcoming Spring with the teaching of the ancient intercropping system of planting corn, beans and squash. Community members are encouraged to bring a dish using one or all of the 3 sisters. Join the Maliseet Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center for a discussion and potluck meal at the Maliseet Gym at 5:00pm.

Wednesday April 24th: Community Walk for Wellness and SAAM Event. Join Wabanaki Public Health for a community walk around Maliseet Village. Immediately following the walk, listen to a presentation by the Maliseet Advocacy Center staff about sexual assault and Denim Day. Walk starts at 5:00pm at the Maliseet Gym followed by a meal, giveaways and door prizes!

Wednesday April 24th: 7th Annual Sexual Assault Awareness Social hosted by the Micmac Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center. To be held from 4:00-6:00pm at 7 Northern Road, Presque Isle.

Thursday April 25th: Paint and Sip - Organized by the Indian Township Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center. Space is limited so please register by calling the Advocacy Center at 207-214-1917. Location yet to be determined.

Saturday April 27th: 9th Annual SAAM Potluck and Social sponsored by Passamaquoddy Peaceful Relations. To be held at the Pleasant Point Youth & Rec Bingo Hall from 5:00 to 8:00pm. There will also be giveaways and face painting for children.

Serving Our Partners



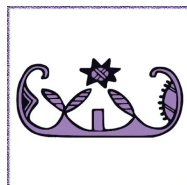
Maliseet Domestic
and Sexual Violence
Advocacy Center

Office: 207-532-3000
24 Hour Hotline:
207-532-6401



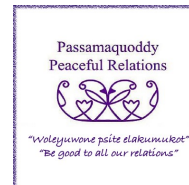
Indian Township Passamaquoddy
Domestic and Sexual
Violence Advocacy Center

Office: 207-796-6106
24 Hour Hotline:
207-214-1917



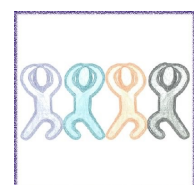
Penobscot Nation
Domestic and Sexual
Violence Advocacy Center

Office: 207-817-3164
24 Hour Hotline:
207-631-4886



Passamaquoddy Peaceful
Relations Domestic and Sexual
Violence Advocacy Center

Office: 207-853-0092/0093
24 Hour Toll Free Hotline:
1-877-853-2613



Micmac Domestic
and Sexual Violence
Advocacy Center

Office: 207-760-0570
24 Hour Hotline:
207-551-3639

Sexual Assault Training for the Wabanaki Advocacy Centers

The Wabanaki Women's Coalition organized sexual assault intervention training for the 5 Wabanaki Advocacy Centers, which was held on March 26-27, 2019. Trainers included Nicole Golden-Bouchard, Detective Sgt. William Flagg, Brendan Trainor and Emily DeSanctis. The WWC would like to thank all of our invited speakers for sharing their valuable knowledge and expertise.

Nicole Golden-Bouchard, Attorney at Pine Tree Legal Assistance, provides pro bono civil legal services exclusively to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. She is a licensed attorney in the State of Maine and in both Passamaquoddy Tribal Courts. Nicole's presentation focused on the civil legal response to sexual violence in Maine.



Detective Sgt. William Flagg, Penobscot County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation Division, has been a certified law enforcement officer for nearly 30 years. He is currently assigned to investigate felony crimes that include robbery, burglary, manslaughter, aggravated assault, sexual assault and child abuse. Detective Sgt. Flagg's presentation focused on the law enforcement response to sexual assault while being joined by Brendan Trainor who discussed Prosecutorial Response to Sexual Assault. Brendan is the Assistant District Attorney for Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties. He has held his position for nearly 13 years during which time he has prosecuted every type of case that the counties handle.



Emily DeSanctis, Training Manager at RAINN (Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network) travels to clients across the country, education and training people how to better prevent and respond to sexual violence in their communities. Emily's presentation covered supporting adults survivors of incest and supporting adolescent survivors of sexual violence.



Pictured left to right: Donna Brown, Nancy Soctomah, Tanya Raymond, Patricia Graffam, Jessica Huff, Angel Gilberti, Cathy St. John, Emily DeSanctis (Training Manager, RAINN), Tori Neptune, Jennifer Galipeau, Desiree Tyrrell, Dena Joseph and Sarah DeWitt.



14th Annual Crimes Against Women Conference

Staff from the Wabanaki Women's Coalition, Passamaquoddy Peaceful Relations Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center and Pleasant Point Police Department, attended the 14th Annual Conference on Crimes Against Women, April 8-11, 2019 in Dallas, Texas.

The goal of the Conference on Crimes Against Women is to provide practical instruction, using current information, the newest ideas and most successful intervention strategies, to those professionals responsible for combating the many and varied forms of crimes against women. The conference is conducted for the sole purpose of providing training to only those people employed by governmental or non-profit agencies in the fields of law enforcement, prosecution, social work, victim's advocacy, therapy, probation/parole, campus safety and medicine who work directly with victims of crime.

This year, a total of 2,800 participants were registered for this conference which included participants from 52 tribes, all 50 states and several other countries.



Left to Right: Nancy Soctomah (Director and Advocate - Passamaquoddy Peaceful Relations Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center), Chief Roger Newell (Chief of Police - Pleasant Point Police Department) and Jane Root (Executive Director - Wabanaki Women's Coalition).



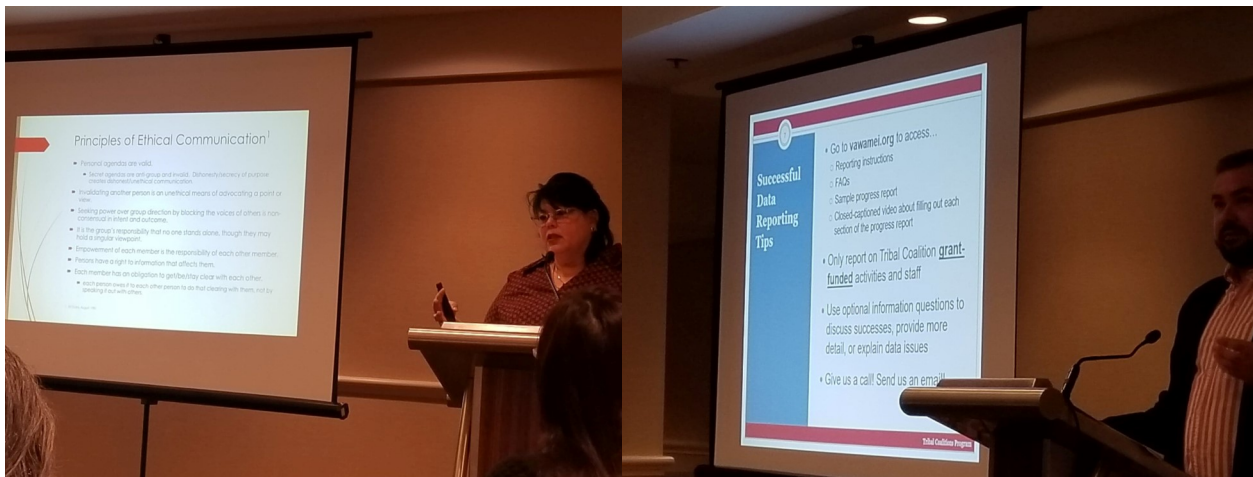
OVW New Grantee Orientation Conference

The OVW FY 2018 New Grantee Orientation for Tribal Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Centers and Tribal Coalitions was held in Silver Spring, Maryland from February 26-28, 2019. Staff from the Wabanaki Women's Coalition, Penobscot Nation Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center, Micmac Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center, Passamaquoddy Peaceful Relations Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center, and Indian Township Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center were in attendance. This year's New Grantee Orientation was organized by TA (Technical Assistance) providers National Indigenous Women's Resource Center (NIWRC) and Mending the Sacred Hoop (MSH), and was designed to build the capacity of award recipients to develop, manage and strengthen Tribal programs addressing violence against women in Indian Country: domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking.

Informative topics were covered over the course of the 3 day training. General sessions for Day 1 included: "Why We Do What We Do: Advocacy and Supporting Survivors Without Victim-blaming" by Mary Kathryn Nagle (Pipestem Law), "Legislative Updates" by Virginia Davis (National Congress of American Indians), "Grant Fraud and Awareness" by Raymond Berry (Special Agent, United States Department of Justice), "Understanding Your Civil Rights Obligations" by Debra Murphy (United States Department of Justice) and "Coordinated Community Response" by Jeremy NeVilles-Sorell (Mending the Sacred Hoop).

General Sessions for Day 2 included: "Tribal Access Program (TAP)" by Brad Colquitt (United States Department of Justice), "Know Your Special Conditions" by Frances Cook (Office on Violence Against Women), and "NamUs: Powerful Tools to Resolve Missing and Unidentified Person Cases" by Chuck Heurich (National Institute of Justice).

Included below are photos of 2 of the breakout sessions for staff members of Tribal Coalitions. Left to Right: Terri Henry (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Comprehensive Consultant on Executive Leadership Track to Tribal Coalitions) presenting on "Principles of Ethical Communication" and Viacheslav Tomenko (Research Analyst, Cutler Institute for Health and Social Policy, USM Muskie School of Public Service) presenting on "Progress Reporting."



Health Care Response to Human Trafficking Conference

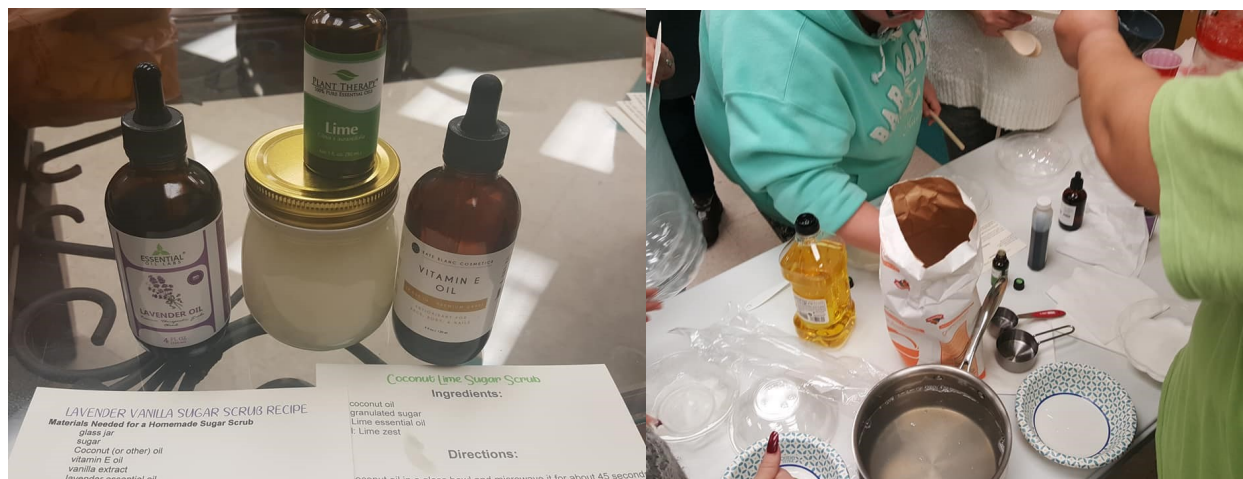
On January 31, 2019, staff from the Wabanaki Women's Coalition and the Penobscot Nation Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center attended the Health Care Response to Human Trafficking Conference in Augusta, Maine. Organized by The New England Coalition Against Trafficking, Preble Street, the Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) program, and the UNE Advanced Nursing Education (SANE) program, the conference included workshops on "Human Trafficking: Emergency Department Nurse's Perspective," "Homelessness, Substance Use Disorder, and Trauma: Learnings from Community Based Collaborations," "Criminal Justice System and the Crime of Human Trafficking," "Trafficking in Minors: Signs, Needs and Best Practices," and "Human Trafficking for the Health Professional: Making the Invisible Visible."



**Health Care
Response to
Human
Trafficking
Maine
Conference**

Maliseet Advocacy Center Scrubs Off the Winter Blues!

On January 27, 2019, the Maliseet Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center held a "Scrub off the Winter Blues" activity as part of their scheduled Women's Support Group. Many women were in attendance as they shared a potluck meal together and made lavender vanilla and coconut lime sugar scrubs.



Teens Take Over the Dancefloor for TDVAM!

February is recognized as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM) each year. On February 16, 2019, the Micmac Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center collaborated with the Boys & Girls Club of Presque Isle - Micmac BGC and the Presque Isle Recreation and Parks Department to bring awareness to teen dating violence by organizing a dance at the Presque Isle Rec Center.

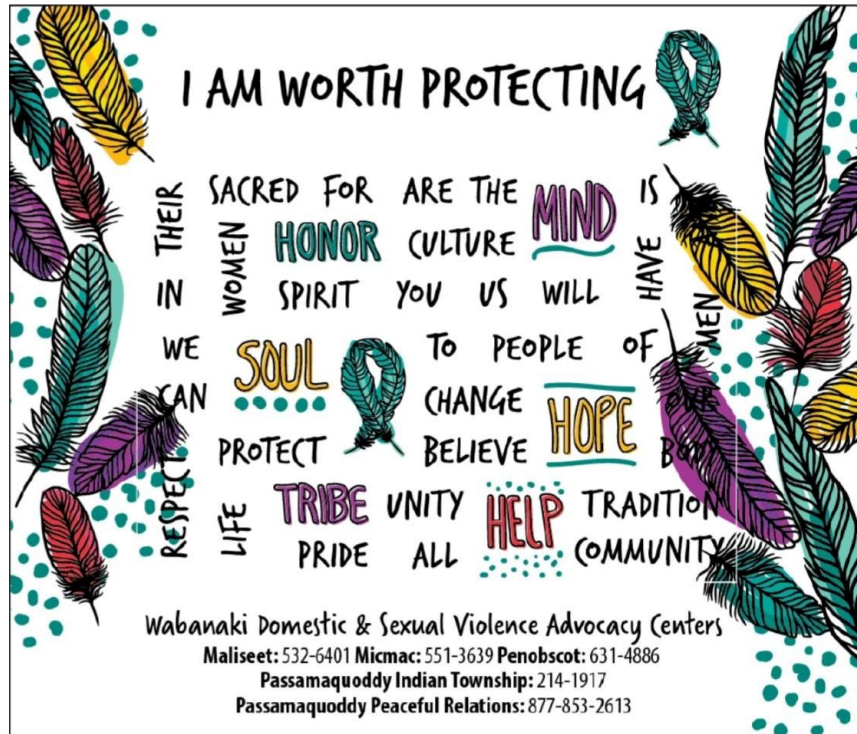
The Micmac Advocacy Center staff provided information to teens who attended and were encouraged to wear orange to show their support against teen dating violence. Fun was had by all at this event which included a night of dancing, black light bowling, popcorn, a photo booth, information and awareness, and of course dancing!



Human Trafficking Awareness and Education Event

Pat Graffam, Coordinator of the Penobscot Nation Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center was one of the invited guest speakers for the event which was held at the Bangor Public Library on January 14, 2019. The event was hosted by the Penquis Sex Trafficking Action Response Team (START) in recognition of January being Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Members from the multidisciplinary START presented "Human Trafficking in Maine: Identification and Response," which is victim-centered and empowerment-based training, and includes interactive, skills-building sessions informed by Maine-based expertise and resources. Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MECASA) developed this statewide training in collaboration with the Anti-Trafficking Services at Preble Street and the support of the Maine Sex Trafficking & Exploitation Network (STEN) Provider Council. Training content included: general human trafficking overview, featuring Maine-based data regarding prevalence, dynamics of trafficking, indicators, and best practice response.





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