



Kwey Relatives...

The Wabanaki Women's Coalition has been preparing for the 2018 Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation to be held August 21-22, 2018 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Jane Root, Executive Director, and Donna Brown, Outreach Coordinator, have been in contact with the Wabanaki Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center Directors and Tribal Chiefs in preparation for this Annual consultation. They have been authorized by three of the Wabanaki Chiefs to bring their written and oral testimony to the consultation. The WWC will be providing testimony to advocate for adding specific language in the 2018 Reauthorization of VAWA to include the Maine Tribes.

2018 Reauthorization of VAWA

The Maine Implementing Act and the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act (The Acts), of 1980 have created barriers to the safety of Native women in Maine and the full application of

the tribal provisions of the VAWA 2013 due to the interpretation of these provisions by the State.

In order to clarify the application of the VAWA 2013 and restore jurisdiction to Maine Tribes, we recommend the inclusion of the following language in the next reauthorization of VAWA:

The Tribal provisions of the 2013 Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, all previous Tribal provisions and all subsequent Tribal provisions shall apply within the State of Maine.

The WWC would like to thank the Wabanaki Advocacy Centers, Tribal Leadership, National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, National Congress of American Indians' Task Force on Violence Against Women, Alliance of Tribal Coalitions to End Domestic Violence, Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence, National Network to End Domestic Violence, and Maine Congresswoman Chellie Pingree for their support of amending VAWA to include the Maine Tribes.

Annual WWC Board and Staff Retreat

The WWC held its Annual board meeting/staff retreat from July 18-20th at Point Lookout in Northport, Maine. The WWC Board and staff members from the 5 Wabanaki Advocacy Centers met to discuss upcoming trainings and conferences; the Annual Office on Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation for the 2018 Reauthorization of VAWA; and current grant opportunities through the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and Family Violence Prevention Services Administration (FVPSA). Aline Michaud, Shelter Coordinator for the Penobscot Nation's Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center also provided board and staff members with a very informative presentation on sex trafficking. Woliwoni Aline!



Penobscot Nation's Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center also provided board and staff members with a very informative presentation on sex trafficking. Woliwoni Aline!

Serving Our Partners



Maliseet Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center

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



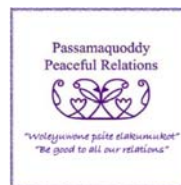
Indian Township Passamaquoddy Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center

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

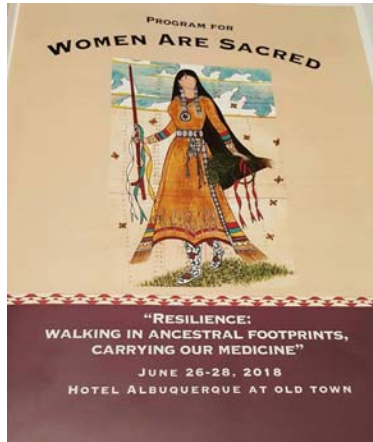


Micmac Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center

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

Annual Women Are Sacred Conference

Staff from the Wabanaki Women’s Coalition and the Wabanaki Advocacy Centers were among more than 500 advocates who attended the 13th Annual Women Are Sacred Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico—one of the oldest and largest gatherings of advocates dedicated to ending violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women and children. The conference, presented by the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center (NIWRC), featured voices from across the country, including advocates, survivors of violence, law enforcement and court personnel, tribal leaders, as well as tribal youth. Sessions offered training opportunities to



WAS Poster - Albuquerque, NM
June 26-28, 2018

help increase the capacity of tribal nations and tribal domestic violence and community-based programs to address violence in their communities, as well as address safety issues and provide resources for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and missing and murdered Indigenous women. Updates on national policies were also given for the Violence Against Women Act, Victims of Crime Act, Tribal Law and Order Act, and Savannah’s Act.



Lucy Simpson - NIWRC
Executive Director

Conference attendees were encouraged to wear their traditional clothing on Tuesday to celebrate their culture. On Wednesday, all were encouraged to wear red in remembrance of MMIWG. A local Albuquerque organizing collective of Indigenous Women created an exhibit called “Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Earring Project” where donated earrings were displayed on a large board. A Powwow was also held to honor



Taylor Sheridan
Writer and Director
Wind River



Eagle Feather
Earring Donated
by the WWC



Donna
Brown &
Jane Root



Stephanie White (Wampanoag), Angel Gilberti, Jane Root, Nancy Soctomah, Patricia Graffam, Cathy St. John, Jennifer Randolph, Tori Neptune



Cathy St. John, Jennifer Randolph (Wampanoag), Tori Neptune, Donna Brown, Jane Root, Nancy Soctomah

Advanced Facilitation Support Group Training

The WWC and Wabanaki Advocacy Center Staff attended the 2.5-day training June 6-8th, which was facilitated by Melissa Scaia, Director of International Training for Global Rights for Women (GRW). Melissa brings a wealth of experience as the former executive director of Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP), also known as “the Duluth Model.”

Prior to working in Duluth, Melissa was the executive director of Advocates for Family Peace (AFFP) 17 years, a local domestic violence advocacy program. She has also lead and organized two Coordinated Community Responses (CCR) to address domestic violence in Minnesota, as well as co-facilitating groups for men who batter and women who use violence. She is also a consulting trainer for a number of national training organizations on domestic violence and child abuse, including Praxis International and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

This valuable training will better assist the Wabanaki Advocacy Center staff to facilitate domestic violence support groups within the community. The Wabanaki Women’s Coalition and the Wabanaki Advocacy Centers would like to thank the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence for including us in this very valuable training!

Left to Right: Patricia Graffam - Penobscot Nation Advocacy Center Coordinator, Jessica Huff - Maliseet Advocacy Center Director, Jane Root - Wabanaki Women’s Coalition Executive Director, Nancy Soctomah - Passamaquoddy Peaceful Relations Advocacy Center Director, and Tanya Raymond - Maliseet Advocacy Center Transitional Housing Coordinator.



WWC Advocates' Quarterly Affinity Meeting

Wabanaki Advocates gathered at the WWC's new office location on May 4, 2018 to plan upcoming events pertaining to domestic and sexual violence awareness, share concerns and best practices in the field, as well as attend a presentation provided by the staff of Four Directions Development Corporation regarding its residential loan program, setting up a Rainy Day Savings Account, their various housing program workshops and budgeting. Financial abuse is just one of the several ways that an abuser can gain power and control of another person. By being aware of the programs and services that are available, Advocates are better able to assist survivors who have experienced financial abuse. Thank you Four Directions for your time, and the services you provide!

Staff from the WWC and Wabanaki Advocacy Centers all wore red to show support of Resolution 401 to designate May 5, 2018 as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls. On April 25, 2018 the United States Senate passed Resolution 401 without amendment to designate May 5, 2018 as the "National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls." This year's Resolution recognizes the results of a Department of Justice commissioned study that reports in some tribal communities, American Indian women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average murder rate. Resolution 401 also acknowledges a 2015 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that homicide ranged from the second to seventh leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Native females between 1 and 39 years of age; and remained a leading cause of death for most American Indian and Alaska Native females between 40 and 64 years of age. The purpose of the Resolution is to increase national awareness of crimes committed against Native women and girls, support for criminal justice reforms and a national database to track the statistics of murdered and missing Native women and girls.



Left to Right: Cathy St. John - Maliseet Advocacy Center Shelter Coordinator, Nancy Soctomah - Passamaquoddy Peaceful Relations Advocacy Center Director, Jessica Huff - Maliseet Advocacy Center Director, Jane Root - Wabanaki Women's Coalition Executive Director, Tanya Raymond - Maliseet Advocacy Center Transitional Housing Coordinator, Angel Gilberti - Micmac Advocacy Center Director, Dena Joseph - Micmac Advocacy Center Transitional Housing Coordinator, Patricia Graffam - Penobscot Nation Advocacy Center Coordinator, Aline Michaud - Penobscot Nation Advocacy Center Shelter Coordinator and Donna Brown - Wabanaki Women's Coalition Outreach Coordinator.

Risk Assessment and High Risk Response Training

The WWC and Wabanaki Advocacy Center Staff attended the 2 day training on April 23rd and 24th which was organized by the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence. Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell provided training to administer the Danger Assessment while Dr. Gail Sacco (Passamaquoddy) - provided culturally competent tools and results of her research regarding the administration of the Danger Assessment in Native communities. Other training topics included an overview of risk assessment & management across jurisdictions; current status of ODARA in Maine & Relationship to Danger Assessment efforts; integrating



Risk Assessment and high risk response training into our advocacy work; high risk response teams/enhanced safety planning teams/CCR task forces across Maine; and panel discussions. The Wabanaki Women's Coalition and the Wabanaki Advocacy Centers would like to thank the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence for including us in this very valuable training!



Dr. Jacqueline Campbell

Sarah DeWitt, Nancy Soctomah, Donna Brown

13th Annual Conference on Crimes Against Women

The WWC attended the 13th Annual Conference on Crimes Against Women, April 16th-19th, 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, the conference included a tribal track with presentations including America's Missing Daughters: The Missing Women & Children of Indian Country, Developing a Collaborative Response to Violence Against Women in Indian Country, Garden of Truth: Prostitution and Trafficking of Native Women, and Using the National and Missing Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) to Address Violence Against American Indian & Alaska Native Women.



Sexual Assault Awareness & Other Scheduled Activities

Maliseet Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center:

April 8th - Soap making with Gina Brooks. Gina joined the Women's Support Group to teach the process of making soap using traditional Maliseet medicines. Gina spent time discussing the benefits of using natural homemade soap using ingredients found on Maliseet territory.

April 14th - Community brunch in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Along with the meal the Maliseet Advocacy Center provided awareness giveaways, door prizes, hand outs and a test your knowledge quiz for participants.

April 25th - Staff luncheon in honor of Denim Day and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Staff were given teal shirts to wear and encouraged to wear jeans. A photo was also included in the local newspaper.

June 10th - Maliseet Advocacy Center hosted the first of three sessions of beading. Chief Clarissa Sabattis lead the Women's Group in making beaded bracelets using the looms and supplies purchased using the sub award funds from the Wabanaki Women's Coalition.

June 23rd - The Maliseet Advocacy Center participated in the annual Maliseet Health Fair by providing brochures, giveaways, awareness pins, and books. The Advocacy Center also conducted their annual community survey.



Passamaquoddy Peaceful Relations Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center:

April 26th - Potluck and Social in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Three drum groups were in attendance

(Little Eagles, Mawi Tahahjik Epijik, and Sacred Circle) as well as several community members. Face painting was also provided for the children as well as giveaways for everyone who attended.



The data collected helps to identify the community's awareness of our program and services, but also their experience with law enforcement and medical providers when reporting and/or being screened for domestic or sexual violence.

Indian Township Passamaquoddy Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center:

The Indian Township Advocacy Center held a rock painting activity in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.



Sexual Assault Awareness & Other Scheduled Activities

Penobscot Nation Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center:

Several activities were scheduled throughout April to recognize Sexual Assault Awareness Month including: movie nights to view “Wind River” and “Home Truth,” teal nail painting and informational tables, including at the Annual Wabanaki Spring Social in Bangor. Most recently, the center’s staff participated in the Annual Community Days Health Fair.



Micmac Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center:

April 19th - 6th Annual Sexual Assault Awareness Social. The event was open to the public and included a welcoming, educational activities, dinner, door prizes and a closing.

June 9th - Grandmother’s Gathering for indigenous women to come together to learn, share, and support one another. The gathering included a drum making work shop by Natalie Dana, meals and a giveaway ceremony at the end of the day.



Wabanaki Women’s Coalition
Jane Root, Executive Director
PO Box 365
Lincolntonville, Maine 04849

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE