

6th Annual Noojimo'iwewin The Violence Against Women Act and Indian Child Welfare Act Training

Presented by Bay Mills Indian Community | Gnoozhekaaning and OJS Tribal Justice Support

July 31st- Aug 2nd, 2024 at Bay Mills Resort & Casino

2024 THEME

Healing Together:

Trauma-Informed Approaches to Domestic Violence

UNIT FORMAT | 2 hr

Each interactive, in-depth unit includes: Each unit has 1-2 faculty/presenters.

- 50 minutes Lecture
- 10 minutes Q&A
- 10 minutes Break
- 45 minutes Activity
- 5 minutes Break

DAY 1 | July 31 | 12:30-4:00pm ET

3.25 Credits

Registration and lunch begins at 12:00pm

Optional and Informal Hatchery Meetup at 7:00pm (in-person only)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BMICVAWADay1_2024

DAY 2 | August 1 | 10:00-4:30pm ET

5.25 Credits

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BMICVAWADay2_2024

DAY 3 | August 2 | 10:00-12:30pm ET

2 Credits

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BMICVAWADay3_2024

TOTAL: 10.5 Credits

Event website here: twgtrainings.com

12:30-1:00 Welcome and Opening Song

John Hutch

1:00-2:15 Keynote | 1.25 Credits Strength in Solidarity:
Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence

This keynote we will discuss the critical role of community support and collaboration in aiding survivors of domestic violence. It will also explore practical strategies for fostering solidarity among support networks, address the emotional and psychological needs of survivors, and highlight successful case studies. Participants will gain insights into creating more inclusive and effective support systems that empower survivors and promote healing.

Ruth Buffalo, CEO/President Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center

Ruth is an educator, community organizer and public health professional. Ruth has served in various capacities focused on building healthy and safe communities. She has served on advisory councils focused on women's health, women's leadership development and local food systems. She has 25+ years of community advocacy work. Ruth is a former Fargo Native American Commissioner and a former North Dakota Lawmaker. She has introduced new laws focused on public safety, prevention and awareness of MMIP and Human Trafficking, and the creation of a Missing Persons Database. She serves as board President for the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. She is a co-founder of the local FM MMITP Taskforce. She is an appointed commissioner to the Not Invisible Act Commission. In 2022, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Concordia College. She is a 2019-2020 Women's Peacemaker Fellow, former Chair of the North Dakota Human Rights Coalition and a 2017 recipient of the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development's 40 under 40 leadership award. The Fargo Forum named her among local leaders to watch in 2019. She was selected as the 2019 North Dakota Women of the Year by the ND Women's Network and received the 2019 Arc of Justice Award from the ND Human Rights Coalition. Her consultant and independent contract work has included several nonprofit organizations and improving the quality of life for Native communities. Her work includes research and advocacy, community capacity-building and continued reconciliation efforts through education. Ruth is originally from Mandaree, North Dakota and currently resides in south Fargo with her husband and four children. In 2018, she was elected to serve a four year term in the North Dakota legislature representing the people of North Dakota as a Representative for District 27. She is a citizen of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation and a descendant of the Chiricahua Apache. Ruth earned a Bachelor

of Science in Criminal Justice (2002) and Master degrees in Management (2005), Business Administration (2010), and Public Health (2016).

OBJECTIVES

Participants will

- To identify the various forms of community support essential for survivors of domestic violence and understand their impact on the healing and recovery process.
- To learn practical approaches and techniques for building and maintaining solidarity within support networks, including collaboration with local organizations and community groups.
- To explore how to create and implement inclusive support systems that address the diverse needs of survivors, ensuring accessibility and effectiveness in providing assistance and resources.

2:15-2:30 BREAK

2:30-4:30 UNIT 1 | 2 Credits Trauma Informed Supervision in Action: From Idea to Implementation and Beyond

During this interactive session, we will delve into the essential principles of trauma and trauma-informed supervision, grounding ourselves in foundational knowledge. Through personal narrative, I will illustrate how these principles were applied within a significant Tribal organization, offering insights into practical implementation and the transformative impact on organizational culture. We will explore the lessons learned along this journey, acknowledging the challenges and growth opportunities encountered. Together, we will initiate a dialogue aimed at paving a pathway to healing within your own organization, fostering environments that prioritize understanding, support, and resilience in the face of trauma.

Lisa Norton, Chief Administrative Officer, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Lisa Norton is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, where she has lived and worked for over 20 years in a variety of capacities. As the Chief Administrative Officer, their primary role is to plan and manage a program of expert policy guidance, technical assistance, and support to tribal management. Lisa serves as staff advisor to the Chief Executive Officer and other tribal staff on a wide range of matters including long range socio-economic planning and development in support of Tribal priorities, coordination of a variety of projects, and liaison with overall goals and objectives of the Tribe. Additionally, Lisa holds a Masters Degree in Social Work and is a grandma to two amazing toddlers.

OBJECTIVES

Participants will

- Begin to understand the impact of Covid on the Tribal workforce.
- Learn from the journey of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz.
- Begin to identify and plan for organizational healing.

7:00-8:30 (Optional) GATHERING

DAY 2 | Aug 1

10:00-12:00 UNIT 2 | 2 Credits Compliance Essentials: Understanding VAWA and TLOA Requirements

This session will delve into the essential aspects of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA). It will cover the statutory requirements, compliance obligations, and explore considerations beyond these legal mandates. Additionally, the session will examine the political reasons both supporting and opposing stringent enforcement of these laws, along with the broader societal implications of extended incarceration periods for offenders.

Hon. Ron Whitener, Co-owner, The Whitener Group

Hon. Ron Whitener is a founding member of The Whitener Group. In 1994, Ron graduated from the University of Washington Law School and was the first in-house legal counsel for his tribe, the Squaxin Island Tribe. In 2000, Ron was asked to join the faculty of the University of Washington Law School where he created the Tribal Court Public Defense Clinic through which he represented thousands of Native American clients in criminal and juvenile cases. Through the University of Washington, Ron was funded by the MacArthur Foundation to develop public defense resources for juveniles involved in tribal justice systems, including developing model juvenile codes and methods for providing legal representation using video conferencing to rural tribal communities where the youth would be otherwise unrepresented. In 2011, Ron was named a Champion of Change by President Barack Obama for his work on providing public defense to juveniles in tribal courts. While conducting his clinical teaching, Ron also served as the Presiding Judge for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Indian Reservation, and an appellate justice for several courts in the Pacific Northwest. In 2014, Ron left the Law School to serve as Chief Judge for the Tulalip Tribes, where he participated in the development of the Tulalip Wellness Court, which he presided over for several years, which is the only current tribal court named as a "mentor court" by the National Drug Court Institute. Ron

retired from the Bench in 2020. Finally, for the past 8 years as part of The Whitener Group, Ron has led BIA Tribal Court Assessments in Alaska and the Northwest, engaged in tribal justice system strategic planning and improvement, and healing to wellness court development and evaluation. Ron has visited, studied and provided system recommendations to more than 80 tribes in Alaska, 18 tribes in Washington, Idaho and Oregon, and other tribes nationally, providing information and assistance for the development of their justice systems.

OBJECTIVES

Participants will

- To provide a comprehensive understanding of the VAWA and TLOA requirements.
- To discuss considerations beyond statutory compliance, including ethical, cultural, social, and economic impacts.
- To analyze political stances supporting and opposing strict enforcement of VAWA and TLOA, addressing underlying reasons and implications.

12:00-1:00 LUNCH

1:00-3:00 UNIT 3 | 2 Credits Understanding and Improving Law Enforcement Practice in Domestic Violence Cases

This training will provide an understanding of the general practices of law enforcement officers in their initial response, investigation, and the initial resources available to them. We will discuss constraints which limit the officer's ability to act or their perceived ability to react based upon their knowledge of those constraints. In a tabletop type exercise, you will talk through such a response and what actual resources are available in your specific areas, what you can do to ensure your LE staff are not only aware of your resources but are using them and finally what additional resources should you be looking to implement or support in your areas.

Jason Thompson, Retired Assistant Director Bureau of Indian Affairs OJS, Instructor Jason retired as the Associate Director of Special Investigations where he supervised the Division of Drug Enforcement and the Missing and Murdered Unit. Prior to this he served as the Assistant Director for nearly 12 years.

Jason has a total of 31 years of law enforcement experience 26 of that with BIA working in Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico, Washington DC and Oklahoma.

OBJECTIVES

Participants will:

- Understand general practices of Indian Country law enforcement responding to domestic violence cases
- Identify practitioner resources to assist law enforcement
- Start an action plan to assist law enforcement to implement resources.

3:00-3:15 BREAK

3:15-4:30 Practice Panel | 1.25 Credits Current Trends: Exploring Evolving Challenges and Solutions in Domestic Violence

This session delves into the current trends in addressing domestic violence, exploring the evolving challenges faced by victims and the innovative solutions implemented by domestic violence support centers and programs. Highlighting the work done by organizations like the Diane Pepler Resource Center, Journey to Healing Program/Survivor Response Center, and Anishnaabek Community and Family Services Advocacy Resource Center, this session provides insights into the multifaceted approaches taken to support survivors and prevent domestic violence.

Aneen Stallman, Victim Services Coordinator, Journey to Healing Program/Survivor Response Center

Aneen is an enrolled member of the Bay Mills Indian Community and shares children with enrolled members of the Sault Ste. Marie Band of Chippewa Indians. She has worked for both Tribes in the past in both Enterprise & Governmental Positions the longest being a Medical Billing & Insurance Specialist for at Bay Mills Health Center for over a decade. She has worked with the local schools both professionally and personally for nearly 2 decades, professionally as the Administrative Assistant at Ojibwe Charter Schools for 5 years. In her current role she serves survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, and family violence. She took on the role after serving as a Community Based Victim Advocate for the program for over 2yrs and has participated in the Journey to Healing Program for over a decade as an advisor and volunteer. She and her staff currently sit on several Multi-Disciplinary Teams in Chippewa, Mackinac, and Luce Counties with both Tribal and Non-Tribal Collaborations to combat & respond to Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Trafficking, Stalking, Child/Family Violence.

Betsy Huggett, Executive Director, Diane Pepler Resource Center

Betsy Huggett is the Executive Director for the Diane Pepler Resource Center, Inc. in Sault Ste. Marie, MI since September 2014. Ms. Huggett moved to the Upper Peninsula in 2005 from Hillsdale County, where she worked for Hope Network as a mental health case manager in Hillsdale and Jackson Counties. She worked for Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Men's and Women's New Hope House for 9 years as a primary clinician, case manager, and program director. She is a member of the Upper Peninsula Human

Trafficking Task Force, and a board member for Trace Holistic, a non-profit organization of nurses and nurse practitioners who provide sexual assault exams for those in need.

Jami Moran, Advocacy Resource Center Program Director, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Jami R. Moran - LBSW is a citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, is the granddaughter of an Indian Boarding School student, and is the daughter of a Catholic Orphanage Survivor. Mrs. Moran was hired as the Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) Program Manager in 2013 and became the ARC Program Director in 2020. Mrs. Moran has employment experience providing supportive services to underserved Native American populations within rural communities in the primary areas of culturally honoring outpatient substance abuse treatment, adolescent residential treatment, Indian child welfare programming, and the provision of community-based victim services. Mrs. Moran is a member of the Sault Tribe's Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), the Child Protection Team (CPT), and the Sault Tribe Domestic Violence Court, ensuring survivor voices and rights remain at the forefront of all decision-making processes. Mrs. Moran strongly advocates within the Tribe, the community, the State of Michigan, and the nation to amend institutional practices detrimental to a survivor's healing and dishonoring of tribal sovereignty and government-to-government relationships. Mrs. Moran became a licensed bachelor's level social worker with the State of Michigan in 2000 and has served as a Board Member of Michigan's Native American Domestic and Sexual Violence Coalition, Uniting Three Fires Against Violence (UTFAV), since 2014. Mrs. Moran has additionally served as a Board Member of the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCEDSV) since 2018. Mrs. Moran graduated Cum Laude from Lake Superior State University in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services and Sociology.

OBJECTIVES

Participants will

- To understand the current trends and challenges in domestic violence.
- To explore innovative solutions and strategies implemented by support centers and programs.
- To identify the roles of different support centers and programs in aiding victims of domestic violence.

DAY 3 | Aug 2

10:00-12:00 UNIT 4 | 2 Credits Partnering for Progress: Effective Tribal and State Partnerships

This session will explore the intricate process of building and maintaining effective partnerships between tribal communities and state agencies. Drawing from our extensive experience with a grant funded by the Children's Bureau, we will share our

journey of establishing and nurturing a successful Tribal-State partnership. Participants will learn about the essential elements that contributed to our success, including the importance of relationships, respect, and responsibility.

We will delve into the strategies we employed, such as forming design teams, affinity groups, utilizing logic models, and organizing social events, to foster strong interpersonal connections. The session will cover the guiding principles that informed our work and practical techniques for creating safe, productive, and inclusive collaborative spaces.

Participants will gain insights into the challenges we faced, how we overcame barriers, and the lessons we learned along the way. The session will conclude with an interactive activity designed to help attendees identify, understand, and consider the unique aspects of their communities and potential partners to foster successful collaborations.

Harmony Bercier, Project Manager, North Dakota Indian Child Welfare Best Practices Tribal and State Partnership, University of North Dakota's Department of Social Work

Harmony Bercier is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, identifying as Anishinaabe Ojibwe. She currently serves as the Project Manager for the North Dakota Indian Child Welfare Best Practices Tribal and State Partnership within the University of North Dakota's Department of Social Work. She is dedicated to rectifying past injustices by supporting best practices and ensuring the accurate implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). Harmony holds a Master of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of North Dakota.

In her family, Harmony is the middle generation among five generations. She is grateful for the various roles within her family and community, including being a mother, daughter, granddaughter, grandmother, aunt, niece, friend, and community member. Harmony is a passionate advocate for inclusion and equity in all arenas.

Driven by personal and professional experiences, Harmony is committed to empowering Tribes and States to collaborate effectively in implementing ICWA, fostering respectful relationships, and ensuring accountability. She believes in building bridges and fostering understanding to create a more equitable society for Native American children and families. Harmony's journey is dedicated to honoring community resilience and forging pathways to healing and empowerment. Through collaborative partnerships and advocacy for meaningful change, she strives to make a lasting impact in addressing historical injustices and promoting positive, reparative, and equitable outcomes for Native American communities.

OBJECTIVES

Participants will

- Understand Key Partnership Principles: Participants will learn some fundamental principles of building strong partnerships between Tribal and State agencies.
- Identify Effective Collaboration Strategies: Participants will be able to identify strategies to enhance interpersonal relationships and collaborative efforts.

Overcome Challenges in Tribal-State Partnerships: Participants will learn about common challenges faced in Tribal-State partnerships and strategies to overcome these challenges.

- Engage in Community-Led Collaboration: Participants will develop skills to engage their communities in collaborative efforts by identifying and understanding their unique needs and perspectives.
- Apply Techniques for Inclusive Collaboration: Through an interactive activity, participants will gain practical techniques for creating safe and inclusive spaces that encourage productive collaboration among diverse partners.

12:00-12:30 Closing and Song

President Whitney Gravelle, Baymills Indian Community

Michele Wellman-Teeple