

# COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE WOMEN



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TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE WOMEN

IS:

- AN INTER-AGENCY EFFORT WHICH PRIORITIZES THE SAFETY AND INTEGRITY OF WOMEN, AND THEIR CHILDREN, AND BATTERER ACCOUNTABILITY.
- AN EFFORT PROMOTING THE SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF THE SACREDNESS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS WHICH CONSISTENTLY PROMOTES THE SAFETY OF WOMEN, AND THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF MEN WHO BATTER AND THE SYSTEMS INVOLVED IN THIS RESPONSE.
- AN INITIATIVE WHICH PROMOTES AND HONORS THE LEADERSHIP AND EXPERTISE OF WOMEN HAVE BEEN BATTERED.

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- ROLE-MODEL NON-VIOLENT, RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR TOWARD WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
- RAPID RESPONSE TO ENSURE VICTIM, CHILD AND OFFICER SAFETY.
- MANDATORY ARREST IF THERE IS PROBABLE CAUSE.
- MANDATORY ARREST ON VIOLATION OF PROTECTION ORDERS.

- TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN COMMUNITY EDUCATION EFFORTS.
- FOLLOW MANDATORY HOLD GUIDELINES.
- NOTIFY SHELTR BEFORE RELEASE.
- ALLOW JAIL VISIT FROM COORDINATING AGENCY.

- DEP'TAL & INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT TO ONGOING TRAINING.
- POLICE REPORTS AVAILABLE TO COORDINATING AGENCY.
- WRITTEN POLICIES/PROCEDURES FOR DV ASSAULT RESPONSE.
- COORDINATION WITH MONITORING AGENCY, PROSECUTION AND LEGISLATORS TO ADDRESS PROBLEMS.

- DUEL ARRESTS ONLY AFTER SELF-DEFENSE DETERMINATION.
- VICTIMS ADVISED OF RIGHTS AND SERVICES.
- WRITTEN REPORTS ON ARRESTS AND NON-ARRESTS.
- DOCUMENT PAST OFFENSES.

## ROLE OF THE ADVOCATE

- To advocate for the woman who is battered in a manner that respects and validates her individuality, experiences, decisions and strengths.
- To model courage and resistance in the face of oppression, intimidation and fear.
- To provide leadership and ensure that women's safety is a priority in the coordinated community response initiative that promotes and enhances the spiritual and cultural traditions of the sacredness of women and children.
- To advocate for the expressed interests and safety of the woman, and her children, including provision of safe space and any other resources necessary for the woman to regain control of her life.
- To focus attention on the operational meaning of safety and integrity of women and renewal of traditional life ways as guiding principles at all levels of the justice, law enforcement, social and medical systems dealing with domestic violence cases.
- To provide expertise based on the experience of women who are battered and their children on issues related to domestic violence within the justice, law enforcement, social and medical systems.
- To ensure that all women who have been battered/sexually assaulted have 24-hour access to support, accurate information, crisis intervention, and other advocacy services.
- To educate personnel within the relevant systems regarding the most effective responses to domestic violence on behalf of batterers, victims and at-risk family members, prioritizing victim safety and offender accountability.
- To be conscious of the educational role within all advocate activities.
- To remain accountable to the woman, who has been battered, including maintaining confidentiality.

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## THE ROLE OF MEN'S PROGRAM FACILITATORS

- TO RESPECT THE LEADERSHIP OF WOMEN'S ADVOCATES AND EXPERTISE OF BATTERED WOMEN.
- TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN'S SAFETY IS A PRIORITY IN THE COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE INITIATIVE THAT PROMOTES AND ENHANCES THE SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF THE SACREDNESS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
- TO PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERAGENCY EFFORT TO HOLD MEN WHO BATTER ACCOUNTABLE FOR FURTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE AND FOR FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.
- TO KEEP THE CLASS FOCUSED ON THE ISSUES OF VIOLENCE, ABUSE, CONTROL AND CHANGE.
- TO FACILITATE REFLECTIVE AND CRITICAL THINKING IN THE CLASS.
- TO MAINTAIN AN ATMOSPHERE THAT CHALLENGES RATHER THAN COLLUDES.
- TO PROVIDE NEW INFORMATION AND TEACH NONCONTROLLING RELATIONSHIP SKILLS BASED ON THE SAFETY AND INTEGRITY OF WOMEN AND RENEWAL OF TRADITIONAL LIFE WAYS AS GUIDING PRINCIPLES.
- TO FACILITATE AN OPEN AND RESPECTFUL LEARNING PROCESS.
- TO ACT AS A RELATIVE AND ROLE-MODEL NON-VIOLENT, RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR TOWARDS WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
- TO REMAIN ACCOUNTABLE TO THE WOMAN WHO HAS BEEN BATTERED.

## ROLE OF PROBATION

- ENSURE WOMEN'S SAFETY IS A PRIORITY IN A COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE INITIATIVE THAT PROMOTES & ENHANCES THE SPIRITUAL & CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF THE SACREDNESS OF WOMEN & CHILDREN.
- PARTICIPATE IN AN INTER-AGENCY EFFORT TO HOLD OFFENDERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR VIOLENCE AND FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COURT ORDERS.
- ROLE-MODEL NON-VIOLENCT, RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR TOWARD WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
- PRE-TRIAL RELEASE AGREEMENTS
- PRE-SENTENCE INVESTIGATIONS
- MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH ADVOCATES AND/OR VICTIM
- DOCUMENT PRIOR INCIDENTS
- DOCUMENT AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES
- OBTAIN ON-GOING INPUT FROM RE-EDUCATION PROGRAMS, ADVOCATES AND VICTIMS
- REPORT ALL VIOLATIONS
- ALL CASES REFERRED TO MONITORING AGENCY

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## THE ROLE OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

- ENSURE WOMEN'S SAFETY IS A PRIORITY IN A COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE INITIATIVE THAT PROMOTES & ENHANCES THE SPIRITUAL & CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF THE SACREDNESS OF WOMEN & CHILDREN.
- PARTICIPATE IN AN INTER-AGENCY EFFORT TO HOLD OFFENDERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR VIOLENCE AND FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COURT ORDERS.
- ROLE-MODEL NON-VIOLENCE, RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR TOWARD WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
- ROLE OF JUDGES:
  - Understand the dynamics and tactics of battering to avoid unintentional collusion, i.e., continuances, manipulation of custody/visitation, etc.
  - Follow guidelines at the Civil Rights Act
  - Effectively and consistently enforce tribal law, not withstanding any bias, prejudice, personal or political relationships
  - Have the integrity to excuse him/herself if a possible conflict of interest should arise in any particular case.
  - Uphold judicial ethics, including ex parte communication
- ROLE OF PROSECUTORS:
  - Understand the dynamics and tactics of battering to avoid unintentional collusion, i.e., intimidation in court, false complaints, etc.
  - Sign complaints
  - Seek convictions
  - Proceed regardless of victim cooperation
  - Will not charge/incarcerate the victim for being "uncooperative"
  - Provide information to victims and advocates
  - Plea agreements discouraged
  - Provide information about the case to coordinating agency
  - Seek elevated charge for reoccurring offenses
  - Subpoena victim and witness to shield them from pressure to recant, etc.
- ROLE OF PROBATION:
  - Pre-trial agreements
  - Pre-sentence investigation
  - Maintain contact with advocates &/or victim
  - Document prior incidents
  - Document aggravating circumstances
  - Obtain on-going input from re-education programs, victims and advocates
  - Report all violations
  - All cases referred to monitoring agency