

TCC 38th Annual Tribal Court Conference

Savanna's Act and Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons-Tribal Community Response Plan

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Savanna's Act Guidance

25 U.S.C. § 5704

Guidelines for Responding to Cases of Missing or
Murdered Indigenous Persons



Savanna's Act Consultation

- ▶ Develop guidelines in consultation with:
 - ▶ Tribes
 - ▶ Tribal, Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement
 - ▶ Medical Examiners
 - ▶ Victim Service Providers



Savanna's Act Goals

1. Clarify the responsibilities of Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies with respect to responding to cases of missing and murdered Indigenous People;
2. Increase coordination and communication among law enforcement agencies, including Medical Examiner and coroner offices;
3. Empower Tribal governments with the resources and information necessary to effectively respond to cases of missing and murdered Indigenous People;
4. Increase the collection of data related to missing or murdered Indigenous People.



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas, 25 U.S.C. § 5704

1. guidelines on inter-jurisdictional cooperation among law enforcement agencies at the Tribal, Federal, State, and local levels, including inter-jurisdictional enforcement of protection orders and detailing specific responsibilities of each law enforcement agency;



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas

Jurisdictional Cooperation

- Lead Investigative Agency maintains the file.
- Lead Investigative Agency communicates with all law enforcement in the area.
- Tribes encourage and supported in developing your Tribal Community Response Plan to MMIP.
- Report MMIP as soon as possible.
- Lead LE as appropriate seek AST and Federal investigative assistance.
- Federal Resource Coordinator: US Attorney Tribal Liaison and MMIP Coordinator will provide coordination and support to seek State and Federal LE support.
- Tribal Court Orders Full Faith and Credit.
- Encourage Tribal public safety funding opportunities.



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas, 25 U.S.C. § 5704

2. best practices in conducting searches for missing
Indigenous People;



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas

Best Practices for Conducting Searches

- All Law enforcement encouraged to review and develop missing protocols.
- AST to activate search and rescue support.
- DPS-AST to active Amber and Silver Alert.
- Consider FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert and Warning System)
- Tribes encouraged to:
 - Identify volunteers/staff
 - Identify command/coordination center
 - Plan for and coordinate food and water
 - Coordinate Tribal/village leadership if no law enforcement in the community and notify AST as soon as possible.
 - Designate a method to disseminate information via VHF radio....



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas, 25 U.S.C. § 5704

3. standards on the collection, reporting, and analysis of data and information on missing persons and unidentified human remains, and information on culturally appropriate identification and handling of human remains identified as Indigenous, including guidance stating that all appropriate information related to missing or murdered Indigenous persons be entered in a timely manner into applicable databases;



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas

Data Standards and Handling Human Remains

- Enter data into the Alaska Public Safety Information Network to ensure national databases are notified and recorded in.
- Collect AK Native Village/Tribe data.
- Next of Kin Notification
- Work with Medical Examiner to support remains identification.
- Use state and national DNA and other databases to support Identification.
- If DPS ships remains for ME Exam they return it and cover the basic cost.
- Medical Examiners will seek prior family/tribal approval for any additional remains handling cost before incurring them.
- Medical Examiners and Law Enforcement encourage to participate in joint training.
- Medical Examiners encourage to find ways to consider questioned findings.



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas, 25 U.S.C. § 5704

4. guidance on which law enforcement agency is responsible for inputting information into appropriate databases if the Tribal law enforcement agency does not have access to those databases;



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas

Law Enforcement Entry Into Databases

- Enter data into appropriate databases: (may include)
 - APSIN
 - NCIC
 - Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)
 - Next Generation Identification System
 - Violent Criminal Apprehension Program
 - NamUs
 - NCMEC
- Federal, State, and local governments should add fields for Alaska Native Villages and Tribes to relevant databases on or before January 1, 2032.
- Encourage to allow multiple selections.
- Tribes/AK Native Villages without law enforcement encouraged to report to DPS AST to enter into Alaska Public Safety Information Network to ensure data is entered.
- Tribes can check data at <https://dps.alaska.gov/AST/ABI/MissingPerson>
- Encourage all eligible Indian Tribes to apply for the Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP) (VAWA 2022 Sec. 802)



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas, 25 U.S.C. § 5704

5. guidelines on improving law enforcement agency response rates and follow-up responses to cases of missing or murdered Indians; and



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas

Improve Law Enforcement Response & Follow-Up

- Law Enforcement Best Practices
- Tribes Invited to develop MMIP Tribal Community Response Plans
- Report MMIP as soon as possible.
- Coordinate with AST for Search and Rescue support.
- Coordinate with AST for Investigative support.
- Support Communication and community outreach.
- Support VAWA pilot projects.
- Law Enforcement and tribes with out LE can seek Federal Support.
- Alaska Native Recruitment across Law Enforcement
- Support increased Law Enforcement.
- Support increased Victim Services.
- Encourage regional cultural education.
- Multi-disciplinary case review team.
- Support regular training.



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas, 25 U.S.C. § 5704

6. guidelines on ensuring access to culturally appropriate victim services for victims and their families.



Savanna's Act Guidelines, Protocols, Policy Areas

Culturally Appropriate Victim Services

- Tribes Invited to develop MMIP Tribal Community Response Plans with tribal/tribal agency Victim Services contacts.
- All law enforcement should invite Victim Services to be a part of Multi-Disciplinary teams.
- Coordination of rural law enforcement with local Victim Services:
 - Cultural awareness
 - Communication
 - Advocacy access
- Law Enforcement seek CDVSA and other Victim Services agency support .
- Victim Services support from the event to prosecution.
- Support increased access to Victim Services resources.
- Support cross training with Law Enforcement and Victim Services.
- Encourage regional cultural education.
- Cultural and Trauma Informed Training.



Alaska MMIP - Statewide Working Group

Stakeholders/Providers/LE: Resources & Response

- ▶ Statewide, Tribal MMIP Focus, Stakeholders, and Multidisciplinary Providers. (September – bi-monthly)
- ▶ Federal Law Enforcement Partners: FBI, USMS, USCG, BIA-MMU & HHS, and USA
- ▶ Alaska State Troopers
 - ▶ Village Public Safety Officer Regional Supervisors (2-tribal)
- ▶ Alaska Department of Law
- ▶ Municipal Law Enforcement
- ▶ Victims and Advocacy Services (1 – tribal)
- ▶ Tribal Members & TCRP Pilot Site Members (7 – tribal)



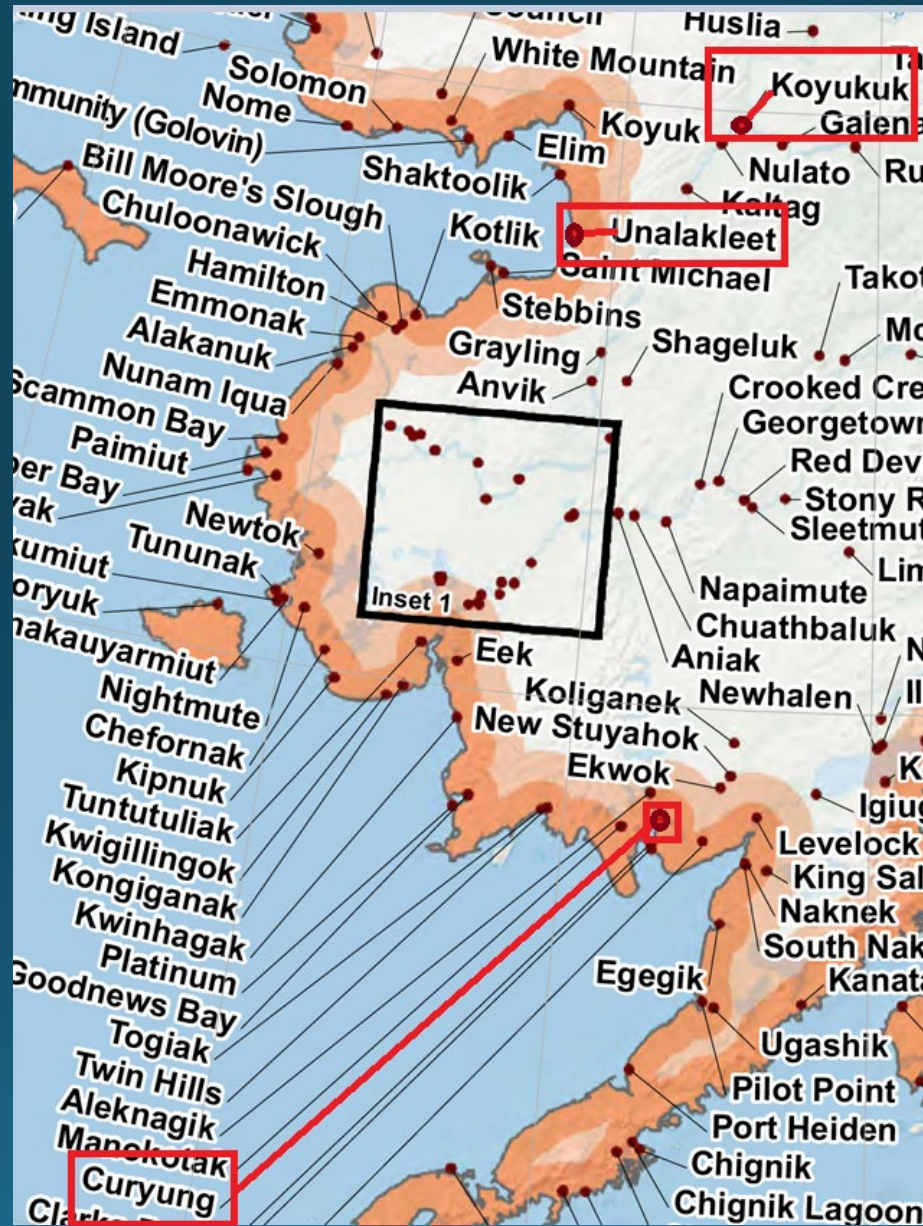
Goal of the Alaska – MMIP Pilot Projects

- ▶ To establish a plan for tribal communities to collectively use their resources effectively in supporting an emergent MMIP case, ongoing case, and cold case response
- ▶ To support a multidisciplinary approach to raise MMIP awareness, prevention efforts, training, & response capacity
- ▶ To Identify and respond to root causes (i.e. historical trauma, substance use, domestic violence, danger of media & travel...): support prevention, treatment, repair of harm



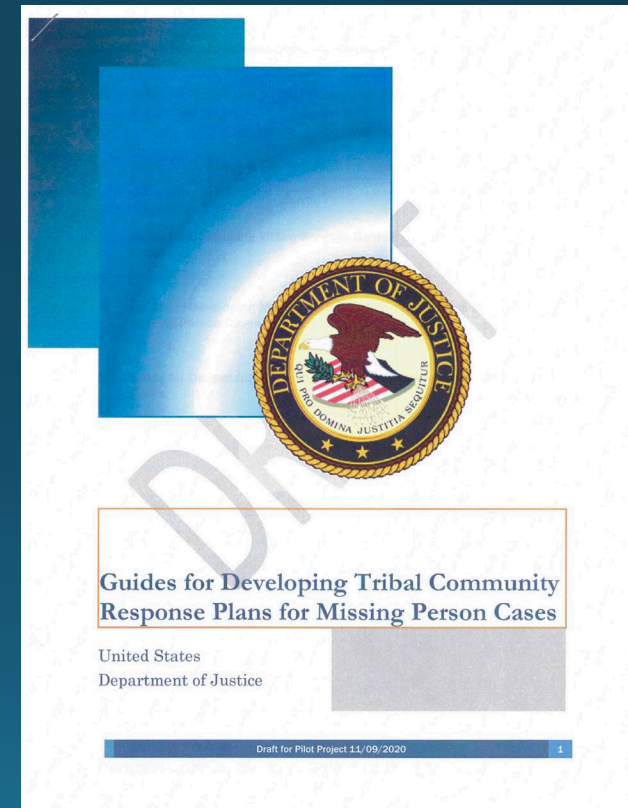
3 Pilot Project Volunteer Alaskan Tribes

Share
experiences in
the Pilot
Project



AK – MMIP Pilot Project is Comprised of Five Guides

- ▶ Law Enforcement
- ▶ Victim Services
- ▶ Public and Media Communications
- ▶ Community Outreach



MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS – TRIBAL COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLAN DRAFT WORK SCHEDULE

(ADDITIONAL GUESTS PARTICIPANTS MIGHT INCLUDE LOCAL, NEIGHBORING, REGIONAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL: COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS, PROVIDERS & LAW ENFORCEMENT & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH/ WELLNESS SUPPORT OR ACCESS)

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time/Participants	Tribal Team (Team)/Outreach/ Team Purpose, Mission, & Policies	Team Mission.../Local, Regional... Resources /Media	Team/Law Enforcement (LE)	Team Purpose, Mission & Policies /Victim Services/LE	Tribal Team
9:00-9:55 a.m.	Open in a Good Way Introductions Draft Ground Rules Review Model TCRP	Open in a Good Way Introductions Review Ground Rules, Review Model TCRP/ Debrief and Drafting	Open in a Good Way Introductions Review Ground Rules, Review Model TCRP/ Debrief and Drafting	Open in a Good Way Introductions Review Ground Rules, Review Model TCRP/ Debrief and Drafting	Open in a Good Way Introductions Review Ground Rules, Review Model TCRP/ Debrief and Drafting
9:55-10:05	BREAK TIME				
10:05-11:00 a.m.	MMIP Introduction, Team Outreach-Who do you want at the table? MMIP TCRP Model Review, Begin Drafting Discussion, Q&A	Identify and Write Local... List of Resources & Contacts, Draft Purpose, Mission, Policy Statements, and Cultural Sections Q&A	Law Enforcement and AK-MMIP working group Guests-Current Response, Resources, and Jurisdiction	Identify and Write Local... List of Resources & Contacts, Draft Purpose, Mission, Policy Statements, and Cultural Sections Q&A	Recap Community Outreach, Media and Public Communication, Law Enforcement, and Victim Services, Drafting Continued
11:00 – 11:15	BREAK TIME				

Working Together
5 Days
4+ Hours
Tribal Team
Stakeholders
Providers
Law Enforcement



Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11:15-12:10 p.m.	Draft Purpose, Mission, Policy Statements, and Cultural Sections Q&A	Operation Lady Justice Media and Public Communication Guide and Guests, Q&A, Plan Media & Public Communication	Law Enforcement and AK-MMIP working group Guests-Current Response, Resources, and Jurisdiction/ Drafting	Operation Lady Justice Victim Services Guide & Guests, Q&A, Identify and Draft Victim Services Response	Finish Drafting of Purpose, Mission, Policy Statements, and Cultural Sections. Q&A
12:10-12:20	BREAK TIME				
12:20-1:15 p.m.	Draft Purpose, Mission, Policy Statements, and Cultural Sections Q&A	Operation Lady Justice Law Enforcement Guide/Model Introduction, Q&A	MMIP Tribal Response Team Identify & Write Local, Neighboring, and Regional Response Resources & Contacts	MMIP Tribal Response Team Identify and Draft TCRP Media & Public Communication and Victim Services	Finish Drafting and Review Tribes MMIP TCRP, Discussion
1:15-1:30 p.m.	Recap/Q&A/Debrief Lessons Learned, Tomorrow's Schedule, Healing Needs End in a good way.	Recap/Q&A/Debrief Lessons Learned, Tomorrow's Schedule, Healing Needs End in a good way.	Recap/Q&A/Debrief Lessons Learned, Tomorrow's Schedule, Healing Needs End in a good way.	Recap/Q&A/Debrief Lessons Learned, Tomorrow's Schedule, Healing Needs End in a good way.	Recap/Q&A/Debrief Lessons Learned and Next Meeting Time(s)? And Thank You(s) End in a good way.

Working Together
5 Days
4+ Hours
Tribal Team
Stakeholders
Providers
Law Enforcement



Alaska MMIP - Pilot Program, 3 Volunteer Tribes

- ▶ Develop 3 Community Action Models (Tribal Community Response Plans)
 - ▶ Communities with no law enforcement (LE)
 - ▶ Communities with limited LE (VPSO, TPO...)
 - ▶ Hub Communities with municipal and/or state law enforcement
- ▶ Adopted: Curyung Tribal Council of Dillingham
Native Village of Unalakleet
- ▶ In Progress: Koyukuk Native Village
- ▶ One Model



Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons Tribal Community Response Plan Model - Goals

- ▶ The Plan belongs to and is lead by participating Alaska Tribes and Villages.
- ▶ The Model is a backbone to the tribal team's capacity building work.
- ▶ The Model is not the final plan document: collaboration/relationships building
 - Find Solutions
 - Identify Resources
 - Build Response Capacity, Contacts, Understanding, and Collaboration
 - Increase Reporting/Response
 - Increasing Cultural Understanding
 - Foster Supportive Relationships & Good Communication
 - Build Trust
 - Resolve Conflicts /Roadblocks
 - Recognize Historical and Residual/Secondary Trauma
 - Learn from Each Other



Alaska Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons: NCJTC - Child Abduction Tabletop Exercise in Indian Country – Tribal Community Response Plan

- ▶ Curyung Tribal Council of Dillingham
- ▶ Native Village of Unalakleet

- Scenario Based: Child (14 or 16 goes missing)
- 4 hours with Tribal Response Team, Stakeholder providers, and Law Enforcement
- Initial Response, On-going Response, Media, Victim Services, and Re-unification/Resolution...



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Qaâgaasakung
Gunalchéesh
Quyana
Enna Baasee'
Tsin'aen
Quyanaqqak

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Any questions?

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