



# PATHWAY TO HOPE

## ALASKA NATIVE SUMMIT ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

January 9 - 10, 2008  
Anchorage, Alaska  
Hilton Anchorage



# “Pathway to Hope: Alaska Native Summit on Child Sexual Abuse”

Welcome to the Pathway to Hope: Alaska Native Summit on Child Sexual Abuse. This event has been requested by the Tribes and Tribal organizations that have been working with the needs of Native child victims in Alaska over the past several years. Many of these received Children’s Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities grants from the Office for Victims of Crime to address serious child abuse and child sexual abuse. In response to the need, the Tribal Law & Policy Institute has developed a video by and for Alaska Native people called “Pathway to Hope: Healing Child Sexual Abuse”. Through the vision of the video came the ideas for developing this conference. We are grateful to the members of the Alaska Native Summit on Child Sexual Abuse planning committee for their role in making this event a reality.

## Conference Goals:

- ◆ End Silence About Child Sexual Abuse in Alaska Native Communities
- ◆ Provide Opportunities to Share Traditional and Contemporary Paths for Healing from Trauma
- ◆ Strengthen Collaboration in Alaska to Provide Greater Support for Native Child Victims

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This summit was developed and provided by the Alaska Office of the Tribal Law & Policy Institute with financial support from the Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice; Alaska Region, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Central Peninsula Hospital, Alaska Children’s Justice Task Force, Southcentral Foundation and the United States Attorney Office, District of Alaska.



U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime  
**OVC**  
*"Putting Victims First"*



 **central peninsula** hospital

Southcentral  
Foundation



This event was developed and delivered in part through grant # 2006-VI-GX-0001 to the Tribal Law and Policy Institute for Training and Technical Assistance for the Children’s Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities grants from the Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view in this project are those of the Institute and do not necessarily represent the position of the U.S. Department of Justice.

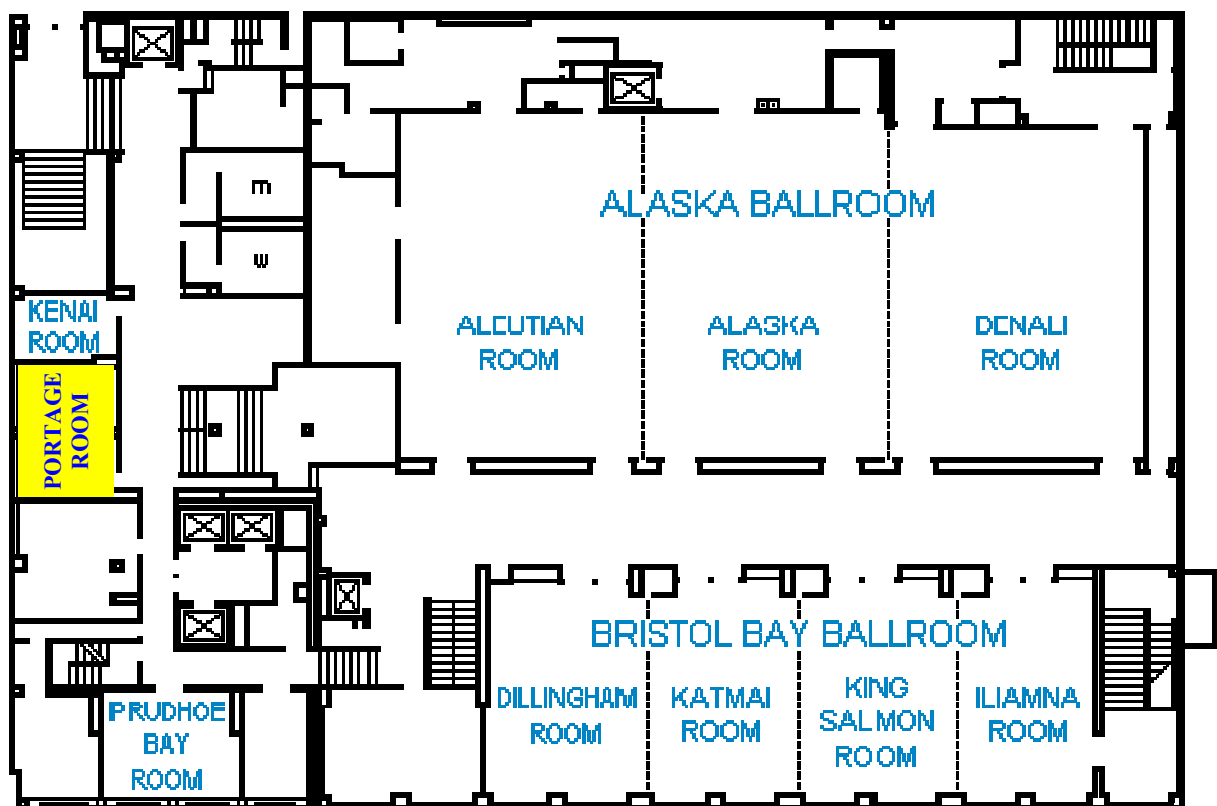
## SAFE ROOM:

## PORTAGE ROOM (see map)

Because many of the presentations and workshops will touch upon issues that may trigger difficult memories or otherwise be upsetting to survivors, a "Safe Room" will be open throughout the summit and facilitated by volunteers. The Safe Room will provide a place for those who might want to "de-brief", decompress, share their experience or simply have some quiet time. Volunteers are advocates and counselors who are available to assist those who want some support during the summit. Safe Room volunteers at the Summit are identified by a Silver color ribbon on their name tag that says "Safe Room". You may approach any of these individuals at any time if you need someone to talk to about memories you are having, concerns for loved ones that may have child sexual abuse histories or other feelings that you need to talk about.

If you are interested in talking to someone or spending some time in the Safe Room, please check with the Registration Desk or ask a person with the Safe Room ribbon for assistance. In the evening hours, please check the Portage room door for the on-call number to get in touch with a Safe Room volunteer.

## HILTON ANCHORAGE - 2nd FLOOR



## AT ~ A ~ GLANCE

### WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 9, 2008

- 8:00 Registration, Coffee & Continental Breakfast  
Opening Welcome and Ceremony  
Welcome Statements
- 9:30 Keynote- Why We Are Here?
- 10:15 **“Pathways to Hope: Healing Child Sexual Abuse” DVD Showing**
- 11:00 Panel: Ending Silence & Sharing Community Strategies
- 12:00 Buffet Lunch & Regional “Get Acquainted” Breakout Sessions
- 1:30 Pathways to Healing: Best Practices
- 2:45 Keynote - Reclaiming the Spirit Of Our People: Healing From Child Sexual Abuse
- 3:45 Honoring Victims & Healing

### THURSDAY - JANUARY 10, 2008

- 8:00 Coffee, Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 Opening Invocation  
Panel: Overview of Current Dangers to Children
- 11:10 Keynote - Effects of Trauma on Children’s Brains
- 12:00 Lunch (provided) Healing from Childhood Trauma
- 1:30 Workshop Sessions
- 3:00 CASE Review Breakout Sessions By Regions
- 4:00 Closing Ceremony – Commitment to Supporting Alaska Native Child Victims

#### **Continuing Education Credits Available**

Alaska Police Standards Council has approved the conference for 14 credits for law enforcement officers. Law Enforcement officers must sign in each day at the Continuing Education table and complete the paperwork for APSC to receive these credits.

Central Peninsula Hospital is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by Alaska Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. This conference is approved for 9.6 CE credits.

Approval for continuing education credits is pending with the Alaska Board of Social Work Examiners and Board of Professional Counselors. Please contact Eleanor Vinson Licensing Examiner for Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing at 907-465-2551 for information.

## Wednesday, January 9, 2008

Alaska/Denali Room	8:00 – 8:30	Registration, Coffee & Continental Breakfast	
	8:30	<b>Opening Welcome and Ceremony</b> Dorothy Cook, President, Native Village of Eklutna Opening Invocation	
	9:00	<b>Welcome Statements</b> John Gillis, Director, Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Dept. of Justice Dr. Cathy Baldwin-Johnson, Alaska CJA Task Force Gloria Gorman, Navajo, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Director of Human Services Nelson Cohen, United States' Attorney, Alaska Region Gerad Godfrey, Alutiiq, Alaska Violent Crime Compensation Board President	
	9:30	<b>Why We Are Here?</b> Senator Georgiana Lincoln, Koyukon	
	10:00	Break	
	10:15	<b>“Pathways to Hope: Healing Child Sexual Abuse” DVD Showing</b>	
BREAKOUT SESSION	11:00	<b>Panel: Ending Silence &amp; Sharing Community Strategies To Support Child Victims</b> Elena Aluskak, Yupi’k, Forensic Child Abuse Interviewer Jim Miller, Alutiiq, Native Village of Port Graham Louise Brady, Tlingit - Sitka Tribe of Alaska Al Stevens, Koyukon elder, Tanana Chiefs Conference Katherine McConkey, Athabascan – Copper River Native Association Rebecca “Aullaqsruaq” Brower, Inupiat –Native Village of Barrow	
	12:00- 1:30	<b>Buffet Lunch &amp; Regional “Get Acquainted” Breakout Sessions with Child Advocacy Centers Serving Native children</b> <b>Please attend the session nearest your hometown.</b> <b>Anchorage (Denali Room)</b> Juneau (Illiamna Room) <b>Bethel (Alaska Room)</b> Nome & Kotzebue (Katmai Room) <b>Dillingham &amp; Homer (Dillingham Room)</b> Wasilla & Fairbanks (King Salmon Room)	
	Alaska/Denali Room	1:30 – 2:30	<b>Pathways to Healing: Best Practices From Traditional Healing And New Trauma Response Research</b> Bob Cheney, Ph.D. and Kimber Evensen, LCSW
		2:30 – 2:45	Break
		2:45 – 3:45	<b>Reclaiming the Spirit Of Our People: Healing From Child Sexual Abuse</b> Dr. Sara Jumping Eagle, Lakota
		3:45- 4:30	<b>Honoring Victims &amp; Healing</b>

## Thursday, January 10, 2008

Alaska/Denali Room	8:00	Coffee & Continental Breakfast
	8:30	Opening Invocation
	8:40	<b>Panel: Overview of Current Dangers to Native Children</b> Child Abuse Data report - Katie TePas, Program Coordinator Alaska State Troopers Trafficking Children in Alaska – Sgt. Kathy Lacey, Anchorage Police Department Alaska Native Child Deaths - Dr. B.J. Coopes
	10:00	Break
	10:15	<b>Panel: Overview of Current Dangers to Native Children (continued)</b> Native Children in Alcohol & Drug Environments – Dr. Cathy Baldwin-Johnson Internet Dangers – Detective Kevin Vandegriff, Anchorage Police Department
	11:10	<b>Effects of Trauma on Children’s Brains</b> Linda Chamberlain, Ph.D., Founding Director, Alaska Family Violence Project
	12:00 – 1:15	Lunch (provided) <b>Healing from Childhood Trauma</b> Lisa and Max Dolchok, Family Wellness Warrior Initiative, Southcentral Foundation

### 1:30 – 2:45 WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Alaska Room	<p><b><i>Normal Child Sexual Development – Dr. Sara Jumping Eagle</i></b> This session will provide participants information about sexual behaviors which are normal and common for ages throughout the life of children; Learn the differences between normal sexual play and problem sexual behaviors; Learn the appropriate ways to deal with normal and problem sexual behaviors; Learn what to say when children ask questions about sexual development and sexual behaviors – be an “askable parent”; Learn more about having “the talk” with teenagers; and obtain more resources about normal child and adolescent sexual development.</p>
Iliamna Room	<p><b><i>Advocacy Skills- Ways to Help Child Victims - Diane Payne &amp; Tammy Young</i></b> In this session, participants will learn how to help child victims and witnesses prepare for the often overwhelming experience of testifying in court. We will explore ways to help adults in the legal and advocacy systems be more attentive to the needs of traumatized children and how to best educate and strengthen the child’s family and community support system.</p>
King Salmon Room	<p><b><i>Vicarious Trauma - Kimber Evenson, LCSW</i></b> Trauma Workers and people who repeatedly witness or hear the effects of trauma on others often feel the pain of the trauma within themselves. Participants in this session will learn how this secondary trauma or compassion fatigue is different than burnout. The participants will learn how to identify vicarious trauma in themselves and some ways to address its effects.</p>
Dillingham Room	<p><b><i>Personal Healing &amp; Balance – Rita Blumenstein &amp; Liz Sunnyboy</i></b> This session will provide participants with suggestions and guidance in identifying and owning their personal strengths and challenges as they serve in helping roles in their communities.</p>
Katmai Room	<p><b><i>Alcohol &amp; Drug Endangered Children - Dr. Cathy Baldwin-Johnson</i></b> This workshop will focus on the impact of alcohol and drug abuse on children and how these addictions are related to child abuse.</p>

Denali Room	<p><b>Internet Dangers to Children - Det. Kevin Vandegriff, Anchorage Police Dept.</b>                  This workshop provides an interactive look at chat rooms and other internet forums, and the way in which children can be exploited by sexual predators and exposed to unwanted sexually explicit material. He will provide best practices for adults (parents, professionals working with children and others) regarding steps that can be taken to protect children from internet dangers. This workshop is founded on real world experience investigating actual internet sex crimes against children that have occurred in all regions of Alaska.</p>		
	<p><b>2:45 – 3:00</b> Break</p>		
BREAKOUT SESSION	<p><b>3:00- 4:00</b> <b>Case Review Breakout Sessions By Child Advocacy Center Regions</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <p>Anchorage (Denali Room)</p> <p>Bethel (Alaska Room)</p> <p>Dillingham &amp; Homer (Dillingham Room)</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <p>Juneau (Illiamna Room)</p> <p>Nome &amp; Kotzebue (Katmai Room)</p> <p>Wasilla &amp; Fairbanks (King Salmon Room)</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Anchorage (Denali Room)</p> <p>Bethel (Alaska Room)</p> <p>Dillingham &amp; Homer (Dillingham Room)</p>	<p>Juneau (Illiamna Room)</p> <p>Nome &amp; Kotzebue (Katmai Room)</p> <p>Wasilla &amp; Fairbanks (King Salmon Room)</p>
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Alaska/ Denali Room	<p><b>4:00 – 5:00</b> <b>Closing Ceremony – Commitment to Supporting Alaska Native Child Victims</b>                  Hope and Healing: Elders, Traditional Healers and Helpers</p>		

Thank you to the Alaska Children’s Alliance and the Alaska Native Women’s Coalition on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for their extraordinary in-kind support.

**Much appreciation to the volunteers who helped with registration, room monitoring and other important tasks!**

Marci Amik  
 Gloria Gorman  
 Kelly Murphy  
 March Runner

Deanne Antioquia  
 Colleen James  
 Beverly Oskolkoff  
 Bing Santamour

And the Volunteers from the Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau



**Tribal Law & Policy Institute is grateful to the following individuals for volunteering as SAFE Room support!**

Elena Aluskak  
 Elsie Boudreau  
 Bob Chaney  
 Kimber Evensen  
 Meghan Gaughan  
 Deanna Hardin  
 Kathy McConkey  
 Jim Neumann  
 Leona Schick  
 Tammy Young

Rita Blumenstein  
 Louise Brady  
 Lisa Dolchok  
 Kathleen Graves  
 Gloria Gorman  
 Tami Jerue  
 Linda McLaughlin  
 Abbey Pierce  
 Al Stevens

## Pathway to Hope: Healing Child Sexual Abuse Video

This video was designed and developed to strengthen tribal community responses to child victimization and to support community healing from historical child abuse. Our goal is to have this video used as an educational resource and to have it used by individuals who are able to facilitate discussion and assist victims in their healing journey. Because of the importance of providing tools to accompany the video, it will not be released for use in Alaska or elsewhere without the full educational packet. The Institute provided the first two-day session on "Training of Community Facilitators" in October 2007 to teach individuals working in Native communities ways to best use this video and the accompanying guide book.

**Background for "PATHWAY TO HOPE":** In fall of 2004, Tribal Law & Policy Institute invited a group of Alaska Native people involved in victim services and support in Tribal communities from different regions of the state to assist us in developing the vision for this video. The group represented a range of age groups from elders to young adults and most of the advisory group represented Alaska Native tribes receiving the Children's Justice Act grant to address child sexual abuse. Following two days of facilitated discussion, this group identified the core messages and the format that is seen in the Pathway to Hope video and Video Guidebook. The group also envisioned a time when Alaska Native people would come together statewide and begin the process of ending silence and supporting child victims.

We are deeply grateful to the Video Project Advisory Committee members Al Stevens, Lenora Hootch, Priscilla Kameroff, Richard Martin, Mona Evan, Diane Benson and Eleanor Ned for their contributions to the vision and their belief in the importance of this video. Thanks to Elsie Boudreau for skillful and compassionate interviewing and tireless logging of many hours of tapes. Finally, we are also very grateful to Jeffry Silverman and the Blueberry Productions crew for their outstanding professional and personal gifts by understanding and believing in our purpose and helping us in making this vision a reality!

**Thank you to these Tribal Governments for welcoming us:**

Port Graham Village Council  
Native Village of Tyonek  
Sitka Tribe of Alaska  
Native Village of Barrow

Nanwalek IRA Council  
Organized Village of Kake  
Emmonak Village  
Native Village of St. Michael IRA

Special thank you to Bill Stevens, Athabascan and Mary Youngblood, Aleut & Seminole, for donating the permission to use music from their CDs in the video.



Scenes from  
Pathway to Hope:  
Healing Child Sexual  
Abuse DVD

## Speakers Seen in the Video

Eleanor McMullen - Alutiiq

Mary Ahkivgak - Inupiaq

Ruth Demmert - Tlingit

William & Martha Trader - Yup'ik

Georgianna Lincoln - Koyukon,  
former State Senator

Draacheeahutuh' (Al Stevens) - Koyukon

Mike Jackson - Tlingit/Haida

Rebecca Brower - Inupiaq

Simon L. Bekoalok, Jr. - Inupiaq

Cheryl Evan - Tlingit/Haida

Lenora Hootch - Yup'ik

Louise Brady - Tlingit

Rita Blumenstein - Yup'ik

Ed Kelly - Yup'ik

Nancy Radtke - Sugpiaq

Kimber Evensen - Iroquois, LCSW

Liz Sunnyboy - Yup'ik

Doreen Simmonds - Inupiaq

James - Yup'ik

Peter Merryman - Athabascan, Chief,  
Native Village of Tyonek

Daz'ik'isen, Donita L. Peter - Dena'ina

Naa Kahidi Dancers

Harriet Kaufman - Athabascan, Council  
member, Native Village of Tyonek

Jerry Evan, Jr. - Yup'ik, AK State Troopers

Patrick Norman - Alutiiq, Chief, Native  
Village of Port Graham

Justin McDonald - Dakota Sioux, raised in SE Alaska

Stephen J. Tom - Yup'ik

Peter - Yup'ik

Nancy M. Yeaton - Sugpiaq

Leona Schick - Inupiaq

Rita Meganack - Alutiiq

Cecilia Okitkun - Yup'ik

Ethel McKinnen - Tlingit

Jim Miller - Alutiiq

Bernie - Yup'ik

Katherine Jada Smith - Tlingit/Haida

Doreen Ahgeak - Inupiaq

Dora Neakok - Inupiaq

Mary Malchoff - Alutiiq

Violet Yeaton - Alutiiq

Joanne Horn - Yup'ik

Louisa Kakianaq Riley - Inupiaq



Pathway to Hope  
Training of Community Facilitators  
October 2007



**Opening Welcome by Dorothy Cook, President of the Native Village of Eklutna.** We thank the Native Village of Eklutna for welcoming us to their aboriginal lands and for their support of all our efforts to address the needs of Native children and their families.

**Cathy Baldwin-Johnson**

“Dr. CBJ” is a family physician who started the practice that grew to become Providence Matanuska Health Care, the largest multi-specialty clinic in the MatSu Borough. A lifelong Alaskan, she is a graduate of the University Of Washington School Of Medicine and the Swedish Hospital Medical Center Family Practice Residency program. She is one of the founders and the volunteer medical director for The Children’s Place, the Mat-Su Children’s Advocacy Center dedicated to the evaluation, treatment, and prevention of child abuse and neglect. She also serves as the medical director for Alaska CARES, the Child Advocacy Center in Anchorage. Cathy has provided training for health care providers and multidisciplinary teams all over Alaska as well as in the Lower 48. Honors have included: 2006 Horowitz Barker Professional Leadership Award from the National Children’s Alliance, 2002 National Family Physician of the Year from the American Academy of Family Physicians, 2000 Alaska Family Physician of the Year from the Alaska Academy of Family Physicians and the 1999 Alaska First Lady’s Volunteer of the Year Award.

**Nelson Cohen**

Mr. Cohen is the United States Attorney for the District of Alaska. He was appointed to this position in August 2006. Before coming to Alaska, Mr. Cohen was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Western District of Pennsylvania from 1987 to 2006. Before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office in Pittsburgh, Mr. Cohen practiced law in Alaska for 10 years: first as an Assistant U.S. Attorney responsible for both criminal and civil cases with an emphasis on drug prosecutions, medical malpractice defense and appellate practice and later as a private attorney in Anchorage. Mr. Cohen started his career as a trial attorney in the Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, District Attorney's Office where he prosecuted robbery and homicide cases. He earned his law degree from the Duquesne University School of Law.

**John W. Gillis**

John W. Gillis is the Director of the Justice Department’s Office for Victims of Crime. Mr. Gillis has a long and distinguished career in victim advocacy and law enforcement. In 1991, President George Bush presented Mr. Gillis with the National Crime Victim Service Award for his work in helping crime victims. In 1993, former Attorney General William Barr recognized Mr. Gillis’ crime victim service with a Special Commendation Award. Mr. Gillis is also a member of the American Police Hall of Fame. Following the 1979 murder of his daughter Lourana, Mr. Gillis helped fund Justice for Homicide Victims and the Coalition of Victims Equal Rights, a statewide organization that works on behalf of the rights of victims and their families. He is also the founder of Victims & Friends United and an active member of Memory of Victims Everywhere and Parents of Murdered Children, a support group for families of homicide victims. From 1962 to his retirement in 1988, Mr. Gillis served with the Los Angeles Police Department, retiring with the rank of lieutenant, Assistant Commanding Officer. He also served as a Commissioner of the California Board of Prison Terms, acting as Chairman from 1991 to 1993. Mr. Gillis served four years a member of the California State Bar Association’s Crime Victims and Corrections Committee and four years on the American Legislative Exchange Council’s Victim Committee. His efforts also helped secure passage of California’s Crime Victims Initiative. He has acted as a technical advisor in the are of training videos for law enforcement, and is an active participant and advisor in the production of two training videos for law enforcement and crime victims. The videos are widely used throughout the United States and several foreign countries. Mr. Gillis received and undergraduate degree from California State University at Los Angeles and a graduate degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.

### **Gerad Godfrey**

Mr. Godfrey has been the Chair of the State of Alaska's Violent Crimes Compensation Board since February, 2003. Under his direction, the state's crime victim compensation program has expanded to provide assistance to hundreds of additional Alaskan crime victims and their families annually. He has also ensured crime victims receive all benefits potentially available under Alaskan law by expanding types of services available. Under his oversight, the Board has sought the best possible ways and means to serve all of Alaska's violent crime victims by adopting policies to fit the unique needs of Alaskan victims. Gerad Godfrey is a lifelong Alaskan of Alaskan Native descent - Alutiiq (Kodiak Region). He holds a Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice/Counseling Psychology and is currently a second year Juris Doctorate of Law student at the Concord Law School of Kaplan University. He is employed by Doyon Universal Services and he and his wife Deb are the proud parents of two young children. Mr. Godfrey is a volunteer lobbyist who has advocated strenuously for the rights of crime victims. He co-founded the Helping Hands-Healing Hearts Victim Recovery Project Working Group whose mission is to facilitate communication and cooperation between government, secular victim service, faith based and community organizations to promote crime victim advocacy by faith based and community organizations while ensuring crime victims have informed and complete access to victim recovery services. He also co-created the "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Awards", which are awarded each year during Crime Victims Rights Week in recognition of exemplary work by professionals and volunteers in the area of crime victim advocacy.

### **Gloria Gorman**

Gloria Gorman is a member of the Navajo Nation and is of the Kinayaa'nii (Towering House People) clan from her mother and is of the Kinlichii' nii (Red House People) clan from her father. Gloria was born and raised on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona. She is the mother of four children; two daughters, two sons and two grandchildren. Gloria has a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Social Work and is presently the Human Services Director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alaska Region in Juneau. Gloria works with Alaska tribes developing strong ICWA programs and Welfare Assistance programs. She and her staff provide training, technical assistance to enhance, develop competencies and skills of tribal workers. Her office sponsors the annual ICWA Conference during the BIA Tribal Providers Conference and sponsors the ICWA Basic Trainings provided by the Tribal Law and Policy Institute. Her office was responsible for the development of the Alaska Native Indian Child Welfare Association (ANICWA) in 1996 and has continued to provide financial support to ANICWA by sponsoring symposiums and trainings for tribal/state workers. Gloria has authored two works; *Child Abuse and Neglect, Collaboration: The Key, A Model Curriculum on Indian Child Welfare*, 1989, Arizona State University, School of Social Work and *White Mountain Apache Child Protective Services Processes, Resources and Systems, Training Curriculum*, produced by the National Center for Child Abuse and Neglect, Washington, D.C. 1992.

The Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) was established in 1971 by the Alaskan Legislature to help bring financial relief to innocent victims of violent crimes in Alaska. If you have been the innocent victim of a violent crime, VCCB may be able to help. If you would like a copy of the application or if you have any questions feel free to call them at:

1-800-764-3040 or 465-3040 in Juneau

Or Contact them at:

Violent Crimes Compensation Board

P.O. Box 110230

Juneau, Alaska 99811-0230

<http://www.state.ak.us/admin/vccb/victims.shtml>

**Elena Aluskak**

Elena is a mother of four wonderful children and a grandmother to a darling boy, and is married now for 21 years to a caring man - Moses. She was raised and schooled in Nunapitchuk, a small village in southwest Alaska. Elena has worked with children since 1982 both in and out of the school system and is currently a child forensic interviewer of alleged victims of child sexual abuse at the Children's Advocacy center in Bethel, and also very recently has become the project director for the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) grant. She has also acquired a certificate in Rural Human Services in 2006. Elena has a passion for her faith in God and her Yup'ik culture and traditions and loves visiting with Elders of her tribe.

**Mary Ahkivgak**

Mary is a highly respected Inupiaq elder in the community of Barrow and around the North Slope. She is currently a Tribal Court Judge for the Native Village of Barrow where she hears cases involving child abuse and adoption. Mary has attended numerous training events and assisted in the development of the Pathway to Hope video. She has made a commitment to improving the lives of the children in Barrow and elsewhere.

**Rita Blumenstein**

Rita Pitka Blumenstein is a Yup'ik mother, grandmother, great grandmother, wife, aunt, sister, friend, and tribal elder who became the first certified traditional doctor in Alaska. She has been a healer since she was very young and her gifts have touched many lives. Born on a fishing boat and raised in Tununak, Alaska, Rita attended a Montessori school in Seattle for four years. She raised two children and worked at many hospitals delivering babies as a doctor's aide in Bethel and Nome. Rita is also an artist, a teacher, speaker and storyteller. In her presentations around the world, Rita has focused on the health and social development of people. She is an able emissary for promoting international goodwill as well as the status of women. She is a learned voice for passing on knowledge of the environment and ways of the land. Dr. Rita has made outstanding contributions in health, social development, education, environment, human rights, and international goodwill. She teaches by just "being" and is an outstanding role model for other women and for all those who encounter her. Rita has participated in many healing conferences where her teachings of the Talking Circle were recorded and published. Rita recently worked with South Central Foundation as a tribal doctor using plant and energy medicine. She has now taken time off to travel as one of the International Council of the Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers, as they film a documentary for the Next Seven Generations.

**Louise Brady**

Louise is Lingit of the Raven moiety and from the Frog Clan. She has worked in the field of human services for the last 25 years as a woman's advocate, substance abuse counselor, tribal court administrator, and Social Services Director for the Sitka Tribe of Alaska. Her inspiration comes from her parents, Bill Brady, (deceased) Chief Judge Sitka Tribal Court and Tribal Chairman, and Isabella Brady who worked at Mt. Edgecumbe High School and founded the Sitka Native Education Program. She understands the need for individuals to heal from the affects of intergenerational trauma and unresolved grief and co-produced a film "Carved from the Heart" that is an example of using traditional Alaska Native ways to heal. She always works to assure that Lingit ways of healing are used and has spear-headed the carving of two-poles in Sitka, both involving youth and women. The first was "Yees Wat Ganeix" - Healing the Next Generation and the second was "K'idein Kusti" - To Live a Good Life. Louise has a BA in Sociology and Human Services.

**Rebecca "Aullaqsruaq" Brower**

Rebecca (Rexford) Brower is a proud Eskimo mother of 7 children, grandmother of 5. She has been married to a wonderful hard working man, Charles Brower for 31 years. She is the youngest of 13 children and was born in Kotzebue, raised in Barrow. In Barrow she learned to speak her native language. She is a graduate from Mt. Edgecumbe High School. She has passion for her faith in God and shares her faith with others over VHS daily. She and her family love to hunt off the land and sea and they share their native food with others. Rebecca has been a Tribal Council member and is currently

employed with Native Village of Barrow as Human Resources Director/Administrative Assistant. She is also an Associate Judge for Native Village of Barrow Tribal Courts which handles children's cases such as: CINA (Children In Need of Aide cases), Tribal Adoptions and Youth Wellness Court cases. She is touched by the many children that are neglected, abuse and mistreated because she was once a victim. She enjoys working for her people.

#### **Linda Chamberlain**

Dr. Chamberlain, the founding director of the Alaska Family Violence Prevention Project, is an epidemiologist specializing in domestic violence and childhood exposure to violence. A frequent keynote speaker throughout the United States, she holds affiliate faculty appointments at the University of Alaska and Johns Hopkins University where she did her doctoral research. She earned her public health degree from Yale School of Medicine, specializing in maternal and child health and chronic disease epidemiology. The author of numerous publications and curriculum on family violence, she is editor for the e-journal, Family Violence Prevention and Health Practice. Dr. Chamberlain has received numerous awards and recognition for her work including a National Kellogg Leadership Fellowship.

#### **Bob Chaney**

Dr. Chaney has been a practicing Psychologist for over 20 years. He is specialized in the areas of trauma and loss recovery. Through his years of experience he has developed a mind-body approach to healing that emphasizes non-judgment and cooperation. This approach is founded in a working knowledge of the mechanics of survival which are outlined in the "Five Protections."

#### **BJ Coopes**

Dr. Coopes was born in Detroit, Michigan, and did much of her medical training at Wayne State University, in inner city Detroit. She also trained and worked at The Children's Hospital of Boston, Harvard University and started the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Boston University's Boston City Hospital (now Boston Medical Center). She also worked at Brown and Tuft's Universities (Hasbro Children's Hospital at Providence, Rhode Island and The Floating Children's Hospital at New England Medical Center). Dr. Coopes began working at The Children's Hospital at Providence Alaska Medical Center in September, 2001, as the Medical Director of Pediatric Critical Care and Inpatient Pediatrics. She is involved with a team of Pediatric specialists that care for our sickest children throughout Alaska and travel to other hospital, clinics and villages to teach health aids and other pre-hospital providers about caring for these children. Dr. Coopes is a member of the Alaska Children's Justice Task Force and the Maternal, Infant and Child Fatality Review team.

#### **Ruth Demmert**

Ruth is Tlingit Elder from Kake, located about 99 miles Southeast of Juneau. She is currently the Tlingit culture and language teacher for Kake City High School District. She also is the leader for the Keex' Kwaan Dancers, the traditional Tlingit Dancers from Kake.

#### **Lisa Dolchok**

Lisa is from Clarks Point, Alaska in Bristol Bay on the Nushagak River. Lisa is the oldest daughter of nine living children. Lisa works for Southcentral Foundation in the Traditional Healing Program and does Traditional Counseling and Healing Touch. She serves on the Family Wellness Warriors Initiative Committee and carries the message of beginning our healing journey for wellness in our families and communities. She wants to break the cycle of abuse in this generation.

#### **Maxim Dolchock**

Maxim Dolchok, a Kenaitze Indian (Athabaskan) is 70 Years old, has four children, either grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Max graduated from Mt. Edgecombe High School, Mt Edgecombe School of Practical Nursing, and R.C.A. School of Electronics. Max and Lisa have been married for 48 years. Max's employment history is vast - he has worked in small business administration, as loan officer and contract officer, a community economic industrial planner, and commercial fisherman. Max served as the Executive Director of Cook Inlet Native Association for many years, as well

as for the Cook Inlet Housing Authority. Currently, Max is the Committee Chair for Family Wellness Warriors Initiative and works as an advocate for the program.

**Kimber Evensen**

Kimber is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Certified Criminal Reformation Clinician. She practices psychotherapy in Homer, Alaska, and offers training and consultation services nationwide. In addition to working with the usual spectrum of therapeutic issues, she brings special insight into the areas of play therapy for children, adolescent difficulties and family therapy. Kimber's experience includes more than 10 years of outpatient community mental health, home- and school-based therapies, behavioral emergency and crisis services, and long-term residential treatment in the mental health and substance abuse fields. She has been involved in several consulting projects with the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, including development of the Pathway to Hope Video Guidebook which is a resource for those doing community education and training about child sexual abuse using the Pathway to Hope video.

**Sara Jumping Eagle**

Sara Jumping Eagle, MD is Oglala Lakota from Kyle, South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation. She is a Pediatrician and Adolescent Medicine Specialist and obtained her medical degree from Stanford School of Medicine. Dr. Jumping Eagle did her Pediatrics Residency and Adolescent Medicine Fellowship at Denver Children's Hospital and is an Instructor in the Pediatric Department and the American Indian Alaska Native Programs in the Psychiatry Department at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center. Her primary interests include sexually transmitted diseases, teen pregnancy prevention, and mental health issues among American Indian youth. She lives in Rapid City, South Dakota. Dr. Jumping Eagle is married and the mother of two. She enjoys photography and taking her children to wacipis (pow-wows).

**Kathy Lacey**

Sergeant Kathy Lacey, a life-long Alaskan, began her law enforcement career with the Anchorage Police Department in 1993. She is currently Sergeant of the Vice Unit in the Detective Division of APD. She also has served as Sergeant of APD's Special Victims Unit, Burglary Unit, and Special Assignment Unit. Sgt. Lacey has spent the majority of her career at APD working drug and prostitution related crimes. She now heads a human trafficking task force called Alaska Coalition on Trafficking (ACT) which is comprised of representatives from the Anchorage Police Department, FBI, Alaska State Troopers, US Attorneys Office, Salvation Army, Catholic Social Services Refugee Assistance Project, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Alaska Immigration Justice Project, and Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault". This task force is a multi-disciplinary group aimed at identifying and prosecuting traffickers as well as restoring trafficking victims. Sgt. Lacey and the APD Vice Unit are currently investigating numerous human trafficking cases in collaboration with the FBI, ICE and the US Attorney's Office. These are some of the first cases of this type to be brought forward for prosecution in Alaska. Sgt. Lacey holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice with a Specialization in Human Services and is currently working on a Master's Degree.

**Georgiana Lincoln**

Senator Georgianna Lincoln, Koyukon Athabascan, is one of the most outspoken leaders for indigenous peoples in Alaska. Sen. Georgianna Lincoln is a tireless advocate for Elders, youth, families, and education. She is the only Alaska Native female to serve in the Alaska State Senate, serving first in the House of Representative from 1990 to 1992 then in the Alaska State Senate from 1992 through 2004. She recently opened the 2007 AFN/First Alaskans Institute Elders & Youth Conference with messages of hope, determination and strengthening cultural ties. Originally growing up in Rampart and Fairbanks, Georgianna now resides in Anchorage, Alaska. Throughout her life, Lincoln has served the Alaska Native community in various capacities, including as executive director of the Fairbanks Native Association, director of programs for Tanana Chiefs Conference; consultant to the National Indian Women's Association, and the Alaska and Indian Health Boards. She currently serves on the boards of First Alaskans Institute, Native American Contractors Association, and the Alaska Native Heritage Center. She is the chairwoman of Doyon, Limited and its subsidiaries, and has served as a Doyon board member for the past 31 years. Elected as Chairwoman in March 2005, she also serves as Chairwoman of Doyon Communications, Inc., Doyon Development Corporation, Doyon Drilling, Inc, Doyon Properties, Inc., Doyon Services Corp. and Doyon Tourism, Inc. As

Chairwoman, she is also an ex-officio member of all Doyon, Limited standing and special committees. A lifelong commercial and subsistence fisherwoman, she retired in 2005 from the State Senate, having served 14 years in the Legislature. She has served on numerous state boards and commissions.

### **Ina Lincoln**

Ina Lincoln is Athabascan of the Neltsiine clan who Ina has devoted her life to her children and grandchildren. She is a Tribal Court Judge & Honorary Elder originally from Chitina which is 50 miles south of Copper Center where she now resides and has been heavily involved in community events, meeting, forum, planning and trainings. Ina was appointed as a Regional Tribal court Judge in 1991 and has served as the Chief Justice. She has also been on the Tribal Council numerous times. Many people from around the Copper River region look up to her for advice in regards to potlatch rights, family history, story telling and documenting history. Ina is known for her ability to create with her hands beautiful bead work, dance dresses, men's vests, canvas boots and many other items of traditional value.

### **Katherine McConkey**

Katherine was raised all of her life in Copper Center Alaska by her late father Hector Ewan and many extended family members. Katherine's father was an Ahtna Athabascan of the Udziisyu (ugeez uu) caribou clan and her late mother Grace Ewan was an Ahtna Athabascan and Inupiaq. Katherine and her six children were adopted by Leona Johns of the Telchiin clan. Katherine and her husband Clarence McConkey have been together for 30 years; their children are Jessica Edwin, Julia, Georgiea, Clarice, Samantha and Hector McConkey. Katherine resides in Tazlina where her grown children and grandchildren visit her often. She has worked with Copper River Native Association since 2002 and is currently the Culture Preservation Manager where she works with the Elders and oversees the Regional Court, Foster Care and the Indian Child Welfare programs. She loves working with the Elders the most.

### **Jim Miller**

Jim works as a counselor and alcohol program coordinator in Port Graham. He has developed the program for rural native residential treatment and has also worked as a men's advocate. He is concerned with culturally relevant treatment as well as gender specific recovery. Jim does traditional woodcarving classes that he refers to as Art Therapy or Men's Work.

### **Diane Payne**

Diane is a mother, grandmother, auntie and sister and has found that child abuse work is a way to honor the mothers, grandmothers and grandfathers who helped her recover from an abusive childhood. She is the Children's Justice Specialist for the Tribal Law & Policy Institute, and director of the Alaska office in Anchorage. She has primary responsibility for the training and technical assistance provided to Tribes nationwide for their Children's Justice Act (CJA) grants under the Institute's grant from the Office for Victims of Crime. Before joining the Institute, Diane was project director for the Children's Justice Act (CJA) and STOP Violence Against Indian Women (VAWA) grants for Tribes in the Chugach Region for several years. These projects involved development of coordinated community response and multi-disciplinary teams to reduce trauma to child sexual abuse victims and to reduce violence against Native women. Diane also provides training several times a year to Alaska Tribes on the Indian Child Welfare Act, and is the chairperson of the Alaska State Court Improvement Project's ICWA Subcommittee. She serves on the multi-disciplinary State Children's Justice Task Force, and the Alaska Maternal Infant and Child Mortality Review Team. She has authored several tribal resources including an Indian Child Welfare Act Basic Manual, Child Abuse Protocol Guide and child-specific units of the National American Indian/Alaska Native Victim Assistance Training curriculum.

### **Henry Smith**

Henry is a Native Veteran - USMC. He has been married to Katherine "Jada" Smith for 45 years. He is currently a traditional counselor, a former Mayor and Councilman of Kake. He is also one of the founders of the Healing Circle of Kake, as is Jada, his wife. Has six children, 4 boys and 2 girls, seventeen grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Henry continues to attend AFN and NAMI and is a contributing Elder and likes to give in put as needed. Works when it is available and maintains a positive outlook on life.

### **Katherine "Jada" Smith**

Jada has semi-retired as a alcohol and drug counselor and worked as a community family services worker for 20 years for Southeast Regional Health Consortium. She also worked for the Organized Village of Kake intermittently for the past five years as the Tribal Court Assistant. She has been married to Henry Smith Sr. for 45 years and has six children, 4 boys and 2 girls, seventeen grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Jada continues to attend AFN and NAMI and is a contributing Elder and likes to give in put as needed. She works when she finds work available and maintains a positive outlook on life.

### **Clare Swan**

Clare Swan was born in Kenai, Alaska, and is an elder of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe which is Dena'ina Athabascan. Ms. Swan served on the CIRI Board of Directors from 1991-2006. Currently, Ms. Swan is Chair of the Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) and has served on the board since 1998. After leaving Kenai in 1949, Ms. Swan returned in the summer of 1973 and was employed by the Kenai Native Association, Inc. until 1979. She served as chairperson of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe from 1980 to 1995. Since returning home to Alaska, Ms. Swan's commitment is to reaffirm the tribal values that empower us to raise children in a safe environment, resulting in healthy adults and parents. Ms. Swan has been a certified substance alcohol counselor and a volunteer worker with the court system to protect children. She has been responsible for personal education and training in trauma and abuse, and is a strong advocate of ICWA.

### **Alfred Stevens**

Al Stevens is Koyukon and was born and raised in Stevens Village, AK. He was taken away from village at the age of 11, returned at the age of 18 and had to relearn all the dances and songs of his culture. He has been clean and sober since 1974 and was 70 on Christmas day 2007. He began his work to give something back to all those who helped and had given to him. He has worked as a child protection worker and has experience working with children who have been the victims of all kinds of abuse. He has been traveling in northern region villages for the past 8 years as a Behavioral Health Itinerant Counselor for the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

### **Liz Sunnyboy**

Liz is a retired, 63 year old Yup'ik woman, originally from Pilot Station. She currently does contract work with rural villages on community wellness. She is also attending college to obtain a BA degree in Rural Development and Rural Human Service Administration. She has one daughter and one son-in-law and has been in recovery since 1971. If anyone needs any support or help she is available.

### **Katherine TePas**

Ms. TePas is a Program Coordinator for the Alaska State Troopers since April of 1999. She is responsible for the management of the law enforcement portion of the STOP VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) Grant. Her duties includes providing training on issues related to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking to state and municipal law enforcement officers and departments across the state as well as VPSOs and VPOs. She has a Masters Degree in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration and a Bachelors Degree in Social Work from Xavier University in Cincinnati. Ms. TePas has been advocating for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault for over 16 years.

### **Kevin Vandegriff**

Detective Kevin Vandegriff is a descendant of the Eastern Cherokee Nation. He has been with the Anchorage Police Department since 1997. He spent four years as a patrol officer and one year as a Department Detective before being assigned in 2002 as a Detective in the Crimes Against Children Unit. He has a Mas-

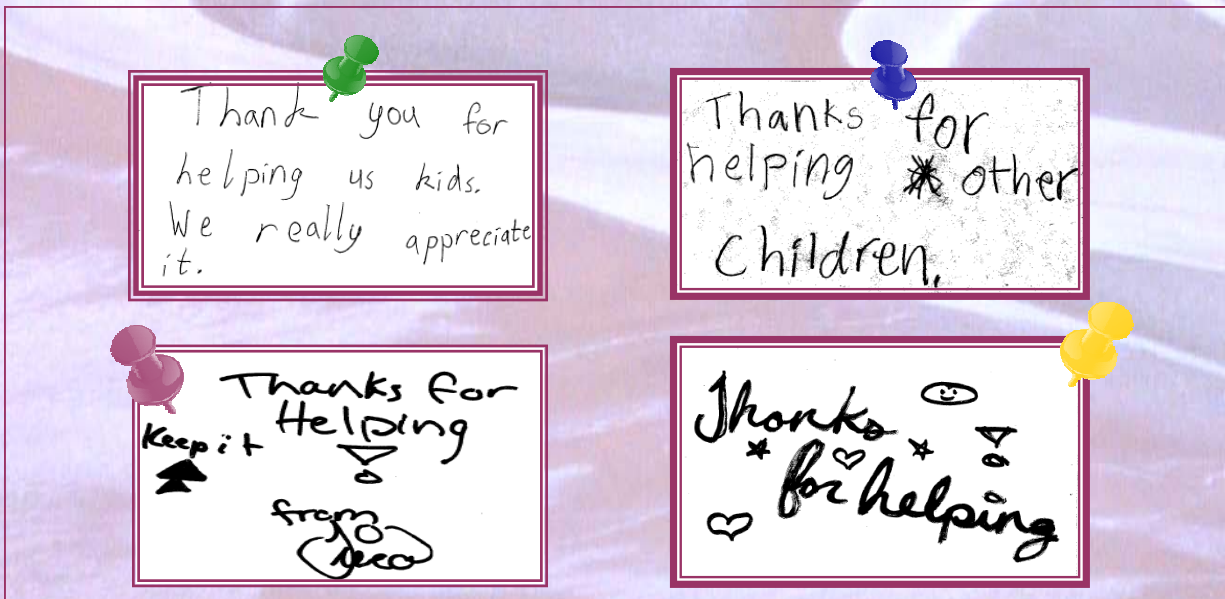
ter of Science degree in Business Organizational Management and a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Resource Management. While in the Crimes Against Children Unit he investigated all manner of crimes against children, including child sex abuse, infant homicides and other crimes. He is a member of the State's Children's Justice Act Task Force, which is charged with examining and recommending changes to the way in which child sex abuse is investigated and prosecuted in Alaska. Detective Vandegriff specializes in investigating crimes against children that occur on the internet. Part of his specialty is monitoring internet chat rooms and other media and conducting sting operations against adult predators. He has developed an expertise in the area of internet safety for children. He has provided presentations on child exploitation on the internet to the Alaska State Legislature, and other professional and business and parent groups across the state.

#### Barbara Walker

Ms. Barbara A. Walker began her career with the United States Department of Justice in Washington, DC, as a Presidential Management Intern (PMI) with the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, (EOUSA) and has been Deputy Director of the Office for Victims of Crime since June 2005. Her current responsibilities include oversight of International Terrorism Victim Assistance programs, Federal Victim Assistance Programs including Tribal and Military Victim Assistance Programs, Antiterrorism Emergency Assistance, and the Family Reunification Program. Ms. Walker is also responsible for oversight of State Compensation and Assistance Programs which provides VOCA funding to the states and territories. Ms. Walker has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Hampton Institute and a Master of Public Administration from Kansas State University. She is a graduate from the Executive Potential Program and Federal Executive Institute.

#### Tammy Young

Tammy is Tlingit, co-director of the Alaska Native Women's Coalition (ANWC), and lives in her father's, John A. Young, Jr. home village of Sitka. Her mother is Jessie Johnnie, from Hoonah, Alaska, who resides in Sitka. Following her maternal traditions Tammy is Chookaneidi Clan, which is to say that she belongs to the Brown Bear Clan. Tammy has raised three children of her own, James, Heather and Stormy. She has been involved with addressing violence in her own life and the lives of other women and children through her various jobs and appointments to committees and commissions. Most recently she is seated as a representative of ANWC on a working group with the Denali Commission to address new construction of shelters in Alaska, for primarily existing state funded programs. She is one of the founding mothers of a new shelter in interior Alaska called Our Grandmother's House. Tammy has also represented Alaska Native women and children on various national committees, concerning violence and the unique and challenging relationships between systems that create voids for the people of Alaska. Tammy also works with Clan Star, a national technical assistance provider to tribal coalitions. Advocacy for women and children has been a life long pursuit, while paying close attention to elders and the stories.



ELDERS FROM THE VIDEO



## Tribal Law & Policy Institute

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute (the Institute) is an Indian owned and operated non-profit corporation organized to design and deliver education, research, training, and technical assistance programs which promote the improvement of justice in Indian country and the health, well-being, and culture of Native peoples. The Tribal Law and Policy Institute publishes the Tribal Court Clearinghouse ([www.tribal-institute.org](http://www.tribal-institute.org)).

The Institute was created in 1996 through the combined efforts of those concerned with the improvement of tribal court systems and the fair administration of justice in Indian country. The Institute focuses upon collaborative programs that provide critical resources for tribal court systems, victim's assistance programs, and others involved in promoting the improvement of justice in Indian country. The Institute seeks to facilitate the sharing of resources so that Indian Nations and tribal justice systems have access to low cost resources that they can adapt to meet the individual needs of their communities.

The Institute seeks to establish programs which link tribal justice systems with other academic, legal, and judicial resources such as law schools, Indian law clinics, tribal colleges, Native American Studies programs, Indian legal organizations and consultants, tribal legal departments, other tribal courts, and other judicial/legal institutions. The underlying philosophy is that tribal courts and Indian people are best served by shared access to existing information and resources - so that each tribe and tribal court does not have to "reinvent the wheel."

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*“When we can heal ourselves, we also heal  
our ancestors, our grandmothers, our  
grandfathers and our children. When we heal  
ourselves, we heal Mother Earth.”*

*~ Rita Pitka Blumenstein  
Yup'ik Great Grandmother*

