



FACT SHEET

Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative

The Indian Health Service (IHS) Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative (DVPI) is a nationally-coordinated demonstration program addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, and family violence within American Indian and Alaska Native communities. IHS is working in partnership with Tribes to bring resources together to provide access to services for victims. In 2010, IHS funded 65 IHS, Tribal, and Urban Indian health programs.

Priority Areas

- Provide targeted domestic violence and sexual assault prevention and intervention resources to communities in Indian Country with the greatest need;
- Expand outreach advocacy programs into Native communities;
- Expand Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Pilot projects, and;
- Train and purchase forensic equipment to support the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE), and Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) activities.

Goals of the DVPI

- Support a national and local effort by the IHS, Tribes and Urban Indian health programs to address DV/SA and family violence within AI/AN communities;
- Promote the development and enhancement of culturally appropriate evidence-based and practice-based prevention, treatment, and educational models addressing family violence within AI/AN communities;
- Coordinate services for communities to respond to local domestic violence, sexual assault, and family violence crises;
- Increase access to domestic violence prevention, sexual assault prevention, or treatment services for survivors and their families;
- Provide communities with resources to develop their own programs.

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