



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

A Two-part Series on Gender-Based Violence Against Indigenous Women and Marginalized Genders

Presenters:

**Gwendolyn Packard and Caroline LaPorte,
Indigenous Women's Resource Center**

Part Two of Two Webinars

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Gender-Based Violence: Best Practices and Policy Recommendations from the Voices of Survivors

Speaker 0 00:00:00 Welcome to today's conference, the STTAR's Indigenous Safe Housing Center Program for the Office of Native American Programs. Please note that all audio connections are muted until the Q&A portion of the call, and we'll give you instructions on how to ask a question at that time. Please ensure you have opened the chat panel by using the associated icon located at the bottom of your screen. There also will be polls throughout the presentation, and we'll give you instructions on how to visualize and answer those polls as we go through the program. If you need technical assistance, you can please send a chat to the event producer. And with that, I will hand the call over to Iris Friday, Native American Program Specialist. Please go ahead.

Speaker 1 00:00:48 All right, thank you, Michelle. Well, good morning, good afternoon, wherever you are. I'm Iris Friday. I'm a Native American program specialist with the Office of Native American programs here at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. And I'm excited to welcome you to the second part of a two-part webinar series focused on gender-based violence against indigenous women and marginalized genders. During today's session, we'll focus on best practices and policy recommendations from the voices of survivors. We're excited to partner with the Indigenous Safe Housing Center, a program of the Indigenous Women's Resource Center. During the second webinar, STTARS provides valuable insight from the lived experience of indigenous survivors of gender-based violence. Our presenters will discuss policy recommendations and best practices for meeting survivor needs at the intersection of housing insecurity, homelessness, and domestic or sexual violence. It is through partnerships such as this that we can highlight opportunities to raise awareness about important issues and share resources that can assist with implementing programs in your community. There will be plenty of extra time for discussion today to give you an opportunity to really ask questions and learn from the experts that we are honored to have. Join us today. I'm going to take some time to introduce our speakers, and I'm going to start with Gwendolyn Packard, who is a senior housing specialist at the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.

Speaker 1 00:02:31 Gwendolyn has worked for many years in Indian country and was an instrumental in founding the national organization on fetal alcohol syndrome. She served as executive director for Morningstar House, an advocacy program for Native women. She currently serves as executive director of the New Mexico's Suicide Prevention Coalition, and is founder and co-chair of raincloud, the Off Reservation Behavioral Mental Health Collaborative in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Gwendolyn has made a commitment to social change in working to address social, environmental, and economic justice issues.

Thank you for joining us Gwendolyn, and thank you for your dedication and important work. Joining Gwendolyn is Caroline LaPorte, director of the STTARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center at the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center. She previously, she serves as an attorney and serves as the associate judge for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. She previously served as the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, senior Native Affairs Policy Advisor in dc. And as the attorney judicial advisor to the Seminole Tribe of the Florida Tribal Court, Carolyn helped start the National working group on safe housing for American Indians and Alaska Natives, and is an adjunct professor at the University of Miami teaching Native and Indigenous Studies. Thank you both for joining us, and thank you for bringing light to an incredibly topic, important topic for our communities. Gwendolyn. I will go ahead and turn it over to you, and thank you to those on the line for joining us today.

Speaker 2 00:04:20 Thank you, Iris, and thank you for the introduction. I think we can go to the next slide. Is that you Caroline with the slides? okay. So, today's, webinar is best Practices and Policy Recommendations from the Voices of Survivors, and we'll dig into that a little bit further, regarding how we develop, these, practices and policy recommendations working with survivors. we'll go to the next slide. So, STTARS is a new, housing, resource center that's funded by the Office of Family Violence Prevention Services. So, we're just a little coming up on two years of existence, and probably a, a year and a half, since we launched our program, that STTARS does stand for something. STTARS stands for safety training, technical assistance, resources and Support, and our vision for STTARS is safe housing for all our relatives. Our mission is to advocate for safe housing for all our relatives, and we do this, work through centering indigeneity, acknowledging our relationship to Earth mother, building on each other's gifts, resisting oppression and erasure, and acting upon the prayers of our ancestors to honor diversity and create belonging for all of us.

Speaker 2 00:06:14 We'll go to the next slide. Okay. So, we wanted to do just a little recap of, I think it was last week, last week or the first webinar that we did with, HUD ONAP. and that is that statistically we know that there's a strong and clear link between gender-based violence and the experience of housing insecurity and homelessness. And there's data going back 20, 30 years that really draws out this clear link. interviews done with, countless, unsheltered relatives all across this country, all seem to draw a clear link with the domestic violence, either, brought them to the streets or it, kept them on the streets and kept them unhoused. certain federal laws are in place, to offer survivors in covered housing entities, expanded protections, and we're going to talk more about that today about the vowel protections, as we go into our presentation.

Speaker 2 00:07:21 another recap is that there's a lack of tribal domestic violence shelters in Indian country, and you'll probably hear us saying that over and over again. And as I think many of you probably know, resources or being resource strapped in tribal communities is, is kind of, it's very, very common. And as a result, I mean, you can see from all our high numbers of victimization and, you know, all the other indicators that we have going on in our communities when we don't have the resources to address them. So, you know, that lack of tribal domestic violence shelters, deep impacts, survivor safety and also, limits the options they have. And oftentimes that only option is returning, to their, abusive home life. tribes can and should consider adopting VAWA like provisions even where not required. And again, we're going to, Caroline will be going into a lot of the, VAWA provisions and also talking about how tribes can, can adopt those, to, strengthen their safety and confidentiality for survivors of gender-based violence. So, we'll go to the next slide, and that is Caroline.

Speaker 3 00:08:45 It is. Hello everybody. Good afternoon. Happy Wednesday. happy to be here with you all, today. This is our second time together. and I believe that the webinar from last week will also be available online if it's not already. but we talked very briefly about the Violence Against Women Act and

the provisions therein, relating to housing and also related to Indian country in general. but we, hi. Is that correct? Yes, it is. Sorry, Gwen. Gwen, sorry. You need to mute. Okay. but we were not, able to get too far into it, and so we wanted to share, at least maybe revisit it while we were on today. so, the Violence Against Women Act was enacted originally in 1994. if you are not familiar, with ACT itself, it had broad bipartisan support from Congress, obviously, recognizing right, that domestic violence and sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, et cetera, were pervasive issues across multiple, and numerous communities, if not all communities.

Speaker 3 00:09:51 And, furthermore that there needed to be something done to address it, at the federal level. so, it's been reauthorized in, the year 2000, the year 2005 and 2013. And then most recently it was reauthorized in March of 2022. And I'll spend a little bit of time talking about that. and I'll also share a policy brief and a fact sheet that I think will be helpful as well just to revisit. so, in 2005, the Violence Against Women Act was reauthorized to add the safety for Indian Women title. and so, this is really where, a lot like decades and decades and probably individuals, who are with us today too in this webinar, really worked, at the forefront of, of the movement and gender-based violence, to make sure that Native women were included, right, in a meaningful way within the act itself.

Speaker 3 00:10:41 one of the things about 2000 fives reauthorization is that it included findings in the beginning, congressional findings that, recognized, tribal sovereignty and the federal government's role in assisting tribes, in securing safety, for Native women children, and obviously later was expanded to include gender diverse individuals. Also, 2013, is probably the reauthorization of, that most people hear about, especially in Indian country. This included, what was called a partial Oliphant fix. and I'm going to get a little into criminal jurisdiction for a second. Oliphant Visa Suquamish was a Supreme Court case, which was decided, I think in 1978, that held that tribes were going to be stripped of their inherent authority to prosecute non-Indians, for crimes that were committed on the reservation. So what this did, is it created a sense of what the, what the holding did was it created a sense of impunity for people that you could come to the reservation, or that you could come to trust land, and that you would not be held accountable for any form of violence that you perpetrated, against Native people.

Speaker 3 00:11:58 So in 2013, we had a partial fix to that Supreme Court case. and what it did was it said that implementing tribes could prosecute non-Indians for the following offenses as long as they were committed on tribal trust land, obviously. but it was limited to these three things. So dating, violence, domestic violence, and then violations of a protection order, specifically criminal violations of protection order with that. And again, huge historic win, really can't be underplayed. but with that, there were some concessions around, what tribes were going to need to do in order to implement certain protections for defendants. So, there was this, you know, this like, I don't know, like new concern all of a sudden for, for certain due process rights. So, so tribes had to have a court reporter on hand. They had to be able to, to pool a jury of the defendant's peers.

Speaker 3 00:12:55 you had to be able to pay for, an attorney for, a defendant that was indigent, right? So, all these things cost a lot of money. So of course, one thing that's good to know there is that, you know, I think with the original reauthorization around the criminal aspects, or the criminal jurisdiction aspects of this act, was that the funding for tribes to implement was really limited. I think it was about \$5 million for the pilots. so of course, now there's additional dollars there and more tribes are implementing this. but in 2013, another issue was that it didn't address sexual violence, didn't address child abuse, certainly didn't address any form of elder abuse, and then any sort of crime that was committed while interacting with any of the systems, right? So, in particular, if you go and, you look at N C A I, they did a five year study on this or report on this, they found that, a lot of times the results on law enforcement that tribes who were implementing could not prosecute.

Speaker 3 00:13:54 So those had to be bifurcated out of the system. And then in 2022, there was an expanded all of font fixed to include sexual violence, child abuse, and those quote, current crimes. Again, another huge win, I think for the advocates that focused, on this work. Again, probably many of you that are here, you probably know somebody that's worked on this act. this was a big deal and continues to be a big deal, in Indian country. So, we've focused very heavily on those criminal jurisdiction pieces. But what a good takeaway for today is, is that VAWA also includes housing protections for survivors. And so that's what we want to talk about a little bit today. and then we'll get into the recommendations that survivors we've spoken to are making. so, I'll go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 00:14:40 Okay. So, in 2005, remember it was reauthorized 2000, 2005, 2013, and again, in 2022. but in 2005, we get these, core protections around housing, right? And if you remember from the last time that we spoke, we, we talked about these being very low bars. so, survivors could no longer be denied assistance as an applicant, into a covered housing entity, and they could not be evicted or have assistance terminated, due to their having been a victim of DV. Go to the next slide. In 2013, we saw the housing provisions expanded drastically, and in very positive ways for most urban, spaces. So, in particular, we wanted to talk about these things. So, 2013 said, that you can now do the emergency transfers. So that would allow survivors to move to another safe and available unit if they were in fear for their life and safety.

Speaker 3 00:15:42 HUD adopted a model, emergency transfer plan that's available on HUD's website. if you wanted to take a look at one. of course, there are certain limitations regarding implementing that in Indian country that we'll talk about, in a second as well. protections against adverse effects of abuse was added in 2013. This codified, the economic and criminal consequences a survivor might experience, right? So, say that you are in, an intimate partner relationship with an individual, who ruins your credit intentionally, right? So, so there was, there was some contemplation in the 2013 Act around protecting that. and then the low barrier certification process. And we, when we talked last week, talked about this being ideally one of the things that you could go out and implement tomorrow, if you had the forms in place and the support from, from your tribal housing authority or your tribal council. but in most instances, a survivor now need only self-certify in order to exercise their rights under the Violence Against Women Act. Before, there was a requirement for a report from law enforcement. and, you know, we could talk for hours, right? About the trust issues around that for a lot of Native people. You could talk about trust issues around that for, Native survivors of DV particularly. and, and again, just some of the, some of the ramifications of making somebody do that in general. We can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 00:17:14 Okay. These are the covered entities. so, so for the Violence Against Women Act, housing provisions to strictly apply from a compliance perspective, these are the pieces, or these are the, the funds, right, that are covered under that. So, public Housing section eight, housing Choice voucher program, section 2 0 2 for the elderly, 2 36 for multi-family, rental housing, McKinney-Vento Act programs, and then certain, funds under the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Treasury as well. Of course, what you don't see on this list are Neha dollars. and so, I think that's an important, mention, we'll talk about that in a minute as well. Lemme go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 00:18:01 Okay. So, where can you find the safe housing provisions in the Violence Against Women Act? If you've ever tried to read the Violence Against Women Act in its entirety, you know that it is split across the US code. and so, it's actually kind of tricky to figure, find everything and figure out how it pieces together. But these are where the safe provisions are, or safe housing provisions are. So, Section 6 0 1, through 6 0 6 is where you're going to find these. I just created this chart, in case anybody wanted them for reference. but 6 0 1 is housing protections for victims of, the four covered crimes. 6 0 2 is ensuring compliance and implementation, and then prohibiting retaliation against victims. the compliance

and implementation part, I'll hit pause on that for a second and just share that HUD is currently, in the process of consulting on this specifically.

Speaker 3 00:18:55 so I know for, for instance, right now, we've had one consultation session. This hasn't been with tribes, it's not specific to Indian country. and it's not consultation in the sense, you know, of, of what Indian country considers to be consultation, but that they're requesting feedback, and recommendations on the compliance and implementation piece. So, if you do have, diff like mixed funding and your funding falls under one of the covered entities, you might want to reach out and at least provide some input on the compliance piece of it. Section 6 0 3 protects the right to report crime from your own home. 6 0 4 is just a bump in transitional, housing assistance grants. Just a bump in the funding. 6 0 5 is addressing the housing needs of victims of DV dating, violence, sexual assault, or stalking. And then 6 0 6 is a study and report on housing and service needs, specifically on survivors of trafficking and individuals who are at risk of trafficking. We can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 00:20:03 These were some additional provisions that Gwen and I thought we would want to know about. So, we wanted to share them with you all. Section 2 0 6 includes L G B T Q specific, services program, and I want to call specific attention to where it is. It's in section B two A, section 7 0 1 are findings for Title vii. So, this is Economic Security for victims. I'll talk about that in a moment. 7 0 4, is study and report on Barriers to Survive Survivors Economic Security Access 6 0 4. Again, just the transitional housing. Title 10 is a prohibition on the placement of pregnant prisoners or prisoners in postpartum recovery into segregated housing units. really glad that that is in there, a little bit concerned about, about why it had to be put in there. If you think about some of the, you know, social commentary that, that might be going on there.

Speaker 3 00:20:57 and then the Title 11 includes some provisions throughout, for Native Hawaiians, which we thought we would also include. Okay, I want to just briefly touch on 7 0 1. if you're an advocate, in any sense, which I imagine many of you are, I think 7 0 1 is just such a good section of this bill or of this act to just sort of have tabbed, they have, it has really great statistical information, that I think tells a very compelling story about, about the need to start really thinking about the, about the economic security of survivors from an intersectional component, of the work that we do. So I think that it's good if you're, if you're, you know, if you're in need of, of having some conversations around expanding protections or expanding programs to cover additional, services for survivors. I think Section 7 0 1 is a really great place to head to. and go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 00:21:54 Okay. This is just in general, the large scale changes that we felt people needed to be aware of. And again, I'll post the brief so that you have it. So, the first, again, from 2022 are these compliance reviews. There's additional funding dollars for training and technical assistance that specifically focuses on gender-based violence at this intersection. There's an amendment to the McKinney-Vento Acts definition of homelessness. We'll talk about that in a few slides. The right to report crime without risking one's housing and certain anti-retaliation provisions, reauthorizing and improving the transitional housing program, the study on trafficking. And then these two things which we want to make people aware of as well. So the time limits on when HUD and other federal agencies promulgate the regulations, I believe they've gotten to October of next year, to, to actually have those finalized and then codifying the VAWA Housing Director position.

Speaker 3 00:22:52 this was a big deal. I think that everybody should keep an eye on this, just to make sure right, that it goes forward. having a VAWA Housing Director position within HUD, I think really cements, this intersection as being important, to both spaces, both the gender-based violence field and also, you know, in the care of our unsheltered relatives. So, we go to the next, this is just an overview on 6

0 2. I'm not going to go through this, too much. again, it does require consultation, but it's not tribal specific, so it's not, you know, it's, again, it's not consultation in the way that Indian nations, you know, would use consultation almost as a legal term of art. but we can go to the next slide. I just want people to have that information. Okay, 6 0 5, this, this is of critical importance.

Speaker 3 00:23:45 so 6 0 5 is where you'll find the amendment to the McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act. So, homeless under that section now means any individual or family who's experiencing trauma. I am going to read this whole definition, even though it's kind of long experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to, or fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous traumatic or life-threatening conditions related to the violence against the individual or a family member in the individual's or family's current housing situation, including where the health and safety of children are jeopardized. Again, really great to see that intersectional piece around child welfare, codified there, but we're concerned about these two provisions, and I think just making sure people are aware of them as good, especially as HUD looks to promulgate those rules, within the timeframe required, can have no other safe residents and lacks the resource resources to obtain other safe, permanent housing.

Speaker 3 00:24:49 We're not sure how this one is going to fall out. We would be very interested to hear from all of you, and certainly people that you serve and help, around, you know, what the implications could possibly be. I think one big thing for us is that homelessness in Indian country often looks like doubling up. So, you might be with a relative in a relative's home, technically you would have a safe residence. that's still, that's still being unhoused, in a way. So, thinking through some of those things would be, important, I think. So, we just want to make sure everyone's aware of that. That's kind of a big deal. It's also going to be a big deal for our tribal consultation, with OVW. So that's coming up. I don't, if you're going, you can drop a little message in the chat and let us know, but consultations happening August 7th through the 10th. and we do have a briefing that we are hosting the night before it begins, with tribal leaders. So, if you're interested in that, just head over to NIWRC'S website and you can, you should be able to register. Okay. Next slide.

Speaker 3 00:25:56 I'm just looking at all the people that are here and like all the cool messages about, about where you are from. It's really neat. okay. So, one other sort of quick thing that we alluded to is that, you know, if you're only using Indian Block grants or the, the funds that are established by NIHASDA, technically you're not within the covered entity list, right? For the, for the compliance provisions under VAWA, there's a good reason for that, right? And the reason is that, and most of you know this probably better than we do, is that NIHASDA has what looks like consultation provisions, right? Within, and it is consultation. It's just reworded as negotiated rulemaking, within that, that hasn't happened with tribes yet on VAWA. So, so they're not, like, our recommendation from a policy perspective is never going to be right, that, that HUD should adopt or promulgate rules, which would require, tribes to be in compliance with the 2022 or 2013 provisions, regarding housing within the Violence and Swim Act.

Speaker 3 00:27:00 We work from a sovereignty framework, we would hope, right? Ideally, that would always be respected and upheld and maintained, and certainly the provisions in NIHASDA also anticipate that. The other thing though is that, we think that people can still implement some of these, you know, tribal governments, right? Obviously are in, in control of writing their tribal housing codes, and certainly could implement some of these provisions. We also think that it's possible to implement them in your standard operating, procedures and policies if you have the leeway to do that. but again, I think thinking through some of the unique circumstances of what public housing or what tribal housing looks

like in Indian country and how it differs from the urban space, and even the rural space is really important. You might not have the units to do an emergency transfer, right?

Speaker 3 00:27:50 It might not be possible to do a lease bifurcation. it might require some legal services that there's not a lot of funding for, right? so I think thinking through some of those things, making sure that tribes have full consultation on that before any rules are implemented is important. But, one of the things, or some of the easiest places to start, we wanted to share with you. So first, you know, we have, we've got this self-certification process. we think the tribes could do that very easily, with, you know, minimal impact, right? To programs, really just the development of a form, which HUD actually also has available on their website, to be able to allow survivors to self-certify. That's the thing that we think people could do quickly. the confidentiality provisions that we went through, connecting with tribal, local, domestic violence, sexual assault programs and advocates.

Speaker 3 00:28:43 We really cannot overstate the importance of implementing the non-discrimination and not retaliatory provisions, right? Like, certainly nobody would want to, nobody should, I mean, I think it's kind of a low bar as well, but nobody should be retaliating against a survivor when, when they disclose that they're a survivor, right? That's, to me, that's also a very low bar. a protection of the right to report crime from your own home again, right? Like without the, without the possibility of getting a nuisance violation. You know, that's something that I think can be implemented through policy, and through training of employees. receiving and incorporating ongoing mandatory training on gender-based violence. it's partly why the violence against women acts from 2020 two's reauthorization includes that funding, posting hotlines in visible spaces, making sure that survivors, have access to that information, making sure that they can, they can access it in a public way. That's more, I mean, oftentimes that's more discreet, right? Being knowledgeable of resources that are in your community, and then reviewing housing codes for problematic provisions or best practices, which we'll talk about shortly. And I'm going to pass this back over to Gwen, and we can go to the next slide.

Speaker 2 00:30:04 Thank you, Caroline. And so, we're, this is our first poll question, but before we do it, I just wanted to remind everyone to please, if you have any questions for us as we go through the information that we're providing today. please just put it in chat, and we're, we're happy to stop and, and respond to your questions. We don't need to wait till the end of our, presentation to take questions. We're, we're happy to take them throughout. So, our first poll question is, do you have a tribal domestic violence, shelter in your community? And, I believe, we'll be putting up the, oh, there it is. It's up already. So, you should see the, see that in your, on your screens. And, as soon as you answer, I think we'll give this a minute, and then we'll get the feedback from your responses.

Speaker 0 00:31:03 And if you don't see the poll, there should be a green and gray, Slido logo at the bottom below the chat, and if you click on that, the poll will open up for you. I'm going to give it another five seconds.

Speaker 2 00:31:32 Sure, sure.

Speaker 0 00:31:42 You should see the results now.

Speaker 2 00:31:44 Okay, great. And I think everyone else can see the results as well. And so, you can see what we, <laugh> why we talk about this so much is that there are so few tribal domestic violence shelters all across this country. There's, there's fewer than 50, tribal shelters. And, you know, and for mainstream, America, there's over 2000. And so, you can just see the disparity and, and, and you know, that a lot of the, challenges that tribal communities have in responding to, domestic violence, there just

aren't the resources there. So, thank you for that. We had 70 per 78% saying there is no tribal domestic violence shelter in 22, saying that they do have one. So, thank you for that. we'll move to our next, slide.

Speaker 2 00:32:42 And, so kind of the in, in, in the center of this presentation, we're going to be talking about, the listening sessions, that, we've, we started, when we began our program, I think to date we've done, three of them and or four of them. Yeah, sorry. We just did one. And so, from each of those listening sessions, we, we kind of, these, we develop these questions to guide the conversation, and there's just six questions, and there, they're pretty much the, the usual questions you would ask. You know, what are some of the barriers, obstacles, or challenges you've experienced when it comes to finding or maintaining safe, affordable and acceptable housing? In the listening session, participants were, comprised of indigenous people with lived experience with both domestic violence, housing insecurity, and homelessness. So, we did one in, in, Minneapolis.

Speaker 2 00:33:43 We did one in, Seattle, one in Hawaii, and one at, our Women Are Sacred Conference. and so, over our, we're funded kind of like in five year increments. And so, we haven't produced a report or, or, or published any documents on this yet, because we're kind of waiting until, the end of our, project period, to put, to produce that report simply because we know that everybody's story's different, that we are, you know, a multicultural, nation, and that, we have relatives on and off reservation and, Alaska Native villages. And, you know, wherever we find ourselves as indigenous people, there's a different story. And so, we wanted to be as an inclusive and to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, to, reach as many people as we can in developing these, responses. The second question is, how would you describe your ability to access resources, services, and support when it comes to finding shelter or housing in your community?

Speaker 2 00:34:50 And again, what are the major challenges or issues? The third one is, do you have access to a tribal or, or Native domestic violence shelter? And do you think there is a need? And overwhelmingly, just as you all responded, there is definitely a need for a tribal domestic violence shelter, both on and off reservation. fourth question. Are there, some good or great resources, services or programs in your community? Are there any harmful or concerning practices you have encountered? So, we kind of asked that both ways. And I, as, as you can imagine, I think the second part of this question got more of a response than some of the, good or great resources we were able to find. But we, we have been finding them as we go along. And we, and we always want to highlight those both, through our newsletter and, and, in a, in a, in our presentations, we like to highlight some of the best practices that we're finding out there.

Speaker 2 00:35:51 the fifth question is, do you participate in cultural and traditional practices in your community? And again, we just wanted to see what role, culture and tradition played in this intersection of gender-based violence and housing insecurity and homelessness, both as, you know, as a protective factor. And, the last question was, what are some solutions, suggestions, observations or recommendations to address housing insecurity or homelessness in your community? What are things that you would suggest? What changes would you like to see? And as we go through the, the recommendations that came out of those sessions, you'll see the response to, to all of these questions. So, we could, with that, we can move to the next slide.

Speaker 2 00:36:47 So, some of the major themes that we saw in, in doing these four, listening session is, centered around the quality of life in shelter and transitional, housing. And so often, what we saw is that, the, the, services and supports and resources that were available often, did not, work well with indigenous people. There were, there was, there were clear cultural barriers that were identified in all of these living situations. They found that rules and regulations of shelters and, and, and other public

housing options, sometimes rule books, were a couple inches thick. And, you know, and I, and all of them, you know, it at times created impossible hoops for people to have to jump through in terms of when they had to leave the shelter, when they, when they had to return to the shelter.

Speaker 2 00:37:47 you know, and, and with children, it was, it was even more difficult for a lot of survivors to, to, be reliant on shelters and in transitional housing. The numbered, the survivors mentioned not being able to simply keep up with them, you know, they, they were, the rules changed constantly. and rules kind of changed for the benefit and purpose of the providers, not necessarily the safety and confidentiality of the survivors that were in shelter. rules severely limit how a survivor accesses a space, and that can result in eviction or removal. And a lot of times, eviction from a lot of the shelters and facilities, including domestic violence shelters, is just, happens all too quick. You could miss curfew and come back and find all your stuff out on the street. So it's very, very, very tenuous situation for so many of our unsheltered relatives.

Speaker 2 00:38:46 Another major theme was the lack of support, for grandmothers caring for grandchildren. And this one was, we heard this kind of, you know, from almost every, listening session that we held, that, grandmothers appeared to be overrepresented in the housing, the unhoused populations that we spoke with. And there's a clear absence of resources available to help support them as caretakers within those shelters. And, housing, transitional housing and, you know, section eight housing and so forth, such as emotional financial, legal assistance, and the possibility of transitioning into housing that is more sustainable, almost seemed impossible to so many of them. And there's also that heightened risk of, of child removal. We know that housing insecurity is, and, and inadequate housing is often the number one or two reason for removing children. And so that was, continued to be heightened in this state of system, state system involvement. next slide, please. Caroline, did you want to add to those?

Speaker 3 00:39:57 No, I think that was great.

Speaker 2 00:39:58 Okay. I'm going to go to the next slide. And, again, major themes. A house is not a home. They didn't feel at home in these, in these housing units and tiny homes or, you know, the subsidized housing, the places that they were housed. And they did, they didn't feel comfortable, so much as putting a, hanging up a, a picture or making the place feel like it was there, their own that they, that they could feel at home here. Oftentimes they were, requirements that, regarding relatives visiting them that they couldn't stay more than two weeks, or, you know, they couldn't have, they couldn't have their grandma, or their aunties come and live with them. And so it was, you know, very, very surveilled, environment for so many of them. And, a lot of them shared that home checks were frequent and invasive and disruptive, and further traumatized them as indigenous survivors of gender-based violence.

Speaker 2 00:40:57 It felt, it felt like they were still in that abusive relationship. Survivors felt that they were being constantly monitored by neighbors, and that neighbors reported them to managers. And so, they kind of lived in fear all the time, you know, not feeling safe to, to really, to, to feel at home to rest. You know that this was, that this was a peaceful, place for them. It felt very chaotic at times. Survivors shared a lack of sense of community due to the surveillance, and this contributed to their experience of trauma. Again, they didn't feel safe. They didn't feel at home. They didn't feel like, family's so important to us as indigenous people, and they didn't feel comfortable having their relatives over. They felt kind of on edge when they had, when they had company visiting and so forth. They were afraid they'd get reported and written up. And, you know, it was just, it, it was just a, a cloud of fear that kind of hung over a lot of people. And, there's an apparent lack of trust of survivors by property managers. They felt that they weren't trusted, that they weren't, respected, really as human beings, with the ability to make

good choices in their lives. You know, they just felt that they were just, just under this watchful eye and, and, and, you know, it just wasn't a good situation. next slide, please.

Speaker 2 00:42:24 So we have our, our, our second, poll question as we get further into this. and that is, do you screen for domestic violence? And so, Michelle, oh, she already has it up. Okay, great. So, we already have that up. So, if you can please, respond to the second poll question, and we'll give that a minute, and then we'll come back.

Speaker 0 00:43:18 Just give that a few more seconds.

Speaker 2 00:43:19 Okay. Okay. So, we have our results back, and we have, the 19 respondents, 74% said yes, they do screen for domestic violence, survivors. And, 26, reported that they do not. So, at that, I will turn this back over to Caroline, if you want to, pick up on the results or, or go to your next slide.

Speaker 3 00:43:59 Yeah, let's go to the next slide. Okay. So, major themes continued. So, I did have a question from Kimberly Wood in the chat as well about the listening sessions. And I just want to make sure that I address that really fast. So, like one said, we haven't published a final report. we here, during these listening sessions, over the life of our grant, and we'll continue to do them if we're refunded as well. or if we receive funding for a, a next, cycle, we do pay survivors for their time. that was one of the most, important parts I think, of our narrative when we submitted was making sure that people would be compensated, for the time that they would spend with us sharing about, about some of the issues and about the best practices that they've seen too, or some of the things that they've experienced that they thought were positive.

Speaker 3 00:44:49 part of that though is that we keep their information private. another requirement also of balancing women act for housing, entities as well. Again, just to remind, but, what we need to make sure that we do before, before sharing any sort of specific findings from that, as with the exception of these that we've, we've removed, any PIP from is making sure that we've removed the p i p from all of it. and so, what we've done here is with these slides and, is we have, we've just consolidated right into these major themes and some of the, and some of the recommendations that survivors had. So, I hope that was, somewhat helpful, but I appreciate the question, Kimberly. okay. So, there was a general lack of identity affirming spaces. And again, this, this is after four listening sessions.

Speaker 3 00:45:36 survivors frequently reported that overt racism was a common visitor to their space. I think this was exacerbated during the pandemic. and I would be interested in hearing, in the chat as well, if anybody agrees or disagrees with this. but I think just this, you know, this like the pandemic just really kind of put a tight lens on all of that for everybody. and highlighted a lot of big gaps as some of the things that we experienced at the margins as indigenous people or as Native people started to get brought more towards the center where others were also experiencing them. so, this created a lack of safety and re-triggered survivors trauma responses while they were in public housing. oftentimes resulting in them getting into trouble and some sort of violation of rule, or with some sort of like interpersonal issue that they were having.

Speaker 3 00:46:29 usually with property manager or employee, survivors shared examples of policies that reinforce the prevailing view that non-native and non-tribal shelter and safe housing is largely set up to accommodate white women. This is very true within the movement to end gender-based violence, in general. It's not meant as a divisive statement, it's just sort of how the movement has evolved <laugh> over time. but we heard from multiple survivors, and we've heard this anecdotally for many years, that survivors do not feel safe, where they do not have peer-to-peer access, or where they are not able to express themselves, fully as Native people, right? So, this could have been a limit, like, you know, being

limited, not able to practice ceremony where you were not able to practice, you know, not able to speak your language, not able to, have your children with you or not able to have extended family with you.

Speaker 3 00:47:27 Some of these things that, you know, we just do in our community, those spaces were not set up to accommodate them, and were often punitive towards those things. survivors also stated policies in place that non-native shelter and housing failed to protect them, and therefore not intended to create spaces where Native survivors of gender-based violence felt safe, comfortable, and affirmed and culturally supported as Native people. And we repeatedly heard that non-native shelter and housing was not merely unsupportive, but was factually harmful. Again, that's hard. I think that's hard, to hear, especially for certain service providers, outside of Indian country, especially, maybe even inside of Indian country too. But, just, just kind of, you know, that understanding of, you know, what works, what works for one group of individuals does not work necessarily for everybody, and oftentimes, can be harmful.

Speaker 3 00:48:22 survivors continuously reference the mental stigma they felt in non-native and non-tribal shelter and housing also shared that that stigma was part of the ongoing historical trauma, and genocide experienced by indigenous peoples in the United States, right? So, survivors really talking a lot about intergenerational trauma, as it related to them being unsheltered. UNT housed negative experiences within shelter and housing, they felt were rooted primarily in racism, oppression, and colonization. and they did have specific examples of that. It wasn't just this term that was thrown out, right? survivors also reported feelings of guilt, and this one was interesting, but that they had a roof over their heads with so many of their relatives and other indigenous survivors, whom they, experienced being unsheltered with, right? Continued to experience homelessness. so, there was a lot of guilt around that as well. We can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 00:49:20 There was a general lack of resources to address the specific needs of survivors. We know this is true across the board, this is true with gender-based violence, services as well. And as Gwen mentioned, and we will not, we can't say enough, there are practically no Native domestic violence shelters when you consider that there are 576 federally recognized tribes and less than 50 tribal DV shelters. It's not enough to meet the disparate need, that is experienced, in our community, regarding acts of violence, and really the need for emergency shelter. I think probably most of you are familiar with Housing First and DV Housing First models, you know, housing First, I'm not going to touch, that's a totally different thing, than DV housing first. but there is this conversation, right? shifting away from, from traditional shelter, and I think that's great for other people, right?

Speaker 3 00:50:12 And, and certainly everybody should have as many options as possible to find some sort of pathway to being, how to being like safely housed, right? but, you know, with that shift comes kind of a shift in push, you know, where does funding go, right? And then again, like with not having access to emergency shelter, really at all, it's just further limiting the options for survivors in Indian country. So that needs to be focused on too, survivors in both cities. this was from two, but I will tell you that the next two also confirm this reported disparate need and urgent need for tribally run DB shelters, survivors and advocates reported that there were immense difficulties in finding resources in their communities. This was not just related to the pandemic. This has been an ongoing issue, in part, I think because the crime victims fund, that was, you know, established by, the victims of Crime Act had largely been unavailable in Indian country since its enactment in the nineties.

Speaker 3 00:51:13 and that really put victim services at a cap. Unfortunately, you know, without having access to those dollars in a meaningful way, tribal governments were unable, to fully or adequately fund a lot of the services. Of course, everybody knows, I'm sure many of you received VOCA dollars, but then in 2018, the Victims of Crime Act, funding aspect was included in an omnibus bill, and that added, I

think, 3%, for tribes have a specific allocation, but it was just a funding bill. It was not, it's not, it's not statutory. so that continues, of course, to be a concern, just not having, not having consistent access, to those dollars for a long time. survivors reported little desire to access available resources because those resources cause harm. They forced survivors to jump through impossible hoops, with no prospects of housing or shelter.

Speaker 3 00:52:09 And they used survivor data without providing access to services. So, this was something interesting that came up, which was that people felt like they were often being used as just data points for programs. but they didn't actually receive any assistance. And again, these were in urban spaces. This was not, not particular to tribal housing. but, but still, I mean, I think it's, it's worth noting, right, how indigenous survivors feel in some of these mainstream spaces. survivors that we spoke to in Hawaii shared that they just want, you know, five, five seconds when they get into the shelter doors or into a program before they start having to fill out forms or answer questions about themselves, that they felt maybe instituting some sort of pause, like a 24 hour pause while somebody collected themselves during a point of trauma, before asking some of some of that information would be useful.

Speaker 3 00:53:00 Resources like tiny homes aren't necessarily safe for survivors. This is in terms of, communal baths, showers, kitchen space. They felt that a abusers had easier access to these spaces. I mean, honestly, probably because most people know where the tiny home communities are in their community, they were also incredibly vulnerable to elements and weather. So again, mostly talking, to survivors really at this point. Seattle, Minneapolis, St. Paul area, Hawaii, and then, the Southwest, places that either experienced right extreme heat or extreme cold survivors shared that they experienced extreme feelings of isolation in many spaces. And this resulted in continued trauma. not having access to community, not having access, to peer support groups, et cetera. All of these things were, were hard. They also thought they had to be creative to maintain their housing, essentially becoming their own systems advocates.

Speaker 3 00:53:59 they become advocates for one another. During our listening sessions, there was a high level of mutual support and mutual aid and shared resources between unhoused survivors. One individual at one point shared that they didn't have enough money for an application fee, and we witnessed multiple people open up their own personal, wallets to assist that person. Survivors also consistently stated that there's a lack of support for other financial considerations. So those application fees are, are a huge burden, at least based on the feedback we've gotten from the listening sessions. Bus passes are not enough. Transportation vouchers in general seem to be an issue, and again, would be very interested to hear in the chat if this is anything you all hear about as well. Childcare expenses, food, food is becoming incredibly expensive wherever you are, whoever you are. medical care, behavioral health, the payment of utilities being a barrier. And then, certain maintenance, aspects to public housing. Gwen, did you want to add anything?

Speaker 2 00:55:01 Yeah, thanks, Caroline. I was just going to mention a couple things, and one is that, the one where you had talked about survivors reported little desire to access available resources because those resources cause harm. And, and so what we, we heard, one of the stories we heard from our listening session was that they were, you know, property management companies that were taking that would take over 200 applications, and each one of those came with a fee anywhere from 40 to \$75, but they would take over 200 applications when there was really just one housing unit left. And so, you know, they were like, really felt a sense of hopelessness and even applying for those, you know, putting it out, just shelling out this money that really doesn't help them in any way to get any type of housing. and I, I think the other thing, too, that we had a lot of people would use them as, as numbers as Caroline had

mentioned, in terms of we provided services when in fact they got very, very little support, for the, for those, well, I don't even know if you could call them services that they provided.

Speaker 2 00:56:16 Oftentimes they were intakes that resulted in no provision of services or support for that individual, just an intake form, which they felt that, you know, these organizations were using their counts, to, to bolster their need for funding. And in fact, that funding is not assisting the people who need it, and it's not going where it needs to go. another thing too, I think that was on here that was, I, I thought was really, was beautiful, the, the one Caroline kind of expanded on too, about them being their own advocates and how, you know, helping one another. And so, we had, we encountered, several, people who've done a lot of organizing, and these are people that still, many of them, several of them are still, unhoused, but they've organized in their communities, to help one another, to, to know where the better resources are.

Speaker 2 00:57:12 Where's the best place to go for this? Where can I get that? Who's going to help me with this? How can I get my IDs? You know, all these different things like that they're, they're helping each other with, I think in some sense, even more than the kind of help they're able to get from organizations. Is that peer to peer help that being a good relative, the work that they're doing with one another? So, I just wanted to mention that. Oh, there was one more thing too. I'm sorry. <laugh>. and that was the other thing that came up too, was that, you know, regarding a, a number of, you know, immigrants that have come to this country from like Ukraine, that when they came to this country, they all went right into housing immediately. And, so we'd heard from some of the survivors that, you know, they'd been on housing lists for really a decade probably, and it has, and hasn't moved much towards becoming housed, but when, when the new arrivals came, they were put right immediately into housing. And so that was, you know, as First Nations people, was very, very troubling for many of the people that we worked with.

Speaker 2 00:58:21 I think that's it.

Speaker 3 00:58:23 Go to the next slide. Okay. So, another poll question. we, we really liked these poll questions based on the last, webinar that we did. So, this one is, what other major themes do you see in your community? so, so what we've learned from the listening sessions might not be reflected there. And of course, we'll talk about some more in a second as well. But, we, we would love to, hear your feedback on that. And this is just going to be an open-ended question, and the slide was already up, so if you can just, take a minute to think about it and then, type your response.

Speaker 0 00:59:14 For this poll, you'll have to type in your answers and then click submit or click send, and they should start to appear.

Speaker 3 01:00:15 We can give people an extra minute on this one as well, just because it is open-ended.

Speaker 0 01:01:24 I've got a few more that are typing. Just give it another few minutes or a few seconds. Okay. Should be able to see the results.

Speaker 3 01:02:03 Perfect. Thank you. Okay, so local shelters do not answer their 800 number on weekends or holidays. Yeah, that is really difficult, Yola, thank you. And I remember you from last week as well, so I'm glad to see you back. Thank you so much. not answering on weekends or holidays, that those are high stress, high access periods for survivors. So that is interesting. screening process before having an advocate contact victim of db. Yes. Lack of transportation and homelessness. Major themes. Yes. I think lack of transportation came up. I think it came up at every single one of our listening session

from the, from the vast majority of survivors. Yeah, that's correct. Yeah. Yeah. And then Lynda has a really great point too. Tribal programs need to work together to get results, such as housing and social services for tribal members. I think this happens everywhere, right?

Speaker 3 01:02:53 I mean, it even happens, you know, individual organizations, for example, we're just very siloed at times. or there's so much work that this idea of, of adding, you know, collaborative aspects sometimes feels like it's too much. but it is so necessary, Lynda. So, thank you for bringing that up. a bias against transportation. Yes, there's an effort to get vouchers for some unhoused to get to appointments, but then little or no effort is given to survivors. That's interesting. substance dependency, which is a big, big thing. Financial literacy struggles. And then mental health treatment. lack of housing and affordable housing. Yeah. Carolyn, I mean, right. Some, some of the times when we talk about, like, you know, our TA efforts, for example, we're reminded by this limitation of, well, if there's, you know, we could talk about how to make existing housing more accessible to individuals who are, who are experiencing violence.

Speaker 3 01:03:48 But if the reality is that we don't have housing inventory to get people into, then, then it, it becomes like a <laugh>. It's almost like, well, what would be the point? Right. needing accommodations for pets. That's huge. Thank you. additional safety concerns for two-Spirit and trans individuals. Absolutely. and then additional need for food mistrust of police and social service organizations. Yes. That came up at every listening session as well. lack of affordable housing, and then a longer waiting list time for single mothers. Thank you, Bon, who is also very interesting, and I might want to talk to you about that later, if you're willing. if we can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:04:32 When is this one you? I think it's you. Okay, great. So, survivors with legal and carceral system involvement. This was another big issue that came up from the listening sessions. So, anybody that had any type of conviction, shared with us that it was almost an, like a, a complete bar to them accessing, any form of, of safe shelter and housing that, in turn, led as the survivors shared, to further criminalization. And again, that was either due to things that, you know, they had to do out of survival or out of their local, governments. and I don't know that this happens in tribal communities. I haven't seen anything in a housing code that we've reviewed yet. But at, at least in, in urban spaces, in some rural places, this like legislation to criminalize homelessness, you know, being obviously, something that impacts people.

Speaker 3 01:05:29 we had legislation recently where I am that has criminalized the use of public beach showers, for, for sanitation needs, which again, is really quite repugnant. Survivors also stated the need to address those who couldn't qualify for certain resources outside of housing because of a criminal record. again, you know, part of a recommendation here, and it's a policy recommendation, so it's not necessarily something that we're going to be able to implement as service providers, but, survivors really need legal advocates. They need lawyers. They have multiple systems, engagements, be it criminal child welfare, right? It could be small claims court. There's just, there were all sorts of things that came up. and they've got no legal representation. So, finding ways to fund legal services is another big, policy wreck here. Survivors with disabilities Today is, I think marks the 33rd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Speaker 3 01:06:28 Passage. and disabilities were a frequent issue within the listening session, survivors reported a general lack of concern, for people with disabilities accessing shelter and housing. They stated that not all disabilities are visible. This was something survivors shared, at all listening sessions. And that this, like lack of trust of survivors, often informed people's ignorant views of their lived experiences, right? so they saw that trust component going into whether or not their disability was valid to

an individual. and then survivors with disabilities also shared with us that housing and shelter is often not created with disability access in mind. That these spaces weren't not identity affirming for them as a part of, their specific communities. They reported situations in which they felt that their sense of dignity had been detrimentally impacted by their experiences in shelter and public housing. And again, this was from two largely urban areas, but indigenous survivors. Gwen, you want to add anything there?

Speaker 2 01:07:32 I just wanted to add that today we are launching our social media campaign. You want to talk about that Caroline?

Speaker 3 01:07:38 Yeah. If you want to follow us on, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, I don't know if, are we referring to Twitter as Twitter still? I'm not sure. <laugh> some, some new branding. there's, our handle is, It's Safe Housing for All. And the for is a number four. So, if you just head over to, to our social media pages, you'll see, that we have done a little bit of like a Twitter storm on, the Americans with Disabilities Act. go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:08:15 Okay. So, someone in our poll brought up, the LGBTQAI two-spirit conversation. This was incredibly thematic at all of our listening sessions, including the listening session in Hawaii. survivors in Minneapolis, and Hawaii shared that there was a disproportionate rate of indigenous survivors who identify as LGBTQAI to or two-Spirit, right? And oftentimes those mean two separate things. We have to think about that. Who are experiencing homelessness? So, the individuals that we spoke with, within the urban spaces that we spoke to them in, and then the other listening session was in Hilo. They are sharing with us that there's a disproportionate rate of LGBTQAI, gender diverse two-spirit individuals who are represented within the unhoused community. they also shared with us their concern about state legislation, which is being passed, you know, kind of writ large across the country right now regarding, trans access to, to basic lifesaving services, right? So, all of these things are kind of coming together, at these listening sessions. Survivors also shared that the resources available were not safe, accessible, or identity affirming for themselves. and that they had to address stigma around their identity in ways that detrimentally impacted their experiences in shelter and public housing, which made them feel othered in supposedly safe spaces. Gwen, did you want to add me there?

Speaker 2 01:09:52 no, I'm good.

Speaker 3 01:09:53 Okay. We can go to the next slide, Gwen. I think this one's you. Yeah.

Speaker 2 01:09:59 So then we have a, another poll question. <laugh>. are you engaged in ongoing conversations with tribal or local domestic violence or sexual assault programs in your area? And we have the poll set up, and we'll give this a minute. You should see the results. Okay, great. Thank you. So, the results are in, and we show that, overwhelmingly that we're, or more than half, 58% of you, indicated yes, that you are engaged in ongoing, conversations with your tribal or domestic, your tribal domestic violence or sexual assault program. And, 42% indicated that you are not. And I think that, you know, this question's kind of big for us too, because when we first started doing this work, we realized that, that there really was a, a disconnect between, the housing and, the domestic violence, gender-based violence, work that we, there were, that we've been doing.

Speaker 2 01:12:10 when we were presenting before a housing group, mainly all housing providers, there was, and we asked how many were familiar with VAWA. We had like one or two hands, go up. And then when we were in a group of domestic violence advocates and tribal programs, we asked them about housing, if they worked with their tribal housing authorities or their, again, hardly any hands went up for that one. And so, we realized there was a really big disconnect there. And these conversations are really important between housing and domestic violence programs. And they really need to happen more

because we, we hear from domestic violence programs all the time that housing's a, you know, a number one concern, housing and shelter, a number one concern for the survivors that they're working with. And yet, if, you know, if we're not opening up those conversations with our tribal housing authorities or, public housing authorities to how we can create more space or safe space for survivors, then, you know, that that's really an area that we need to focus on. And that's kind of, you know, a major, goal for us at STTARS too is really strengthening and maybe even in some cases, building that bridge between housing and domestic violence.

Speaker 2 01:13:34 Next slide. This goes back to you.

Speaker 3 01:13:45 So, another space where we get input, and feedback, is this national work group that we host. and as Goen mentioned, this was, this was really about bringing together to largely siloed spaces, to have conversations about, about, you know, where we needed to learn more from one another. and so, over the last four or five years, we've convened this work group, and it really brings together, you know, tribal housing entities, sometimes tribal designated housing entities, sometimes, urban, housing providers who are serving primarily, Native, survivors. So, there's, there's a lot of, of good conversations that happened in this space, and this was another thing that we wanted to elevate. so, we can go to the next slide. And of course, if you're interested in joining our national work group, please email us. We would absolutely love to add you.

Speaker 3 01:14:39 so again, issue, not enough shelters. Again, <laugh>, I feel like people are going to be annoyed with this for saying this so much, but it's really, it can, it's really, really bad. You know, some shelters might only have 12 beds, and then during the pandemic, I mean, people, people reduced to half or even 25% capacity, just out of, you know, out of public health reasons. so that was impacting survivors and, and programs. Another thing that, service providers have shared with us was that there wasn't enough people to provide staff transitional housing. So, some employees, you know, employee retention or, hiring issues are going on. human trafficking and drug trafficking were impossibly complicating access to safe housing. I think that goes back to another response from one of the polls, right? That substance misuse is, oftentimes, a compounding factor, which acts as its own unique barrier. And then not having access to services or support around that right, of course, makes it much worse. racism in the United States was greatly impacting advocates and survivors in general, especially over the last few years. There was a serious lack of these shelters. Rent is not affordable anywhere, even in public housing. Incredibly low inventory of transitional housing. I think you could quite honestly extrapolate that across the broad spectrum of housing. and housing authorities, both tribal and tribally designated, are not necessarily always educated on gender-based violence. Go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:16:11 And again, not, not always being educated on gender-based violence, is just meant to talk about, right? Like sometimes, we don't always have the opportunity to hear from one another, which is what we think this is really important. and I know we really value the times in which, our partners who primarily work in the housing spaces have, have educated us on the work that they do, and the things that they see. permanent supportive housing is not meeting the need because they're staffed by non-programmatic people. This is something that we think was thematic from the listening sessions as well, that, you know, if you are a person who's experiencing trauma, active trauma, right, or active crisis, and then, and then, you know, your sort of first point of contact, right? Is, is an intake, you know, or as a property manager, it's, it's not, that isn't necessarily the most trauma-informed approach.

Speaker 3 01:17:02 screening tools that are utilized in the, again, primarily applying to urban spaces where indigenous survivors are trying to access safe housing and shelter. These tools are problematic. the VAWA PDA is obviously, kind of been called out routinely over the last, few years as being, a tool that is

more of a screening out rather than a screening in tool, unnecessary cruelty. We witnessed this in Anchorage, law enforcement cutting up government issued identification cards and throwing away belongings and possessions. This is another problem. Artificial rules acting as complete, prohibit accessing shelter and safe housing. Think the number one thing that was brought up here were unnecessary credit checks. You know, it's, it's likely that the person who is unhoused or unsheltered is going to have a credit issue, little to no Native owned property management companies.

Speaker 3 01:17:55 We thought this one was really interesting. Again, I think it goes back to at least what we see in the gender-based violence space. People want to be supported by peers. It's why, it's why, you know, strong hearts. Native Helpline, for example, was launched. Native survivors were not calling into the National Domestic Violence Hotline. They weren't even calling in after the Ray Rice incident, in which, you know, that hotline received an exponentially higher number of calls. So, so, you know, making sure that, Native survivors have access to peer-to-peer support, for an unhoused relative applied to property management. there were landlords were excluding certain individuals from their units and powerful lobby there, sometimes able to do that, locally

Speaker 3 01:18:43 Housing first models and DV housing first models, though they are great models, for certain individuals and possibly for, for most individuals, they were not meeting the needs of indigenous survivors, especially in regard to services. And in regard to the community engagement aspect of the DV Housing First model. The survivors reported who were in some of these spaces that the services were inconsistent, they were non-existent, or they were not culturally responsive. and again, right likely have to consider some of the impact of the pandemic on that. but still an important call out. political oppression and political divide were exacerbating trauma in severe ways, for the last few years for people. And go to the next slide. Okay. And then that's another poll question. Yay. how do you support your tribal or local D V S S a program? And I think this one is open-ended as well. and you don't have to type out a whole paragraph. You could even just, I mean, even if you want to answer multiple times, oh, this one should be open-ended, but I don't see that it is.

Speaker 0 01:19:51 Let me see if I can change that here.

Speaker 2 01:19:56 And while you're changing that too, I just wanted to mention, on that last slide about, Caroline had mentioned about cutting up people's IDs and stuff, and of course, I know you all have seen and are, and are aware of the big, when they go in to clean out the, the homeless, campsites, how they just destroy everybody's property. all their belongings, everything is gone. And, there's very little time. Sometimes these are unannounced and, you know, resulting in people who, you know, have taken so long to acquire what they have, only to lose it again, and to have to start all over. And, you know, it's very difficult to, to do a lot of that without, having a valid id. And so, you know, I, we know that across the country there are numerous cities and places that do, have, you know, ID clinics or whatever, where you can go and they'll help you and, and even pay for you to get your, identification back. So, I think that's a another thing we're seeing more and more of these days.

Speaker 0 01:21:10 I've got a few more people that are typing here in about 30 more seconds or so.

Speaker 2 01:21:33 Okay.

Speaker 0 01:22:23 Should be able to see the answers now.

Speaker 2 01:22:35 Okay. Thank you. So, we have, Jamie who said, we would like to, to be more involved and we'll reach out to our tribal program, so that's great. Michelle Running Loaf says, follow the regs. And, TIA from N I W R C <laugh> says, I try to let as many people know they exist and how to

access the resources, just getting the word out there that there are options. Bonita Ball says, volunteer. She volunteers at the, tribal, domestic violence program. Maria Luna, working for a SA department and support all clients, SA, meaning sexual assault. Yvette Yazzi says through grant writing, which is really needed. <laugh>, Jesse Brock, working with our M D T DART SART team. I work as a SANE to be available for any victims to have these exams completed here. If not, then they have to travel off reservation over 130 miles, one way due to how rural we are.

Speaker 2 01:23:47 So, great work. Jesse and your community. Ola Dick, for Tribal Domestic Violence Program. not sure what that means. starland big rope, share resources, sharing resources. Great. Is great. Melinda, partnering learning and working together, anonymous as a direct service provider. And then, and all I said that, okay, I get it now. I'm a 24 7 DV s SA advocate for a tribal domestic violence program. Okay. Got it. Okay, great. Thank you for your responses to that. And with that, we will move on to, I think, the next portion of our presentation, which is our, the, well, training and technical assistance, but also we'll, move into also our MMIW policy work and recommendations. So, Caroline,

Speaker 3 01:24:47 Yes. So the needed, training and technical assistance, and again, this comes from our work group space, and we would very much welcome feedback on this from all of you, or from anybody that you think we should be talking to. so, needing an emphasis on traditional ways of life. this comes up frequently, training specific to shelter creation and sustainability, right? It's one thing for Gwen and I to say ad nauseas we have done all day, I'm probably annoyed all of you <laugh>, about the need for domestic violence shelters in tribal communities. and of course, it's another thing, right? To, to actually talk about creation and sustainability, when sometimes, like the formula funds that we have access to are very limited for, for starting a shelter, right? shelter policies need to certainly, shift, right? there's sometimes, need to really just, I don't know, like be, especially around the gender diverse issue, need to be updated, advocate training to understand the housing spectrum of housing available, and strengthening housing advocacy, right?

Speaker 3 01:25:50 The gender-based violence space, largely deals with emergency shelter and transitional housing, sometimes rapid rehousing, within the work that we do. but the housing spectrum is much broader than that, as you all know. And are the experts on, this one came up frequently as well with advocate training on street outreach, which is something totally different than, what we do at intake, right? And then cross training opportunities for advocates and housing authorities. So again, just like rehashing, maybe on a larger scale, we do within our national work group, making sure that we've got time to come together and talk to each other, and learn from one another to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:26:34 Okay? Certainly, because vi, the Violence Against Women Act is a compliance issue for certain tribal housing entities or tribally designated housing entities. There needs to be, some training for advocates specifically on working with TS and TDHEs. and then in addition, those td, TDHEs and T need training on VAWA compliance. And again, HUD has some dollars set aside for that. within the most recent, recent reauthorization of the Violence Skin Women Act, the, training to respond to overdoses, Narcan delivery came up frequently. I don't know if that is an issue you all are experiencing. I remember somebody talking about substance misuse, but I would be curious about that too. Permanent supportive housing staff, according to our work group members, we're in need of training on DV and SA. That's in line with what we heard in our listening sessions.

Speaker 3 01:27:28 training for housing authorities on gender-based violence programs need specific training and support regarding the Fair Housing Act and Indian preference. So, some of the pictures that we've shown you today have been from a partnership between Naya, which is an organization, a Native organization in Portland, and the Celts tribe. so TZ Tribe receives NEDA funding, and they have set aside

some of that funding to partner with NAYA in order to bring off reservation housing, to American Indians and Alaskan natives within Portland. Right? And so, normally if you set aside anything like that under preference, you might be in violation of the Fair Housing Act. but because they're utilizing those noha dollars, they were able to set aside 20% of the units, for off reservation housing for, indigenous survivors in their communities. That we thought was a really cool best practice that we wanted to highlight. go to the next slide, another poll. I think this is our second to last poll. I'm sorry that we like these a lot. So, what supports services, services or supports besides housing and shelter? Do you think that survivors in your community are needed? And you can list as many as you want, or of course not at all. participation is not required.

Speaker 0 01:30:29 Let's give it about 10 more seconds.

Speaker 3 01:30:32 Okay.

Speaker 0 01:30:54 There's a more person typing, so I'll just wait till that finishes. Okay. There we go.

Speaker 3 01:31:01 Okay. So, these look awesome. Thank you for participating. So, Megan said, peer support meetings, learning how to access community resources and referrals. Yes. Not knowing what was available in your community was another big thing from the listening sessions. Money and finances. Yeah, I mean, just, just like, just from a very basic perspective, people are in need of flex funding, which you're going to see reflected, Tanya on the next slide here. Deborah says that in my community, I work with the elder population, most of them live alone. So, home visits, safety, welfare checks and wellbeing are sometimes overlooked by tribal services. Yeah, I agree with that. Her program does not allow this, only for victims. Lynda says utility assistance and childcare, and of course, counseling. Counseling is huge. long-term safe housing program with case management. Yeah. Having, making sure that, like, yes, of course it's great to get somebody into the unit, right?

Speaker 3 01:31:54 But making sure that they have the supports longer term is critically, critically important. including family life, job skills for those that need it, and info on how to stay safe. That's a really good one. Another anonymous one was support with childcare. Absolutely. More financial assistance for medical bills. Mental health. Yeah. All the things, right? That, that, you know, oftentimes we think of ourselves as being very removed, you know, from, from what it might be like to be unhoused. But the reality of it is most of us are one paycheck away from that. and thinking about having a major medical bill, or mental health expenses would really impact people's ability to maintain their housing. Access to lawyers agree wholeheartedly. staff who is well trained, culturally competent. Yes. transportation, mental health counseling for children, of course. That's a great one.

Speaker 3 01:32:42 Melinda. Janie, counseling, employment training, education assistance. These are all really great culturally specific support, like language interpretation services. This came up a lot as well, Alan. I'm glad you raised that. and gender affirming care. Yes, a thousand percent. Peggy, legal representation. Jamie says, supportive services, counseling, childcare, life skills like budgeting and organizing. This came up in our listening sessions too. wanting for people to just basically, have access to those supports if they needed them. Mental health counseling, more counseling, referral services. We've been struggling with getting patients access to mental health services. Yes. Again, common issue. Attorneys absolutely enola. child custody issues. You know, a lot of times people will bring up, child welfare, and that's definitely <laugh>, like the biggest intersection, right? That we see within the space around gender-based violence and housing insecurity.

Speaker 3 01:33:41 but custody and child support are equally problematic at times. and oftentimes the enforcement on them is really difficult. And that causes people a lot of financial hardship. case

management. It's great. Access to transportation. Yes. Mental health. Yes. Trained administrators. Absolutely. And job training. and then I will just go back to a previous poll response and call out our need. and obviously celebration of the individual that is doing SANE as a nurse. but having access to SANE and sart, is critical. and again, very underfunded, but very much needed, within our communities. I think we can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:34:22 I'll just go through these fast because I want to get to the M M I W recommendations. policy recommendations here have been increased funding for transportation vouchers. Again, in line with what a lot of you were stating in the poll. increased substance abuse support, right? individuals requesting m a t services and overdose prevention. Of course, legislatures really, should consider right the harm that is enacting laws that criminalize homelessness. increased funding for transitional housing in Indian countries, specifically, funding for housing and DV advocates and funding for housing navigators can move to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:35:03 Funding for legal advocacy. Obviously in line with what you all were saying as well. Funding for financial assistance programs to Tanya's point. increased funding for project-based vouchers. This came up a few times. each unit, should have its own project-based voucher. Removing artificial rules like credit checks, shouldn't be a bar to housing or shelter access. Indian country might need a tax base that might be able, that might help us out a little bit, <laugh> with funding some of these programs. and then of course, other recommendations that came out of this space are loftier. But certainly, in line with the way that we do our work. Rent control, rent cancellation, flexible funding for survivors, and flexible funding for programs. You know, and some of these might, might, you know, rely on the need to partner with philanthropic organizations or funds. but survivors and our work group members did bring them up frequently. Go to the next slide. Okay, Gwen, I'll pass this back to you.

Speaker 2 01:35:59 Oh, okay. Sure. So, we just wanted to do this briefly because we do want to leave a little time for any other, kind of open it up for more Q&A at the end. but, we had, developed a, we, we did a presentation, before the, national American Indian Council on our, the National American Indian Housing Council. And, we did it on, M M I W and, looking at housing as a mitigating factor. And so, these are some of the re recommendations that we came up with. After we presented on, you know, the, the, the problem of M M I w, the whole history of that movement and everything else, we knew that they were going to be asking, well, what can we do? And so, we came up with some, recommendations for housing authorities, for tribal communities, for project, property management companies and so forth.

Speaker 2 01:36:57 So we'll just go through these really quickly here. Because I know we are coming up on a, on the hour here, for housing authorities. of course, number one was hire Native property managers. And if you all see other things you'd like to add to these, just put them in chat. Because, and we'd like to, draw those out too. And we finish employing flexibility and requiring application fees and credit checks. You know, being flexible, like right now, is pretty, it's pretty difficult when everything is online and you're not really meeting with a person who can see who you are. And, and you can get a human connection, you're not getting that <laugh>. And so, it's very, very difficult sometimes to get through some of these barriers. removing barriers for survivors who have past convictions. We know that in, in some places across the country, they have law clinics set up to do that kind of work.

Speaker 2 01:37:49 And if you don't want to have, if you don't have one in your area, you know, reach out to your law schools and, your, state bar associations to see if they'd be willing to set up a clinic to help people, you know, remove those, past convictions that they have so that they're more eligible or more highly eligible to get on the into housing. prioritize gender-based violence survivors on housing wait lists. I know a number of cities and counties and places have done that, but we, we, we still need more. We still

have a ways to go in doing that. language barriers, create serious safety impacts and make spaces inaccessible. So have a language access plan. And again, that helps working with your tribal, domestic violence shelter or program, or reaching out to strong hearts, Native helpline. Or if you have a tribal coalition in your area, there's a number of ways that can, you can get that type of support and assistance. create policies that support survivor safety and confidentiality. And if you need any templates for any of that, please reach out to, to us. We have tons of that stuff. seek out training from Native Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault organizations, to understand the intersection between domestic violence, sexual assault, gender-based violence, and homelessness, and housing insecurity. And that's huge. That's really huge. next slide, please.

Speaker 2 01:39:23 continued for housing authorities continued. be community aware. Know what's happening in your community. Know what the issues are out there. Know what's going on in your community. implement practices and policies that create safety and security. And again, if you need some, templates for some of those policies and, and, and practices, reach out to us. We're happy to provide you with that information. Avoid making survivors feel surveilled, which can impact their sense of security in, in detrimental ways. When someone doesn't trust you, you don't, you know, it creates that kind of, response. So, if you, if you don't feel trusted, you know, maybe you're not going to be the best person you can be. employ flexibility and resident requirements and compliance with rules such as enforcement of fines. a lot of times in housing, there's no second chance for anything.

Speaker 2 01:40:21 and so, you know, being flexible, you know, providing people with additional time and opportunity. If an agency standard does not feel right or impacts your community in a disparate way, advocate for a change or clarification. All employees must have ongoing training on what culturally appropriate assistance services are and why they are essential for responding to the intersectional issues on both, in, both on and off reservation communities. And again, you know, we can, we're, we're available for training and technical assistance. Reach out to STTARS, do not conflate, diversity, equity and inclusion with direct action in response to anti indigeneity and oppression. Different, this is different than a racial lens as well. understand intersectional issues like child welfare impacts, criminal justice issues, PPO access those, protection orders, substance misuse, mental health issues, and strive to make policies and practices reflective of this understanding. And, and we say this all the time in the domestic violence work. All these issues are connected. It's very rare when someone comes into our, our program where they're just experiencing domestic violence. Oftentimes there's a whole host of other intersectional issues involved. And so, it's, you know, if we're only looking at one thing, we're not, we're not working with that. We're not taking a holistic approach to our work. And accountability is a practice, not a response. we can go to our next slide. And you want to do property managers,

Speaker 3 01:42:08 I would love to be the property manager. Okay. so of course, be a good relative same that's going to be at the top of all these slides, right? knowing the law around filing a missing person's report, and being aware of implications of filing a report for special populations. For example, juveniles with prior foster care involvement. Sometimes it's really hard if a, if a kid who is in foster care, who is aged out foster care, it flags right? As a runaway. additional reports complicate those things. so just kind of knowing that, right? And, and knowing when to file and when not to, language barriers talked about this in the poll as well as glad that I saw this come up, creates serious safety impacts and make spaces inaccessible to people. So, trying to make sure that you have a language access plan, or that you know how to find, services that offer one trust survivors.

Speaker 3 01:42:55 Again, that goes back to what we heard in our listening sessions. Survivors felt, largely mistrusted by the property managers, that they were, experiencing in urban, urban spaces, bringing in, non DV or SA related organizations that address interrelated or intersectional issues as needed policies

at screen in rather than screen out. and I bet many of you have great best practices as well, that, we would love to hear about, if you want to email us or drop them into the chat. making sure that leadership and staff are engaged in intentional work around bias and prejudice, and then ensuring spaces for documents. Right? This was a huge issue, at, a shelter, a few shelters that we went to in Anchorage. And one of the places, covenant House had like designated place, even if people were just there, like transiently, they were only there for a couple of hours.

Speaker 3 01:43:51 They just wanted to come in and take a, you know, take a nap or get some, some respite from the weather. They had a safe place for individuals to house, their documents or their IDs. and then diversifying staff so that they represent the community that they serve. We want to be really careful about that recommendation, right? Because diversity, equity, and inclusion work, right? The d e I work at is not the same as, racial equity and liberation work, right? So, so, you know, our anti-oppression work, so two very, you know, one of them might signify that you have an issue, right? With a larger issue. But, you know, simply diversifying your staff isn't going to meet the burden of addressing prejudice or bias. we can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:44:37 Stop evicting and fining for infractions, such as noise complaints, residents being behind on utilities, right? Which they're bound to do, especially if employment is an issue, or having other individuals in the units. Basically, really thinking through some of our policies around, around the rules that we've, we expect survivors to, to uphold, right? Some of these are really punitive in nature at times. and survivors often felt that they were, like, if a property manager didn't like them, that they were, you know, enforced, like enforced in almost like a petty kind of manner. making sure that staff receive cultural safety training. I believe multiple people brought up cultural competency, knowing the resources in your community. So, I really want to give a shout out to that one person who said that, you know, and was honest and vulnerable, right? And said, I'm not talking right now with my local, DV or essay program.

Speaker 3 01:45:28 so, but I'll become aware of them, right? Like, I think that's such a great, that's such a great step to take. So, I just want to honor that response. crafting policies that create a strong sense of community and that prioritize safety. We have some really great examples of tribal housing codes if you want to reach out to us where we, where we see this, seeking out and receiving ongoing training. Obviously we've talked about that ad nauseum. And then considering collaborations with DB advocates and programs, we're going to talk about a really good opportunity to do that at the end of this, presentation. We can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:46:04 Posting hotline information. We mentioned that before. Knowing the requirements that are in the Violence Against Women Act, in particular around confidentiality, that's going to be important. Regardless of whether or not you are a covered entity, you've got to make sure that people's information is stored, in a way that others do not have access to it. So practical considerations around, around some of this are like having good lighting in your common spaces. People talked about using ring doorbells. Again, I'm trying to be careful of the surveillance issue. Obviously. key fobs, community safety supports creating common time together. People felt like this, brought together a stronger sense of community and cohesion, which led to greater community awareness, which led to increased safety. and then of course, as we talked about, not conflating diversity, equity and inclusion with direct action in response to anti indigeneity or oppression, different than racial lens.

Speaker 3 01:46:58 We can go to the next slide. I know we're going through these a little quicker, and I did post the resource here in the chat for this. So, if, if we're going to fast, you have that document to refer back to. And if you want individual, TA on this, just send us an email and we're happy to set up a meeting. So, for residents, be a good relative, again, being aware of your surroundings, and routines,

observing and reporting, but not surveilling fellow residents, right? Kind of really knowing what the balance on that line is. documenting barriers. So, this is a really good advocacy tool to just do, and leading awareness activities, when possible, if you can obviously provide mutual aid and support, advocating for necessary changes. Could be, could be local, could be, could be tribal, could be state, could be national, right? Or it could just be within the program. and then claiming the vow, the power of your voice in legislative and policy spaces is really important too. next slide.

Speaker 3 01:47:59 Tribal council. Also be a, be a good relative, fund housing projects, or find ways to fund housing projects. Someone mentioned that the way that they support their local tribal DVSA program is by grant writing, right? Huge. So, finding ways to do that, I think is, is great. starting a DV shelter again, we think that if tribal council can, can be at the helm of some of this, right? Fits within our sovereignty framework, but also means that there's buy-in from tribal leadership on these issues, and that there might be an understanding, right? Of what, survivors in those communities are needing apply for rapid rehousing and transitional housing funds, rapid rehousing dollars. I, and Iris can correct me if this is wrong, but I don't believe Indian country, you don't think tribes could apply for rapid rehousing until 2021.

Speaker 3 01:48:47 but now you can. So, knowing that that's available, I would, you know, I would suggest looking into that. transitional housing funds. Also making sure to fund your DV and SA programming and services, you know, as something that tribal council can prioritize. And then passing laws that promote prevention. We talked about this. It's not, it's not likely that every tribal housing program or housing commission or housing board, et cetera, is required to comply with the violence against Women Act solely because of where their funding comes from. But that doesn't mean that, that it can't be done, right? So, we can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:49:27 avoiding political interference in court processes in law enforcement or community family services. This doesn't happen everywhere, but it certainly happens, enough to mention it. being aware of the vulnerabilities that are experienced by some families, even if that's not the experience of the majority of your community members. creating membership services program that includes legal services. maybe this person doesn't represent individuals in court, but they provide limited scope representation, right? They'll draft the documents, that's important, seeking out and receiving ongoing training, and then committing to hiring practices that sufficiently vet individuals who are going to have access to vulnerable community members. Go to the next slide, Gwen, I'll pass this one back to you.

Speaker 2 01:50:13 Okay.

Speaker 2 01:50:15 So for community, we have, advocate for increased housing options and lower barrier access to housing and shelter, organize. We, community organizing is a huge piece of our work in ending, domestic violence and violence against women and children in our communities. And it's really important that people come together because there is power in numbers, and, and organize around things that are happening in your community, especially around, housing insecurity and homelessness. I mean, I, I think in so many tribal communities across this country, homelessness is really increasing Everywhere you go, locate pro bono, attorneys who work in your community, again, reach out to, law schools and, the State Bar Association. And, there's also some national, Indian organizations that, that, that can provide you with some of those resources. work to create a Know Your Rights campaign and reach out to SARS for training and technical assistance.

Speaker 2 01:51:21 We have a number of, brochures and literature around knowing your rights around the various aspects of housing, becoming community aware and acting on that awareness. And that's,

that's really important. And I think that's key across all of these areas that we talked about. educating others on the intersection of domestic violence, sexual assault, gender-based violence and homelessness and housing insecurity. And we know that throughout the year, there are a number of months such as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Sexual Assault Awareness Month, fair Housing Month. There's a number every month that kind of has a theme that you can really play into to raise that public awareness in your communities. And there's plenty of resources that are attached that are attached to these major, monthly themes, addressing trauma. A lot of communities have come together to talk about historical trauma and, and what happened to us, and how we can change what, how we can change the future of our people and our generations to come.

Speaker 2 01:52:22 care for your community, your pe, your people, mutual aid where available, and ensure that you're familiar and up to date with local resources. Know what's going on. Is there a shelter in the community? Is there a safe house where people can go? Do they refer to taking people to hotels? Are they, you know, just knowing what's in your community? Is there a food bank? Do you know, where can you go for rental assistance? All those kinds of things. It's, it, it, it's good for all of us to know those, resources that are available in our communities. next slide, please. Back to you. Oh, but before we move on, I just want to say that the really important thing, and those slides were created around M M I W, but it's also really important to, to help families who are experiencing that with, creating flyers and, and getting that in, spreading that information out, across the community and bringing community awareness to that. And with that, I'll turn it over to Caroline.

Speaker 3 01:53:24 Perfect. So, as we were saying before, I think that this is the one of the last things we wanted to leave you all with, before we talk about the awareness component. but you know, as, as sovereigns, you all know this, tribes can enact codes and statutes, right? They have their separate constitutions, tribes, like states define domestic violence. So, a tribe can define domestic violence very broadly, right? It doesn't have to be in line, with the way that a, a state looks at it, which oftentimes is from a very westernized, criminal, justice minded perspective, right? Does it include some of these major intersectional issues? tribes can issue their own protective orders, they can enforce them, right? And then define their membership and obviously govern. But we add this slide here because even though those VAWA provisions that were added in 2013 and 2022 might not necessarily be a compliance issue, for certain tribal grantees under HUD, it's still important, I think to advocate for some of those changes if those provisions are able to be utilized within your community. thinking about how to, how to get them, you know, into codes, regulations and ordinances with, with tribal government via resolution processes, to us, another really great best practice, you know, tribes should consider, should consider enacting some of those things, especially around the self-certification process. we can go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:54:52 I just have this here. It's from our last presentation. I want to get to the, the next piece of this. But just know that we are, we are also, as a part of our grant doing a tribal housing code clearing house. and we're looking at ordinances, regulations, constitutional provisions, right? even like preambles to certain ordinances and executive orders, related to this, this intersection of the work, housing insecurity, homelessness, domestic violence, and including public health. and so, we are working with a human rights clinic, some of whom are actually on here today, helping us out with this as well. But if you've got, you know, a housing code or an ordinance you want us to look at, even as a best practice, we would love to see it. and you can utilize this form to share that with us. Go to the next slide.

Speaker 3 01:55:41 Really quick poll question. I know we're like two minutes, but how does your pro actually, should we just skip this one and just share the D v M resource, Gwen? Sure. Okay. Yeah, so if you want to post in the chat how you participate in domestic Violence Awareness month, if you do, just so other people can learn from that and see it, that's great. but one of the things that we wanted to share with

you is our D V A M toolkit. so domestic violence awareness month is in October. We're trying to get this out earlier than we did last year. So, there it is. This is a toolkit that we created to boost awareness of, these issues within, within the housing space. and so, there's ideas here about what you can do as a program. there, you know, maybe it's like changing all the lighting in the front of units or changing the lighting in your, in your front of your office, right?

Speaker 3 01:56:35 To purple lights. something simple like that. Or maybe it's, maybe it's that everybody wears, you know, purple for one week and you all utilize the hashtag. You know, some of those things really increase the, the, I'm sorry, the visibility of support for survivors. And they may seem, you know, it may seem to not make a huge impact, but it, but it really does, especially for that person that's feeling invisible within their, within their crisis. it also, it also lets people know that you're thinking about these issues within your programs. so that toolkit is there. Oh, it says page not found weird. Okay, let me just try again. It popped up for me. It popped up for me. Let me repost it just in case Carolyn can't access it. I'll just repost. Okay. but we do have that there. and again, also welcome feedback on it or ideas or thoughts that other people have too. We can go to the next couple slides, I think. I think that's it for us, Iris. This is our contact information. Of course, we're funded, by H H Ss specifically within the, phis office. and we really appreciate HUD for partnering with us on this, webinar series as well. so, we'll pass it back to Iris,

Speaker 1 01:57:51 Right? Caroline and Gwendolyn, thank you so much for the important work that you do and for raising awareness about a very important topic. And, you know, we've had a two-part webinar series focused on this topic. There was a lot to unpack over the two sessions. We will post the recordings on our co-talk best practice webpage, and that will include not only the PowerPoints, but also a transcript so that if you need to go back and refer to information, you'll have that option available to you. Just want to remind you all that we do have a national Tribal housing summit taking place in St. Paul, Minnesota. That will be October 31st to November 2nd. There is no charge to attend that. So, we invite you to sign up and register and attend the three days' worth of sessions. And Gwendolyn and Carolyn, I hope that we'll be able to follow up on the conversation we had today with some additional workshops at the National Tribal Housing Summit. So, I'll be sharing that information with you all as well.

Speaker 3 01:59:01 That sounds great. Thank you.

Speaker 1 01:59:03 And we didn't get time to answer your specific questions, so I'm just going to go ahead and put my email address in the chat. And if there are specific questions that you would like us to respond to, please feel free to reach out. I'm happy to follow up and connect with you all. I know there was a couple of program specific questions that were in the chat that we weren't able to get to, but we will definitely, circle back and follow up with you all to make sure res we're responding to you. And I just want to say, many thanks Gwendolyn, Carolyn, the important work that you do cannot be, as so critical for our communities. And I just appreciate you so much and for sharing your time with us. And, one of the questions I did have that you all can follow up with me on is what conversations should us here at HUD's Office of Native American Programs be having with Department of Justice or other partners that will help to continue these conversations and move them along and really help to address the need for safe spaces for individuals, that are facing gender-based violence.

Speaker 1 02:00:24 So with that, I hope you all have a great rest of rest of your week. Thank you so much for tuning in, and we will see you all at the National Tribal Housing Summit. And again, please reach out to us in advance if there's anything that we can do to support you and your work. All right, good. Ashish, thank you all. Thank you.

Speaker 0 02:00:48 Thank you for attending today's conference. Thank you for using event services. And your conference has ended, and you may disconnect.