

PROMOTING COMMUNITY EDUCATION

- Promote developing consistent law enforcement, state, tribal and community protocols regarding the missing.
- Promote developing and creating a working network with tribe/state and federal when a person goes missing
- Use tribal community communication resources, law enforcement practices, national registries, what a family can do
- Use grassroots communication vehicles for education and awareness (tribal radio, PSAs, social media, posters, print)
- When a person goes missing, taking fast action is important, as the quicker the response is, the faster they may be located or help provided.



**Native Women's Society
of the Great Plains**
"Reclaiming Our Sacredness"

Fostering Coalitions & Awareness Protocols

- Taking the steps to create more awareness on all levels.
- Support efforts of National Indigenous Women's Resource Center on the national scale, promote awareness on grassroots level
- Help in community searches and walks.
- Support reform of law enforcement and tribal leader response.
- Encourage development of tribal, state and federal protocols.
- Honor the women, 'say their name', support the loved ones and support community healing.
- Support grassroots movements regarding the missing.



**Murdered and Disappeared
Native Women is a project of
the Native Women's Society of
the Great Plains to promote
awareness of Native women
who have been murdered or
disappeared, to strengthen
awareness and development
of protocol and legislation.**

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- **Creating protocols to address the issue of Murdered and Disappeared Native women in our communities**

- **Understanding the levels of Spectrum of Influence of Murdered and Disappeared Native Women**

- **Making the connections and creating networks**

- **The awareness factor, along with developed, consistent community and law enforcement protocol can effectively address the issue of Native women who have disappeared.**

- **Also to promote the understanding that a lack of effective action is deeply rooted in the historical treatment and negative views towards Native women.**

- **Native women were traditionally tied to the early philosophy that they represented the lifeblood of their respective tribal nations and in order to 'kill the Indian' they were targeted for genocide.**

MISSING AND DISAPPEARED NATIVE WOMEN

The number of missing Native women was addressed in a national study authorized by Congress found that between 1979 and 1992 homicide is a leading cause of death among Native females aged 15-34, and that 75 percent were killed by family members or acquaintances (under VAWA 2005). Many cases are in the range of domestic violence.

In Indian country, Native women are murdered at a rate 10 times than the national average. There is not adequate information on the numbers and data of missing Native Women in the United States. Native women go missing and murdered at a higher rate than any other ethnic group.

More than 1 in 2 American Indian Alaskan Native women have experienced physical violence by intimate partners of sexual violence in their lifetime according to a National Institute of Justice report. Between 2004 and 2007, the United States declined to prosecute 62 percent of Indian country criminal cases referred to federal prosecutors, including 72 percent of child sexual crimes and 75 percent of adult rape cases.

"There are 550 recognized tribes and 310 reservations in the United States. Statistics show that as of October 2014, there were 1,460 active missing Native American cases in the National Crime Information network. Out of that, there were only 183 cases (12%) entered into the National Missing and Unidentified Person System. There is a void of Native American cases not getting entered into the system or being followed up if they do get into the system." (Janet Franson -retired homicide investigator)

Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP) was launched as a pilot project for tribes to provide access to national crime information systems for both criminal and civil purposes. To date, TAP has been deployed to 47 federally recognized tribes with over 200 tribal criminal justice and tribal civil agencies.

REPORTING RESOURCES

- Local law enforcement
- National Crime Information database (NCIC)
- National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) Direct public use interface
- Tribal Community Response When a Woman is Missing: A Toolkit for Action (<http://www.niwrc.org/resources/tribal-community-response-when-woman-missing-toolkit-action>)
- The Sovereign Bodies Institute Missing and Murdered Women's database (www.sovereign-bodies.org/mmiw-database)
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls: A Snapshot of data from 71 (<https://www.uihi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Missing-and-Murdered-Indigenous-Women-and-Girls-Report.pdf>)

