

Grants to StrongHearts Native Helpline will expand culturally based services

EAGAN, Minn. – Within three years of launching its collaborative project, the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center (NIWRC) announced in October the StrongHearts Native Helpline (Strong-Hearts) is receiving two grants from the Office of Victims of Crime under the U.S. Department of Justice for a combined total of \$2,768,168 to enhance services over the next three years.

The awards – provided by the Office of Victims of Crime Advancing the Use of Technology to Assist Victims of Crime and the Field-Generated Program to Improve Services for Victims of Crime – will be utilized to extend the helpline’s operating hours to 24 hours a day, develop advocacy training and services to assist survivors of sexual violence, as well as implement digital chat services to help increase accessibility and address caller safety.

Launch dates for the digital chat service and 24/7 operating hours will be released at a later time.

“Considering Native women are 2.5 times more likely to be raped or be a victim of sexual assault than other groups, the StrongHearts Native Helpline serves as a potential lifeline for survivors of these crimes,” said Lori Jump, assistant director for StrongHearts. “We also know in remote areas, some victims may not have phone service or may fear their abusive



partner overhearing them in an attempt to call, so providing a digital chat service option is crucial for increasing access for everyone in our communities.”

American Indians and Alaska Natives suffer from the highest rates of violence in the U.S., according to the National Institute of Justice. In March 2017, the Strong-Hearts Native Helpline (844-7NATIVE) began providing callers with culturally based support for domestic violence and dating violence, along with a connection to Native resources.

operations,” said Lucy Simpson, executive director of the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center. “Now with these two awards, we can realize the collective vision of having a dedicated Native helpline to serve survivors of violence in a culturally rooted way at all hours of the day and night.”

About the StrongHearts Native Helpline

Created by and built to serve Tribal communities across the United States, the StrongHearts Native Helpline is a culturally appropriate, anonymous, confidential and no-cost service dedicated to serving American Indian survivors of domestic violence and dating violence, along with their concerned family members and friends.

By dialing 844-7NATIVE (844-762-8483), callers can connect one-on-one with knowledgeable StrongHearts advocates who can provide immediate support and a connection to Native resources to enable survivors to find safety and live lives free of abuse.

StrongHearts is available daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. (CT). Callers reaching out after hours can connect with the National Domestic Violence Hotline (800-799-SAFE) by selecting option 1.

For more information, visit strongheartshelpline.org.

Tribal employment information is available at ctsi.nsn.us.

A big shout out to the
September 21, 2019
Elders Woodcut Volunteers!

Sam Anderson	Oscar Hatfield
Charlie Ben	Samantha Hatfield
Chester Ben	Tadee Hatfield
Jayden Ben	Chvne Holmes
Maryellen Ben	Max Hoover
Pam Ben	Jordan Hoover
Ray Ben	Joshley Howell
Jeremiah Bower	Mike Kennedy
Bennie Brown	Joe Lane
Lisa Brown	William Lane
Mitzi Brown	Kendall Logan & Family
Darelle Butler	Craig Ollian
Jerry Elam	Julian Reed
Tanya Fawver	Dennis Tufts
Becky Gamble	Mari Woosley
Denise Garrett	Steve Woosley
Rachelle Garrett	Nora Williams-Wood
Randy Garrett	Randy Wood
Greg Goodell	

Their hard work made it possible to deliver over
13 1/8th cords of firewood to Siletz Elders.



Courtesy photos by Samantha Hatfield

Above: Three generations of the Ben family – Charles, Maryellen, Jayden, Pam and Raymond – help out at the Elders woodcut on Sept. 21.

Below: A large number of volunteers spent part of their day getting wood ready for Tribal elders to burn this winter to heat their homes.



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- Make you feel drowsy, nauseated and constipated
- Slow your body's healing process

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