

Victims of Crime Services offers help to children and families

By Sarah Frank
Victims of Crime Services

The Victims of Crime staff welcome the visitors here for the Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days. We hope that your visit to Warm Springs is enjoyable.

Our focus has been to strengthen family structures by assisting victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, sexual assault and other serious assaults. The present staff are:

Director Mark Matthews, prosecutor Nancy Seyler, women and children's services coordinator Sarah Frank, advocates Viola Govenor, Rachel Smith, Sammy Bruised Head, Ina Wainanwit and Sara Scott, receptionist Yvonne Pennington, and college intern Melinda Polk.

Along with other departments, we are presently planning a family wellness conference for October 2006. Other items on our agenda are: six-week women's support group beginning June 27 to Aug. 1, 2006 (contact Sara Scott), men's batterers (contact Rachel), sexual assault response team, Soaring Butterflies, Warrior Spirit and Domestic Violence classes.

Viola works with elder abuse victims. She encourages all to treat elders with respect. Love and care for them.

There are three types of elder abuse: (1) Neglect - being left alone or deprived of needs. (2) Verbal abuse - insulting, frightening, humiliating, threat-

ening and/or treating an elder like a child. (3) Financial exploitation (taking money from an elder and using it for others' benefits.

If you have a father, mother, aunt, uncles and/or grandparent who is an elder, treat them with kindness and love. If there is only one family member caring for an elder, give them a break, offer them respite. The elders are our resource. Viola and Sara also facilitate the women's support group in the jail.

Sara Scott will facilitate the upcoming six-week support group starting on Tuesday, June 27 from 6-8 p.m. Her focus will be on: Domestic violence, sexual assault, substance abuse, jealousy, Indian parenting, and relaxation. Healthy snacks will be provided. All women are welcome; sorry no childcare will be provided. Please make childcare arrangements ahead of time to avoid group distraction.

Rachel Smith received training to facilitate "Creating a Process for Men who Batter." She works in conjunction with the arresting officers who respond to incidents of family violence. She also works with Probation and the Tribal Court.

Battering is a social learned behavior; it is not a result of substance abuse or mental illness.

Domestic violence is a pattern of assault and coercive behaviors including physical, sexual and psychological attacks, as well as economic coercion that is

used against the intimate partner.

Curriculum used in class places great emphasis on actions, intent and beliefs behind acts of violence and/or intimidating behavior. It is important to get the participant to begin taking responsibility for his or her behavior. A participant who is going to change must accept responsibility for his or her violence.

Participants who are not willing to do self-examination may not be ready for change. It is the participant's sole responsibility to make a courageous effort to progress toward a healthy lifestyle. It is their ultimate choice and responsibility to do the right thing.

Other VOC's staff are involved with the meth task force. In 2004 KWSO and Victims of Crime did a radio presentation on "Meth and Domestic Violence."

Meth use can increase the lethality of family violence. It is extremely important to keep victim safety in mind in case planning, especially those struggling with meth addiction. Strategically working with each case is important, empowering them to stop using meth is a part of safety planning that must be addressed.

If you or someone you love is living in fear please call us at 553-2293. Unhealthy learned behavior can be corrected with the proper tools.

Resort provides \$1,000 scholarship

Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino is accepting applications for the female 2006 scholarship award. The scholarship is for \$1,000.

This opportunity is for Warm Springs tribal members who are choosing to further their education at an accredited secondary learning institute, as a full-time or part-time student.

Applications will be available at the Warm Springs Education

Building and Kah-Nee-Ta's Human Resources office.

Applications must be received by the deadline of July 1. Of those applicants meeting the deadline, one female will be selected to receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Mail Scholarship Application Packet to:

Attn: Donation Committee, Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort & Casino, P.O. Box 1240, Warm Springs, OR 97761.

Demonstrations focus on tradition

The Museum at Warm Springs presents Living Traditions for the year 2006. Each demonstration takes place from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on the days designated. July 1-2: Horse Regalia, Leana and Maranda

Blueback. July 8-9 at 10 a.m.: Baby Boards, Arlita Rhoan. July 15-16: Cedar Root Baskets, Antoinette Pamperien.

Dance performances will take place June 17 at 5 p.m.; and July 9 at 10:30 a.m.


Boarding school orientation

Higher Education will hold their annual boarding school orientation at the education building on June 23-24. This is a chance for students and parents/guardians to meet representatives from Chemawa Indian School, Flandreau Indian School, Riverside Indian School,

and Sherman Indian School. Students will also receive assistance with their 2006-07 applications for admission, and ask questions of the representatives. Deadline for applications to the boarding schools is July 31. Contact higher education at 553-3311 for information.

Next deadline to submit items to the Spilyay Tymoo is Friday, June 30.

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