

# 2017 TRIBAL LEADER BRIEF

## CSVANW Recommendations for our Tribes and Pueblos



COALITION to STOP  
VIOLENCE AGAINST  
NATIVE WOMEN



In New Mexico, **66%** of children who witness domestic violence are under the age of **12 years old**.



Native youth who experience violence in the home are **75%** more likely to become a future victim of violence or a perpetrator.



**4 out of 5** Native women have experienced violence within their lifetime.



Only **10%** of people with a misdemeanor domestic violence charge actually complete a Batterer's Intervention Program in New Mexico



The U.S Attorney's Office for the District of New Mexico is the busiest district in the nation for Indian Country crime cases.



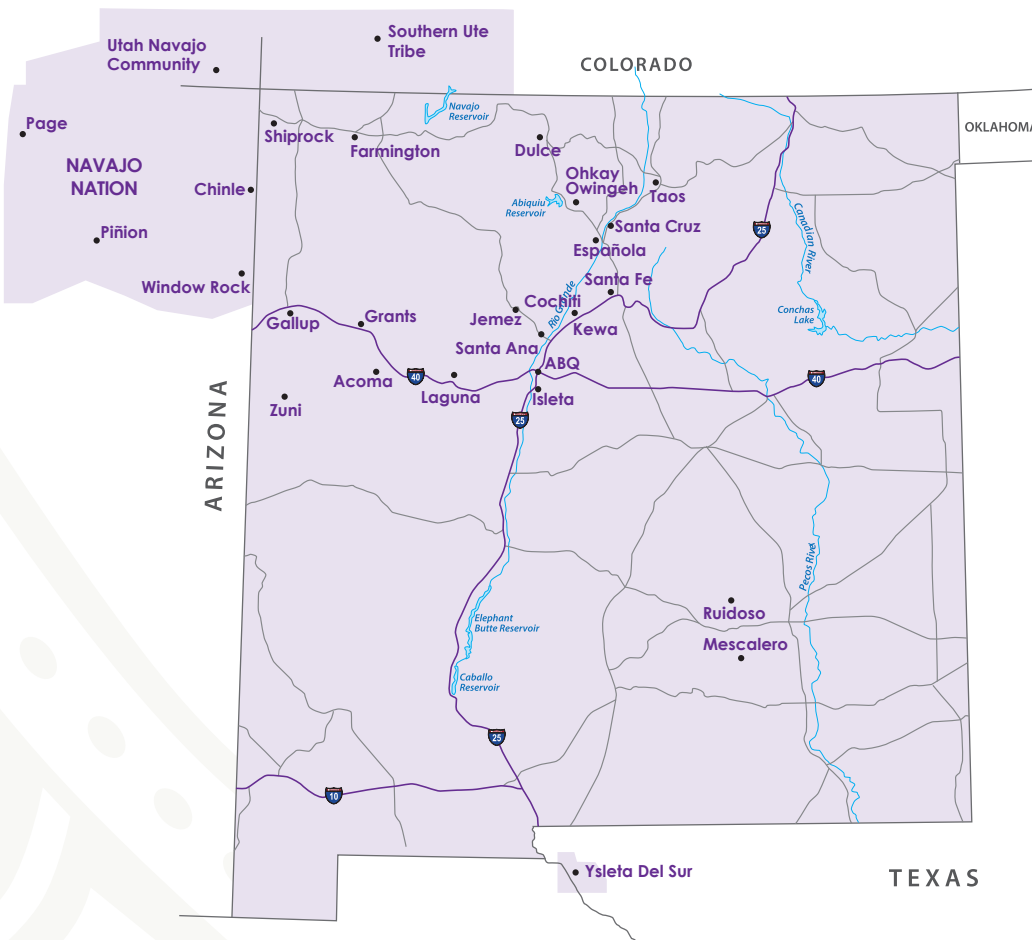
**96%** of offenders of sexual violence against Native women and children in New Mexico, are Native too

CSVANW is providing this brief to provide a summary of current perspectives and public safety priorities for our Native women and children regarding the challenges and needs that our tribal communities face in regards to stopping violence against Native women and children.

### About the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women

The mission of the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women is to stop violence against Native women and children by advocating for social change in our communities. CSVANW is a member-driven tribal coalition that represents the broadest and most unified voice in advocating and collectively addressing domestic and sexual violence against Native women and children across the region. An alliance of nearly 50 passionate, distinguished and highly committed organizations, CSVANW works to raise awareness about the safety of Native women and children at the state, tribal and federal levels, in addition to providing the utmost critical lifeline services to those affected by violence. CSVANW works with 24 tribes and Pueblos across the region.

CSVANW has four main focuses: training, technical assistance, policy advocacy and support. Within this framework, CSVANW has an overarching focus on prevention, early intervention and breaking the cycle of violence.



With 47 members, we serve Native people in the following areas:

### CITIES/TOWNS

- Albuquerque
- Acoma
- Chinle
- Cochiti
- Dulce
- Española
- Farmington
- Gallup
- Grants
- Isleta
- Jemez
- Kewa
- Laguna
- Mescalero
- Navajo Nation
- Ohkay Owingeh
- Page
- Pinion
- Ruidoso
- Santa Cruz
- Santa Ana
- Santa Fe
- Shiprock
- Taos
- Utah Navajo community
- Ysleta Del Sur
- Window Rock
- Zuni

# CSVANW RECOMMENDATIONS

While tribal communities in our region face many challenges and have many important needs, CSVANW has chosen to focus on the following 6 recommendations for 2017:

1

**Support expanded tribal jurisdiction over all non-Natives who commit crimes on tribal lands through federal allocations and legislation and support expanded jurisdiction to include children.**

CSVANW calls for DOJ to consult with tribal governments about the development of a federal bill that would expand tribal jurisdiction and fill gaps left by VAWA 2013 that would more specifically provide jurisdiction over sexually violent crimes and crimes against children.

2

**Support the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (2018).**

VAWA took a comprehensive approach to improving the public safety, support and services of women. It provided the ability to assist our tribal justice systems in reforming prevention, response, law enforcement, detention, court processes, and rehabilitation. It is a priority to ensure this legislation is promptly reauthorized and funding through the Office of Violence Against Women is upheld. Request that funding is given to tribal consortiums and to individual tribes and Pueblos.

3

**Hold the Department of Justice accountable to our tribes and Pueblos.**

- a. Request an appointment of a U.S Attorney for the District of New Mexico be made as soon as possible.
- b. Request that notices for cases that are being declined for prosecution are being delivered to tribes and Pueblos for follow up.
- c. Request that annual USAO tribal consultations at the state level are continued and that the Indian Country Crimes Reports are published.

4

**Reaffirm tribal sovereignty and allow Tribes and Pueblos to set their own measures and deliverables for federal, state and other public safety funding.**

- a. Many Batterer's Intervention Programs (BIPs) focus their success on recidivism rates for offenders, whereas tribes and Pueblos may be more likely to measure qualitative program success on offender behavioral and attitude change, competency and compliance of offenders through culturally responsive programming.
- b. Support funding for culturally responsive programming for public safety and offender programs.

5

**Support the McCollum-Cole Amendment on Tribal Public Safety & Victim Service.**

This bill does two things:

- a. **Restores funding levels to FY2016 levels.** Without this bill, tribal DOJ programs would have been cut by 43%, this bill sustains funding levels with no cuts.
- b. **Administer a 5% federal tribal set aside under the Crime Victims fund.** The Crime Victims Fund pays for itself by collecting criminal fines & penalties. Request that funds be allocated for distribution. According to DOJ, Native American victims (who experience the highest crime victimization rates in the country) receive less than 0.5% of all VOCA funds annually through state administrators, this federal stream of funding will give tribes direct access to VOCA funding.

6

**Invest in violence prevention, early intervention and offender reintegration.**

CSVANW calls for tribal leaders to prioritize Native youth violence prevention and early intervention efforts. CSVANW humbly asks tribal leaders to invest in prevention efforts simultaneously with offender reintegration to ensure that offenders who return back to our communities have the support and services they need to live healthier and balanced violence-free lives.

**For more information about CSVANW or to become a member, go to [www.csvanw.org](http://www.csvanw.org).**



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