

NORTHWEST ARCTIC

DV/SV RESOURCE GUIDE

SURVIVING ABUSE

PROMOTING WELLNESS

CHANGING HARMFUL BEHAVIORS



If you or someone else needs help with safety:

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

MANIIAQ ASSOCIATION FAMILY CRISIS CENTER

24-hour Crisis Number: 1-888-478-3969 or (907) 442-3969

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Contact your local State Trooper Post or call your community's VPSO

REGIONAL OCS OFFICES:

Kotzebue: (907) 442-3226

PROGRAM DIRECTORY:

Maniilaq Family Crisis Center

24-hour Crisis: 1-888-478-3969 or (907) 442-3969

Business Phone: (907) 442-3724

www.facebook.com/maniilaqfamilycrisiscenter

www.maniilaq.org/familyResources.html

Maniilaq Association Wellness Program

Phone: 1-800-478-3312

Maniilaq Health Center (SART & CAC)

Phone: 1-800-431-3321 and ask for SART or CAC team

DEFINITIONS:

For detailed definitions related to domestic violence see PDF titled "Basic Definitions". For additional information on the reporting and response to domestic violence and child abuse, see PDF infographics.



CALL 211 OR 1-800-478-2221
FOR ANY SOCIAL SERVICE OR
SAFETY RESOURCE.

Miss Movement NANA Region

On facebook as "Miss Movement NANA Region"

Northwest Arctic Borough School District Teck John Baker Youth Leaders Program

www.nwarctic.org/nwabsd

Surviving Abuse: next



REPORTING: FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

(See PDF called “**Basic Definitions**” and PDF called “**Infographic: What to Do if You Suspect a Child is Being Abused or Neglected**” for more information on Child Advocacy Centers, or CACs.)

The **Maniilaq Association** runs a small child advocacy center (CAC) within a private, confidential location in the Maniilaq Health Center. Its purpose is to provide a neutral facility for the evaluation, investigation, and treatment of child abuse and to support children and teens and non-offending caregivers. Services include:

- **Transportation** to CAC, if needed
- **Child-friendly, developmentally appropriate interviews** conducted by a trained forensic interviewer
- **Medical examinations** (when necessary) performed by a caring health care provider with special training in child abuse
- **Alaska Native family advocates** to guide families through the CAC process and support them afterwards
- **Information and support** to help caregivers understand the abuse and how to help the child
- **Referrals** for counseling, legal services, and any other needs
- **Accompaniment and support** for the child through the court process

REPORTING: FOR ADULTS

(See PDF called “**Basic Definitions**” and PDF called “**Infographic: what are your options as an adult victim of DV and/or SV**” for more information about the option of reporting and about Sexual Assault Response Teams or SARTs.)

Adults are not required to make a report if they are abused by a partner or sexually assaulted by anyone. If they choose to, here is what’s in place for victims in the region. The SART process may also be available to teenagers in the region:

- If a victim (female or male) of sexual assault contacts local law enforcement or the shelter, they can receive transportation (at no cost to them) into **Kotzebue** for the SART process.
- The SART meets in a private facility within **Maniilaq Health Center**.
- In the SART process, the victim can meet with a law enforcement officer, receive support from an advocate, and complete a forensic exam done by a sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE).
- Partner physical violence can be reported to local law enforcement or health care providers. With the victim’s permission, they can contact victim advocates to assist with safety planning.
- Victims and concerned loved ones may also contact the Maniilaq Family Crisis Center (MFCC) to get help making a police report, to get information about the reporting process, or for personal support.

If a victim chooses not to report to Law Enforcement, they are still highly encouraged to get a medical exam for their own personal health (e.g. antibiotics and Plan B to prevent STDs and pregnancy) and to address any other medical conditions as a result of being assaulted (e.g. strangulation).

Additionally, if a victim chooses to not report or have a medical exam, they are still encouraged to speak with an advocate, who can help them talk about their experience, safety plan etc.



The Maniilaq Family Crisis Center in Kotzebue strives to create a family-friendly, home-like atmosphere for women and their children, keeping families together and providing support.

SHELTER

For victims of abuse and their children needing immediate safety, the following options are available:

Kotzebue:

Maniilaq Family Crisis Center (MFCC)

Five beds and a few cribs for women and their children up to age 18 (teenaged male children can stay if they have no criminal record), as space and staffing permit

Women can stay for up to 8 weeks, and will receive help to find housing after their shelter stay

Male victims can receive short-term emergency shelter in an alternative location through MFCC

Advocacy services available in shelter

Villages in the region:

Contact the Maniilaq Family Crisis Center to see if there is currently a safehome in your village for short-term emergency stays.



Trained, compassionate, culturally-connected advocates, such as Sara (pictured), at the Maniilaq Family Crisis Center in Kotzebue provide nonjudgmental listening, support and empathy, information, and help finding needed resources.

ADVOCACY, SUPPORT, AND INFORMATION

Trained, compassionate, culturally-connected advocates are available at MFCC, as is a social worker at the Maniilaq Health Center. Advocates provide the following services (which are not just for people in shelter):

- **Hotline** where they provide a listening ear, support, and information to victims of violence, their family members and loved ones, or others who have questions about abuse
- **Safety planning**
- **Legal advocacy** (court accompaniment, protective orders, connecting victim to a lawyer at no cost, etc.)
- **Medical advocacy** (supporting victim to get healthcare and supporting victim through the SART process)
- Help to find housing, food, clothing, job training and other **basic needs**
- **One-on-one support** and information
- Assistance filing for money through **Victims of Violent Crimes Compensation**
- Help to find other needed **resources**, such as counseling or children's programs
- Some Iñupiaq-speaking staff and use of language lines for languages other than English



YOUTH MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Education Opportunities:

Kotzebue:

MFCC advocates can present in middle and high schools throughout the region about topics such as:

- good touch/bad touch
- healthy relationships
- bullying

Promoting Wellness: next



WAYS YOUTH CAN GET INVOLVED:

The Northwest Arctic School District runs the **Teck John Baker Youth Leaders** program in Kotzebue and in every village of the region. In this program:

- Youth at every school select their peer leaders
- Youth Leaders receive training on areas such as bullying, dating violence, healthy relationships, suicide signs and prevention, leadership, and teamwork.
- Youth Leaders use traditional Iñupiaq conflict-resolution skills and come up with effective, youth-focused ways of solving problems in their schools and communities.
- Youth at every school are supported by adult mentors.
- Since the program began, the Northwest Arctic went from being the school district with the highest student suicide rate in the state to having zero student suicides for the four years since implementation.

The **Maniilaq Association Wellness Program** offers summer camps such as Camp Pigaaq for youth. These camps revolve around subsistence activities, healthy living, healthy relationship skills, cultural awareness, and suicide prevention.



Youth Leaders such as Rita (pictured above in her home village of Kivalina) step in to help solve problems among their peers and younger children, using traditional Iñupiaq conflict-resolution skills and the leadership and support skills they have learned through the program.

TRAININGS FOR TRIBES AND PROFESSIONAL GROUPS:

MFCC advocates are available to give presentations and information at village clinics, health fairs, and job fairs on topics such as domestic violence, sexual assault, and available services.

Every fall, at the beginning of the school year, all **Teck John Baker Youth Leaders** participate in the annual 3 day training retreat in Kotzebue. Training topics include suicide, bullying, substance abuse, violence prevention, role modeling, and self-improvement.

Throughout the year, adult and community trainings are available through the Youth Leaders on suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

CHANGING COMMUNITY NORMS:

The Northwest Arctic Borough School District implements the “Coaching Boys into Men” program with the goal of helping create healthier ideas and practices of masculinity and encouraging boys to be involved in violence prevention.

MFCC organizes events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, gives out printed information, and airs PSAs about violence and available services on local radio.



CHANGING COMMUNITY NORMS (CONT.):



Hannah Atkins (left) and Jacqui Lambert (right) of Kotzebue invite people from the Northwest Arctic to join them online and in the community to change the social norms that support sexual violence, and to promote the positive in Iñupiaq values, women's strength, and community support.

Begun by two young Kotzebue women, Jacqui Lambert and Hannah Atkins, Miss Movement of the NANA Region is an online, social-media based grassroots organizing effort with the goals of:

- Increasing awareness of sexual violence as a social issue in Northwest Alaska
- Educating on the prevalence of rape culture
- Creating a culture of nonviolence
- Encouraging exploration of culture and identity

To accomplish these goals, the founders invite people and organizations of the Northwest Arctic to join them online and in person to:

- Celebrate what is unique in Northwest Arctic communities by highlighting strong leaders, inspiring events, and cultural revival
- Offer community support to survivors of sexual violence with the message that: "You are strong, you are valued, you are not alone."
- Use their Facebook page and blog to connect people to available resources.
- Develop culturally relevant campaigns, advertisements, and educational kits
- Participate in events such as "Take Back the Midnight Sun"



HELP FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE HARMED OTHERS

Batterer Intervention Programs:

There are no batterer intervention programs in the region; these programs explicitly address the beliefs and learned behaviors that contribute to violence, and how to change them. For help to stop abusive behaviors and unlearn the beliefs that lead to them, people can attend a batterer intervention program in Anchorage or Fairbanks, and can seek individual counseling through Maniilaq Association's Behavioral Health Services.

For parents:

For information on responses for caregivers who are involved with the Office of Children's Services (OCS) or at risk of OCS involvement, contact your local OCS office or ICWA coordinator.