

ALASKA NATIVE ADVOCACY SKILLS



CONNECT

- Familiarize yourself with regional cultural beliefs, practices and mannerisms.
- Building a supportive network with partners increases access to services and resources for all victims/survivors. For example: troopers, VPSO's, clinic staff, tribal staff and other advocates.
- Building relationships with survivors fosters a safe and trusting environment.
- Set a tone of safety, support and helpfulness.

UNDERSTAND

- Sit and listen with respect.
- Maintain strict confidentiality.
- Take the time to understand the victim/survivor perspective and meet them where they are at.
- Understand the victim's/survivor's needs.
- Help victims/survivors recognize they are not alone.

ANALYZE

- Ensure that he/she is **safe**.
- Respectfully explore risks and options with a victim/survivor that can influence their view of success.

STRATEGIZE

- Create a safety plan.
- Reach out to resource partners to access alternate resources available.
- Explore ways a system will process the case.
- If he/she decides to file charges, coordinate with Troopers to arrange travel to the hub community.
- Explain the process of forensic exam and criminal process.
- If he/she needs shelter, contact the nearest shelter and make arrangements.
- Contact a local airline to make flight reservations.

IMPLEMENT

- Carry out plan immediately and continue ongoing advocacy
- Provide support according to his/her comfort level

REFLECT & ADAPT

- Respect victim's/survivor's choices, taking care not to replace their judgment and decisions with our own.
- Continuously question, review and revise course of action in relation to shifting conditions.
- Ensure course of action meets victim's needs