

Under the Sliver of a Full Moon

{ Promising Practices: Sexual Assault Forensic
Exams in a rural California tribal health clinic, a
case review.



Anna Wells MS, APRN, PHN
Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health



PROTECT ALL WOMEN
PASS THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

1 IN 3
NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN
WILL BE **RAPED** IN THEIR LIFETIME

39% WILL BE SUBJECTED TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	10 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE HARASSED THAN OTHER AMERICAN WOMEN ON SOME RESERVATIONS	52% OF VIOLENT CRIMES ON RESERVATIONS ARE NOT PROSECUTED
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SENATE REPUBLICANS WANT TO ELIMINATE TRIBAL PROTECTIONS FROM
THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REALIGNMENT ACT

**DON'T LET REPUBLICANS CUT OUT
PROTECTIONS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN**

LET'S STRENGTHEN THE LAWS AND PROSECUTE
CRIMINALS THAT PREY ON THESE WOMEN.
TELL THE SENATE TO PASS THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT



- ⌘ Today's discussion will not:
 - ⌘ Include actual examiner training
 - ⌘ Issues of jurisdiction

Promising Practices

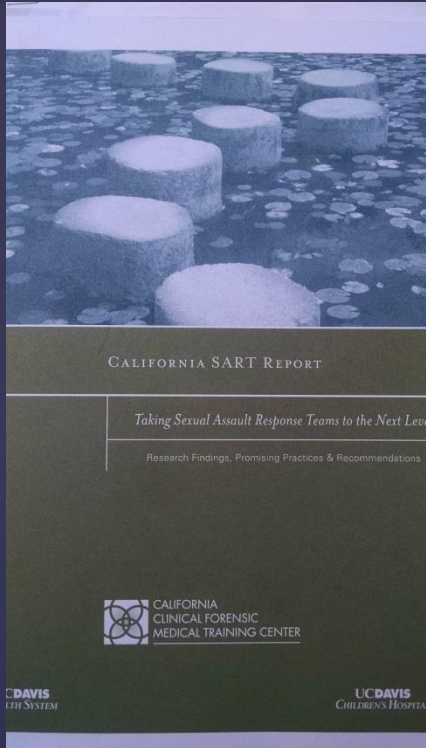
California SART Report April 2009

Rather than conducting services, internally, most Indian tribes connect victims to community-based mental and social services off the reservation.

Although the linkage is often ad hoc rather than fully institutionalized, some tribes also are linked to local or regional SARTs through tribal advocates.

Our findings indicate, however, that much of California's Native American population remains primarily outside the SART loop, sometimes of its own accord. When Native American victims of sexual assault are not connected to a region's SART, they may not always receive the culturally-competent services they need and deserve.

California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center



California Tribal Participation in SART



Promising Practices: SART at Tuolumne Me-Wuk



“One in three native women are sexually assaulted in their lifetime. Today’s announcement is more than the celebration of a collaboration. This program represents a metaphorical line in the sand towards violence against native women. Today, the Tuolumne Me-Wuk tribe and their health clinic stand strong, offering their support to all victims of sexual assault in Tuolumne County regardless of their race. “

Anna Wells, Tuolumne Me-Wuk Press Release April 7, 2015

Collaboration in Motion

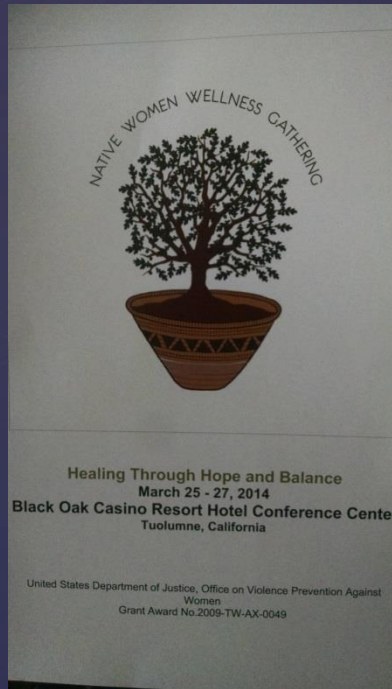
{ Tribal Social Services

- & Department of Justice grant
- & Provided for funding to train staff
- & Native Women's Healing Conference

{ County SART

- & District Attorney
- & Sheriff
- & Police department
- & Victims Advocates
- & Examiners
- & Local community hospital
- & Tribal representation as both examiners and victims advocates

The Setting

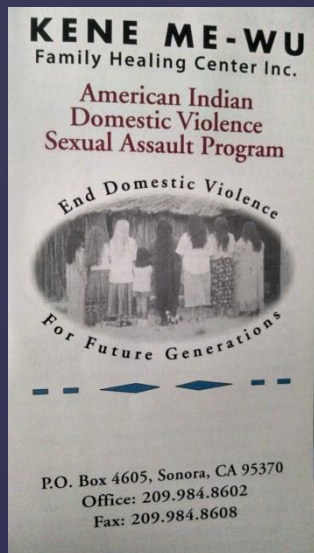


- ‡ The Native Women's Healing Conference truly achieved a new level of both awareness and strength. Vocalizations of breaking the cycle of violence, both domestic violence and sexual assault, began to grow in intensity in the tribal community.
- ‡ Training for clinic staff in forensics examinations bridged a gap.
- ‡ Logistical challenges with the local hospital performing exams
- ‡ Lack of examiners in the county

Fertile ground



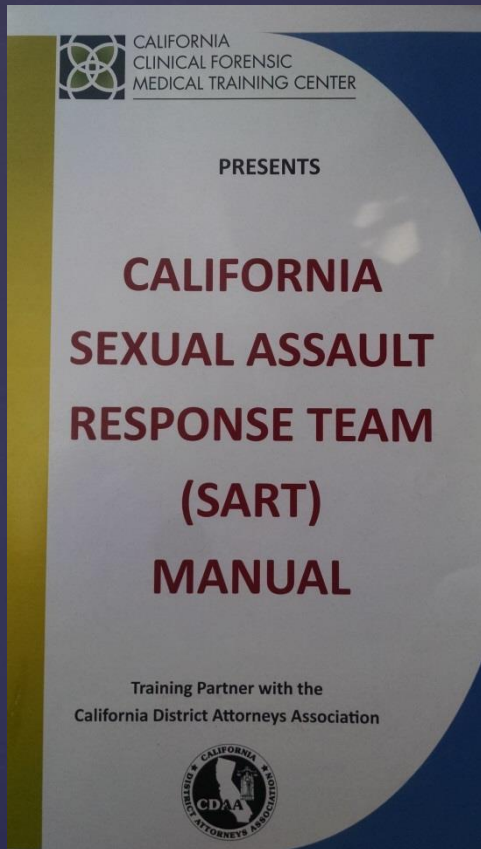
- ⌘ Our clinic had the space
- ⌘ Tribal leaders, Governing Health Board, Medical Director, District Attorney, Sherriff's Department , local Police Department and both agencies that provide victim advocacy all supported the collaboration.
- ⌘ IHS Tribal Forensics Healthcare offered the needed equipment.



The Sliver

⌘ TMWIHC policy and procedures

- ⌘ Defining our role in examination services – Operational Agreement
- ⌘ Establishing examiner standards – Contract for outside providers
- ⌘ Referral for higher level of care
- ⌘ Transportation for higher level of care
- ⌘ Local protocol rules
- ⌘ Reception/Intake/Registration
- ⌘ Patient Safety
- ⌘ Patient Centered Care
- ⌘ Prophylaxis Care
- ⌘ Documentation
- ⌘ Chain of Custody
- ⌘ Handling of evidence
- ⌘ Use of medical information
- ⌘ Billing



Formula

⌘ Equipment and Supplies

- ⌘ Forensics equipment – photography training
- ⌘ Evidence kits
- ⌘ Camera memory cards
- ⌘ MLE Authorization forms
- ⌘ 923/924/925 DOJ forms
- ⌘ Intake forms: demographics, medical release, etc.
- ⌘ Printer: for labels and to print photos
- ⌘ Prophylaxis medications
- ⌘ Microscope
- ⌘ Swab drier
- ⌘ Lockers
- ⌘ Cart

⌘ Cart

- ⌘ Blood draw supplies
- ⌘ Alternative light source
- ⌘ Speculum and anoscope
- ⌘ Toluidine blue dye (lubricant)
- ⌘ Sheets, cotton swabs, corks, tongue depressors, normal saline, sterile water, gloves, measuring tape, photographic scale
- ⌘ stickers, tampons, pads, gown
- ⌘ Ring forceps and toothless forceps
- ⌘ Caviwipes

Formula



SART Introduction Event April 7, 2015

Agenda

Welcome – Frank Canizales

Introduction of SART Members – Laura Krieg

Prayer and Blessing – Robert Cox

Warrior Song – Margie Grow

Healing through Hope and Balance – Digital
Story

Signing of Operational Agreement

Program Description – Anna Wells

Question and Answers

Closing Remarks

The Announcement



04/09/2015 1:46 pm PST

Tori James, MML News Reporter

Sonora, CA –A groundbreaking agreement has enabled a new resource to provide both clinical space and trained staff for forensic sexual assault victims' exams.

The Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office and Me-Wuk Indian Health Center signed an agreement Tuesday under which the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center will provide the space and services. The collaboration, the only current agreement between two such organizations, comes as a direct result of a federal grant obtained through extensive efforts by health center nurse practitioner Anna Wells. The subsequent funds were applied to purchase necessary equipment and provide guidance for the county Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), which includes members from the DA's and Sheriff's offices, Sonora Police Department, Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center, Sonora Regional Medical Center, Child Welfare Services, the Center for a Non-violent Community, and Public Health Department.

Center For A Non Violent Community
April 14 at 9:58am ·



We are excited to share the following news and proud to be a part of this community collaboration!!

The Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office is proud to announce that on April 7, 2015, District Attorney Laura Krieg and Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center Executive Director Frank Kearns signed an agreement whereby the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center will provide clinical space along with trained staff to conduct forensic sexual assault exams for victims in Tuolumne County. This is a groundbreaking step in the state of California and the only current agreement between a California Indian Health Center and District Attorney's Office. The Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center's Family Nurse Practitioner Anna Wells worked extensively to secure a federal grant to purchase the equipment needed to conduct the exams and also provided the guidance and motivation for the SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) team to embrace this project. The Tuolumne County SART team includes members from the District Attorney's Office, Victim Witness, Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office, Sonora Police Department, Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center, Sonora Regional Medical Center, Child Welfare Services, Center for a Non-Violent Community, and the Public Health Department.

Collaboration made for sex assault exams

By Union Democrat staff April 08, 2015 06:49 pm

The Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office announced this week that District Attorney Laura Krieg and Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center Executive Director Frank Kearns signed an agreement that the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center will provide clinical space along with trained staff to conduct forensic sexual assault exams for victims in Tuolumne County.

This is a groundbreaking step in the state of California and the only current agreement between a California Indian Health Center and DA's office, a statement from the DA's office said.

Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center's Family Nurse Practitioner Anna Wells worked extensively to secure a federal grant to purchase the equipment needed to conduct the exams and also provided the guidance and motivation for the Sexual Assault Response Team to embrace this project, the statement said.

The team includes members from the DA's office, Victim Witness, Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office, Sonora Police Department, Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center, Sonora Regional Medical Center, Child Welfare Services, Center for a Non Violent Community and the Public Health Department.

& Choose your examiners well
& Inexperience as an examiner
& Survivor Examiner all in one



Challenges Along the Way

↳ Use THEM

☞ Tribal Forensics Healthcare

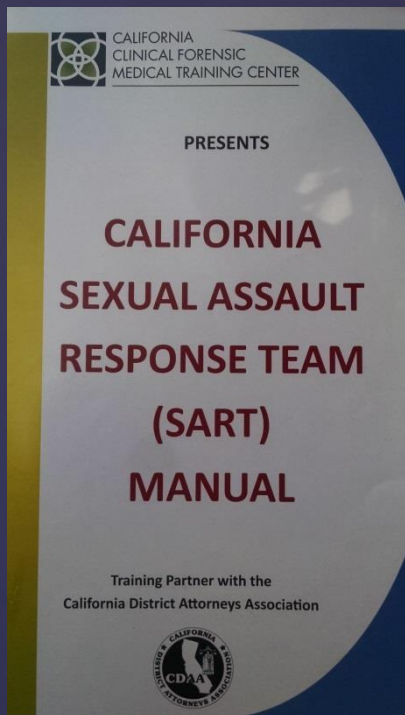
<http://www.tribalforensichealthcare.org/>

☞ California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center <https://www.ccfmtc.org/>

☞ California Sexual Assault Investigators Association <http://www.csaia.org/>

☞ California District Attorneys Association <http://cdaa.org>

☞ California Coalition Against Sexual Assault <http://calcasa.org/>



Resources

- ⌘ Network of California Tribal SART's
- ⌘ Would be nice...victim centered construction to include shower.

FUTURE THOUGHTS



MANY THANKS!!