SERVICES PROVIDED

ADVOCACY
Follow-up contact, group support, crisis intervention, crisis hotline by phone, transportation to shelter/safe house, information and referral, criminal justice support, emergency legal, personal and medical advocacy, assistance with filing compensation claims.

Emergency Financial Assistance when funds are available: phone/fax use, phone card, gas voucher, donations of clothing, and food items.

Sweet grass is a medicine used to purify and bless. As an organization, Sweet Grass, Inc. strives to reclaim the sacred status of women and their children, ending domestic and sexual violence. Our work includes working with all relatives within our community, so the blessings and values of respect, compassion and non-violence, once again become the foundation of all relationships.

Wac’ang’a is dedicated to the safety and healing of women and their children, body, mind and spirit, through culturally-based advocacy and social change, and strengthening our relationships with all relatives.

Sweet grass is the hair of our Mother; separately, each strand is not as strong as the strands are when braided together. -quote by Mary Ritchie

PHONE: 605-698-4129
TOLL FREE: 1-888-200-4492
FAX: 605-698-3921
WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence includes beatings, pushing, hair pulling, name-calling, killing pets, threats, child abuse, rape, stalking, food thrown in your face... it includes murder.

Domestic violence is a crime which causes more injuries to women than muggings, rape and car accidents combined.

Domestic violence crosses all social, economic and cultural lines. Half of all marriages in the U.S. experience at least one episode of violence.

In Native cultures a powerful person possesses great humility. He/she is spiritually strong, respectful, humble and generous. The American version of a powerful person is one with money and status-the ability to be on top. Domestic violence is a system of behaviors and tactics used to maintain power and control in a relationship. It means more than just beating someone up. It is a whole system that reflects the privilege that many native men, like their non-native brothers, have come to believe belongs to them.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STATISTICS


Estimates range from 960,000 incidents of violence against a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend to 3 million women who are physically abused by their husband or boyfriend per year.


Between 600,000 and 6 million women are victims of domestic violence each year, and between 100,000 and 6 million men, depending on the type of survey used to obtain the data.

Women ages 20-24 are at the greatest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence. (Bureau of Justice Statistics, Intimate Partner Violence in the U.S. 1993-2004, 2006.)

Between 1993 and 2004, intimate partner violence on average made up 22% of nonfatal intimate partner victimizations against women. The same year, intimate partners committed 3% of all violent crime against men. (Bureau of Justice Statistics, Intimate Partner Violence in the U.S. 1993-2004, 2006.)

Separated and divorced males and females are at a greater risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence. (Bureau of Justice Statistics, Intimate Partner Violence in the U.S. 1993-2004, 2006.)

Women of all races are about equally vulnerable to violence by an intimate partner. (Bureau of Justice Statistics, Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey, August 1995)