

Love One Another and Take Care of Each Other

A Process Evaluation of the Rocky Boy's Children Exposed
to Violence Project

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This report is dedicated to the memory of Brenda Gardipee.

Abstract

As part of the U.S. Attorney General's *Defending Childhood Demonstration Program*, eight sites around the country were funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Office of Violence Against Women to use a collaborative process to develop and implement programming to address children's exposure to violence in their communities. The Chippewa Cree Tribe of Rocky Boy's Reservation in Montana was chosen as one of these sites, and, since 2010, has received nearly \$2 million in federal funding for this initiative.

Led by the Chippewa Cree Division of Human Services, Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project (RBCEVP) is informed by a commitment to culture as prevention; that is, that reconnecting youth and families with the Chippewa Cree language, culture, and traditions will influence children's exposure to violence on the reservation.

One of the primary components of the RBCEVP is advocacy and case management. The RBCEVP staff several domestic violence/sexual advocates and child advocates. The advocates provide crisis intervention services, court and medical advocacy, development of safety plans, referrals to treatment and other providers, and can also provide traditional healing ceremonies. The child advocates also work with children in child abuse or neglect cases and build strong relationships with the children they serve.

Another major component of the project is community awareness and education. The RBCEVP utilized a variety of approaches to community awareness to spread the message about children's exposure to violence and about the resources that are available to children and families. Community awareness was accomplished through publications and printed materials, radio announcements and advertisements, as well as numerous events such as community summits, family fun nights, and awareness walks.

Other components of the project include professional training for local partners as well as prevention work with youth in schools, including leading and supporting student groups in the local schools and holding summer youth camps for at-risk youth.

Addressing children's exposure to violence comes with many challenges. In addition, the RBCEVP had many facilitators that helped their work, including a strong history of collaboration among partner agencies and a commitment by tribal elders to the cause. The stories and experiences of the individuals exposed to the RBCEVP indicate that their efforts have had some impact on the community, regardless of whether not that impact can be measured.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

About the Defending Childhood Initiative

A recent national survey found that 60 percent of American children have been exposed to violence, crime, or abuse in their homes, schools, or communities—and that 40 percent were direct victims of two or more violent acts.¹ In an effort to address children’s exposure to violence, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), under the leadership of Attorney General Eric Holder, launched the *Defending Childhood Initiative*. This national initiative aims: 1) to prevent children’s exposure to violence; 2) to mitigate the negative impact of such exposure when it does occur; and 3) to develop knowledge and spread awareness about children’s exposure to violence. The motto of the initiative is “Protect, Heal, Thrive.”

A major component of this initiative is the *Defending Childhood Demonstration Program*, which involved the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) in providing funding to eight sites around the country to address children’s exposure to violence through intervention and prevention programming, community awareness and education, and professional trainings. A portion of the funding for this demonstration program was appropriated through the Tribal Youth Program; therefore, DOJ was committed to making two of the eight initial awards to federally recognized tribes (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior and published in the Federal Register). The eight sites are: Boston, MA; Chippewa Cree Tribe, Rocky Boy’s Reservation, MT; Cuyahoga County, OH; Grand Forks, ND; Multnomah County, OR; Portland, ME; Rosebud Sioux Tribe, SD; and Shelby County, TN.

The Center for Court Innovation was funded by the National Institute of Justice to conduct the evaluation of the demonstration program, and Futures Without Violence was funded by OJJDP to serve as the technical assistance provider. This process evaluation report of the Rocky Boy’s Children Exposed to Violence Project is one in a series of multi-method process evaluations of six of the chosen sites. A report synthesizing the major cross-site lessons learned from all six process evaluations is issued alongside the individual site reports.² In addition, a cross-site outcome evaluation of these same six demonstration project sites will be forthcoming in 2015.

Whereas the current research focuses on the implementation of chosen strategies, a previous report issued in 2011 explored and identified cross-site themes and lessons from the initial strategic planning process.³

¹ Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. 2009. Children’s Exposure to Violence: A Comprehensive National Survey. Available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp>. Last retrieved 8/14/14.

² Swaner R, Hassoun Ayoub L, Jensen E, and Rempel M. 2015. *Protect, Heal, Thrive: Lessons Learned from the Multisite Defending Childhood Demonstration Program*. New York, NY: Center for Court Innovation.

³ Swaner R and Kohn J. 2011. *The U.S. Attorney General’s Defending Childhood Initiative: Formative Evaluation of the Phase I Demonstration Program*. New York, NY: Center for Court Innovation. Available at http://www.courtinnovation.org/sites/default/files/documents/Defending_Childhood_Initiative.pdf.

Besides the demonstration program, other components of the larger *Defending Childhood Initiative*, which are outside the scope of the current evaluation, include the Task Force on Children’s Exposure to Violence⁴ and the Task Force on American Indian and Alaskan Native Children Exposed to Violence.⁵

Rocky Boy’s Children Exposed to Violence Project

Rocky Boy’s Reservation (often referred to simply as “Rocky Boy”), established in 1916, is located in north central Montana and is the home of the Chippewa Cree Tribe. It is located in Hill County and is the smallest Indian reservation in Montana. Rocky Boy is geographically isolated; it is about 30 miles south of the small town of Havre and about 100 miles north of Great Falls, the nearest city. The Reservation is currently 122,000 acres (over 170 square miles), expanded by more than double its original size of 56,035 acres through purchases from the State of Montana and non-Indians. As the homeland of the Chippewa Cree, the Reservation includes numerous sites of traditional and cultural relevance to the tribe, including the Bear Paw Mountains. Figures 1 depicts where Rocky Boy lies in Montana and key locations on the Reservation.

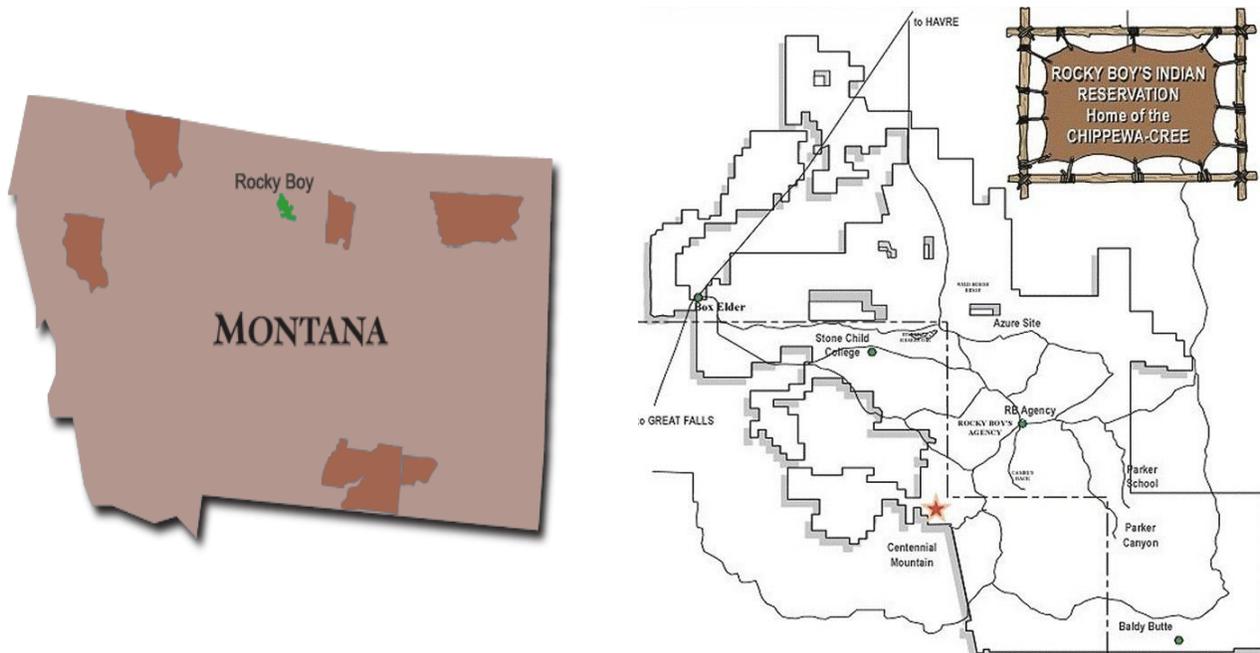


Figure 1. Map of Montana's Native American Reservations (left) and Map of Rocky Boy’s Reservation

Data regarding the population of Rocky Boy varies; however, the current population of the Reservation appears to be about 3,500 residents. Rocky Boy is home to about 55% of all enrolled Chippewa Cree tribal members, and according to the State of Montana, there were 5,646 enrolled

⁴ The full report of this task force can be found here: <http://www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/cev-rpt-full.pdf>.

⁵ The full report of the American Indian and Alaska Native Task Force can be found here:

<http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/defendingchildhood/pages/attachments/2014/11/18/finalaianreport.pdf>.

members in 2008.⁶ In 2010, Rocky Boy reported 6,274 enrolled tribal members.⁷ The Indian Health Service reported a slightly higher population of 3,757 for Rocky Boy's Reservation in the 2008 American Indian Health profile and projects that the population will double by 2025.⁸ The population was 3,323 in the 2010 Census.

In October 2010, OJJDP awarded the Chippewa Cree Tribe \$160,000 to, through a collaborative process, conduct a needs assessment and develop a strategic plan for addressing children's exposure to violence on Rocky Boy's Reservation. This was considered Phase I of the initiative. In October 2011, the tribe was awarded \$1,000,000 to implement their strategic plan between October 2011 and September 2013, referred to as Phase II. An additional \$360,000 was awarded to continue work between September 2013 and September 2014. Finally, an additional \$300,000 was awarded to continue the work through September 2016. These monies were given as part of the U.S. Attorney General's *Defending Childhood Demonstration Program*.

Led by the Rocky Boy Division of Human Services, Rocky Boy's Children's Exposure to Violence Project (RBCEVP) is an effort to prevent children's exposure to violence (CEV), increase public awareness about the issue, and provide services to those in need. It is shaped strongly by a commitment to Chippewa Cree culture, history, and language. The central statement of Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project is a quote by Chief Rocky Boy: "Love one another and take care of each other." The purpose of the project is to implement a comprehensive strategic plan involving prevention, intervention, and public awareness.

This process evaluation was prepared by Center for Court Innovation research staff. It is based on data collected and research conducted between October 2011 and September 2014. Research activities included an extensive document review, primary quantitative data collection, two site visits, observations of one tribal council meeting and one community summit, multiple calls, and 30 interviews with 23 individuals including staff members, local partners, and members of the community.

Social and Historical Context

Originally, the Chippewa lived in bands in and around what is now known as the Great Lakes region, before modern day borders existed for the United States and Canada. The Cree territory was in what is now eastern Canada and covered parts of the Saskatchewan and Alberta provinces. Figure 2 depicts the original territories of the Chippewa and Cree tribes, in pink and orange respectively.

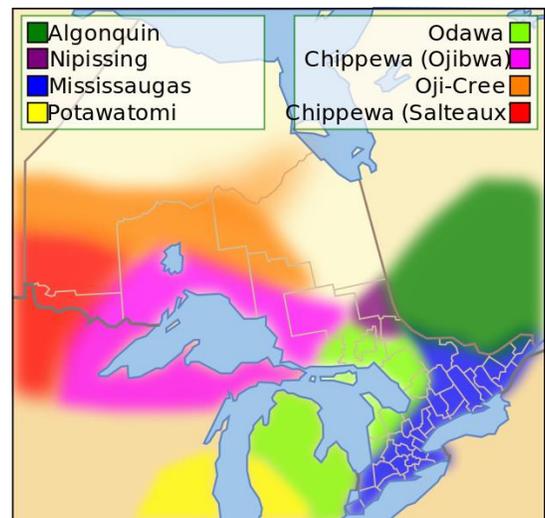


Figure 1. Map of Traditional Lands of Anishinaabe-Anishinini Language Tribes

⁶ Rocky Boy's Reservation Demographic and Economic Information. 2013.

http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/admin/uploadedpublications/2697_rocky_boys_rf08_web.pdf

⁷ Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project PowerPoint Reference Material. OJJDP Conference Oct 2011.

⁸ http://leg.mt.gov/content/Committees/Interim/2009_2010/State_Tribal_Relations/Publications%20-%20other%20readings/Rocky%20Boy%20Tribe%20CHP.pdf

Rocky Boy's Reservation is named after the Ah-se-ne-win, or Chief Stone Man, but was incorrectly translated to English as "Rocky Boy" and has remained the same ever since. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, Chippewa Chief Rocky Boy and Cree Chief Little Bear led the efforts to establish a reservation for their tribes in Montana, along with Kennawash and Pah-nah-to. After several decades of struggle, including opposition from surrounding towns, forced migration and false promises, attacks from the press and local leaders, and Congressional failure to act for the establishment of a reservation, Rocky Boy's Reservation was established by executive order in 1916.⁹

Today, the Chippewa Cree people see the Reservation as, "for the Chippewa and Cree to live and enjoy this country, to maintain our language, culture, traditions and values. Also, to accept the modern qualities that would prosper the Tribe in the future."¹⁰

The people of Rocky Boy have a resource-rich community. The Reservation has two K-12 public school systems and a community college, Stone Child College. The Chippewa Cree are a self-governing tribe, with the governing body known as the Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee, sometimes referred to as the Tribal Council. All members and the Chairman are elected by enrolled tribal members and serve four-year terms. According to the State of Montana, annual tribal revenue is about \$52.5 million from a combination of private businesses, tribal businesses and federal programs and grants. The Chippewa Cree became a self-governing tribe in 1993, when the federal government approved transfer of all monies and programs to the tribal business committee, which continues to administer and operate them to this day. The tribe is the only compact tribe in the region, since it is self-governing when it comes to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), operating all BIA programs themselves.

Some of the key agencies found in the tribal government include Child Support, Chippewa Cree Cultural Resource Preservation, the Health Board, Human Services Division, Law Enforcement, Rocky Boy Schools, Sexual Offender Registry, Social Services, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and the Tribal Courts.

Since its establishment, the Reservation has endured high unemployment, widespread poverty, deficient housing and housing shortages, insufficient health care, and the decline of tribal languages and culture.¹¹ According to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the unemployment rate for the adult population is 70%, and the median household income is \$22,824, compared to \$33,024 for Montana as a whole.¹²

This difficult situation has often been caused and exacerbated by federal government policies. The land allotted for Rocky Boy's Reservation was the least desired area of an old military reservation. Even in the best of conditions, the income earned from the land was insufficient. In

⁹ Dusenberry, Verne. 1998. *The Montana Cree: a study in religious persistence*. Stockholm, Sweden: University of Oklahoma Press.

¹⁰ Lloyd Top Sky. 1991. <http://www.cccrpd.com/index.html>

¹¹ St. Pierre, Nate. 2008. A Contemporary History of Rocky Boy's Reservation in *The History of the Chippewa Cree of Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation*. Box Elder, MT: Stone Child College.

¹² Rocky Boy's Reservation Demographic and Economic Information. 2013. http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/admin/uploadedpublications/2697_rocky_boys_rf08_web.pdf

the early 1900s, while the federal government pressured Indians into settling into farming communities, deceptive practices led to distrust between the Indian Office (today known as the Bureau of Indian Affairs or BIA) and the Chippewa Cree. The Indian Office gave seed, plows, and other equipment to the Chippewa Cree and later informed the tribe that they had to repay the government for the supplies. When the tribe farmed successfully, food rations received from the Indian Office were reduced, even though the rations were needed to ensure successful farming. The Chippewa Cree connect this frustrating and poor relationship with the Indian Office to the first cases of alcohol problems on the Reservation.¹¹

Numerous other examples exist of federal government interventions that impacted Rocky Boy negatively and continue to do so to this day. In the 1940s, federal relocation programs led to large numbers of young Indians moving to cities such as Los Angeles and Chicago. Relocation was believed to be an effort to teach people how to make a living and to learn job skills. When World War II started, even more young men left the Reservation, and Rocky Boy seems to have experienced a dearth of able-bodied labor. Rocky Boy continues to suffer from issues related to the relocation of its members and employment challenges for those who still live on the reservation.

From the early-1950s to the mid-1960s, Congress terminated federal recognition of many tribal governments, undermining their sovereignty (e.g., limiting tribal courts' sentencing authority and taking away criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians, both of which have long-lasting negative implications for public safety), eliminating their communally-held land bases, and ending their access to federal funding and services.¹³ Referring to Public Law 280 passed by Congress in 1953, which reduced federal expenditures to tribes by giving the states greater power on Indian reservations, the Supreme Court stated in a 1979 decision, "It was ... without question reflective of the general assimilationist policy followed by Congress from the early 1950s through the late 1960s."¹⁴ The trauma suffered by Native Americans because of the policies of the U.S. federal government continues to pervade Indian society.

Also since the establishment of the Reservation, the Chippewa Cree have suffered through systematic efforts to erase their culture, language, and even their people. The broader history of Indian Country and Native Americans in the 20th century can be seen through the eyes and experiences of the Chippewa Cree and Rocky Boy's Reservation. The United States government made aggressive efforts to "civilize" the Native people, including efforts to convert them to Christianity, push them away from hunting and towards farming, and to educate the children in Anglo-American culture. These efforts resulted in the deterioration of Chippewa Cree culture and language.

Early on, the tribes of Rocky Boy recognized that building schools was important and prioritized it in the first meeting after the establishment of the Reservation. The first school built on the Reservation only housed grades one through three. Older students were sent to boarding schools

¹³ See U.S. House of Representatives Resolution 108, 83rd Congress, 1953. (U.S. Statutes at Large, 67: B132, available at http://digital.library.okstate.edu/Kappler/vol6/html_files/v6p0614.html; 67 Stat. 488, codified as 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1162, 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1360 (known as "Public Law 280").

¹⁴ *Washington v. Yakima Indian Nation*, 439 U.S. 463 (1979).

at Ft. Belknap, Chemawa, and Flandreau.¹⁵ The Bureau of Indian Affairs had established boarding schools on reservations around the country and it was the beginning of intentional efforts to destroy Chippewa and Cree cultures and languages (as well as those of other tribes) and to push Native people toward assimilation. Children were punished for speaking their own language, even during breaks or recess, and were forced to learn English, a language that very few of them were accustomed to. Many aspects of Chippewa Cree culture were eroded or changed.

Whereas schools located on the Reservation had been operated by the Indian Service until 1960, they transferred to the Havre School District (a local non-Indian town district) in 1960.¹⁶ In the 1960s, the tribe then re-focused its efforts on gaining control over its education system and the ability to teach Chippewa and Cree language and culture. The Chippewa Cree finally obtained control of education on its Reservation in 1970 and instituted a bilingual program. The Elders established “The Philosophy of the Chippewa Cree” and trained teachers and aides in Cree reading, writing, history and traditions. The bilingual program remains in practice today and is implemented in all grades. Entities dedicated to preservation of cultural heritage include the Chippewa Cree Historical Preservation Office and the Tribal Historic Preservation Advisory Committee.

In recent years, several trends have allowed for more optimism. From 2006 to 2008, employment grew by nearly 14%, with jobs in the private sector nearly doubling.¹⁷ In 2007, the tribe completed construction of a new health clinic, the Na-toose Center, named after a Cree healer and spiritual leader. This facility provides increased access to state-of-the-art health care, through increased exam rooms, dental and optometry services and preventative wellness facilities, including a gym and swimming pools. A new Senior Center was also completed in 2007, which replaced the old senior center and provided newer and larger space for offices, meetings, and seating.¹⁸

Children’s Exposure to Violence & 2012 Baseline Community Survey Results

According to the Chippewa Cree Tribal Courts, there was a 164% increase in child abuse cases from 2008 to 2009. Between 2007 and 2010, there were 331 violent offenses committed by youth, of which 94% were committed under the influence of drugs and alcohol.¹⁹

As part of the outcome evaluation of the Defending Childhood demonstration projects, the Center for Court Innovation conducted a baseline and two-year follow up telephone survey of adults. While the full description of the methods and results of these surveys will be reported in a separate forthcoming outcome evaluation report in 2015, a summary of the key baseline results

¹⁵ Rocky Boy School Research Program. 2008. *The History of the Chippewa Cree of Rocky Boy’s Indian Reservation*. Box Elder, MT: Stone Child College.

¹⁶ Havre is the closest town. It is not Indian and is not a part of the reservation.

¹⁷ Rocky Boy’s Reservation Demographic and Economic Information. 2013.
http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/admin/uploadedpublications/2697_rocky_boys_rf08_web.pdf

¹⁸ St. Pierre, Nate. 2008. A Contemporary History of Rocky Boy’s Reservation in *The History of the Chippewa Cree of Rocky Boy’s Indian Reservation*. Box Elder, MT: Stone Child College.

¹⁹ Rocky Boy’s Children Exposed to Violence Project PowerPoint Reference Material. OJJDP Conference Oct 2011.

for the Rocky Boy site is included here to provide context for the underlying need and development of strategies related to children's exposure to violence on the Reservation.²⁰

The Chippewa Cree Tribe survey was conducted in June and July of 2012. The survey yielded a total sample of 211 completed phone interviews, 98% of which were conducted by land line, and two percent by cell phone. Seventy-three percent of respondents were parents or caregivers of children under 18. The sample included adults aged 18 to 80, with a mean age of 41 years. The majority (96 percent) of survey respondents identified themselves as American Indian, almost six percent as white, and 2 percent as Latino.²¹ Eighty-three percent were enrolled members of the Chippewa Cree Tribe and 16 percent were enrolled members of other tribes. Fifty-two percent were female, and most (85 percent) had lived on the Chippewa Cree Reservation for more than 10 years.

Respondents were asked about how much of a problem various types of violence were on the Chippewa Cree Reservation. The types of violence that were most often identified as a "big problem" were: violence between people in a romantic relationship (62%); child abuse or neglect (54%); violent crime such as assaults, shootings, or sexual assaults (51%); and bullying (49%). Despite feeling that these types of community and interpersonal violence were big problems on the Reservation, an overwhelming majority of respondents (81%) agreed that they felt safe in their community.

The community also seemed very aware of the impact of exposure to violence on children. The vast majority of participants indicated that it could have negative impacts and could lead to psychological or health problems. Over 99% of respondents found intimate partner violence (where a man hits his female partner) unacceptable. Eighty-four percent of parents reported that at least one of their children had been exposed (witness or victim) to any type of violence in the past year. The most common form of exposure was being called names, mean things being said, or someone saying they didn't want the child around.

It is within this context of high levels of violence exposure and issues of structural poverty that the Rocky Boy Children's Exposure to Violence Project was developed and implemented.

²⁰ After drafting the initial survey, the evaluation team worked with their two tribal consultants to ensure that the questions and response categories were culturally appropriate. Additionally, prior to survey administration, the researchers sent a letter to all members of the Rocky Boy tribal council to describe the survey and its purpose, and received their approval to conduct the survey before moving forward. All respondents were given a \$10 incentive for participating.

²¹ Percentages do not add to 100 percent because respondents could choose more than one race.

Chapter 2

The Oversight and Staffing Structure of the Initiative

This chapter provides a brief overview of the two central structures that oversee and operate the Rocky Boy’s Children Exposed to Violence Project (RBCEVP): a *collaborative body* that meets regularly and provides general planning, oversight, and coordination; and dedicated *project staff* members who are charged with implementing the everyday work of the initiative.

The Collaborative Body

The Chippewa Cree Tribe Children’s Exposed to Violence project is a collaborative effort of 11 organizations designed to prevent children’s exposure to violence (CEV), reduce its negative impact, and increase awareness. This collaborative body was formed in 2010 during the planning phase and is composed of representatives from the following organizations:

- Box Elder Public Schools
- Rocky Boy Public Schools
- Chippewa Cree Child Support Program
- Chippewa Cree Tribal Courts
- Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services
- Chippewa Cree Tribal Planning Department
- Chippewa Cree Tribal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- Rocky Boy Health Board
- Stone Child College Day Care
- White Sky Hope Center (Chemical Dependency provider)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation Victim/Witness Specialist
- Rocky Boy Head Start

The collaborative body is led by project staff (whose roles are described below). The collaborative body held monthly meetings from October 2011 until December 2013. Regular attendees from partner agencies were notified via email about future meetings. In the early phase of the project, the collaborative body provided guidance on the planning and implementation stages. As the project proceeded, the collaborative meetings became a space to share information on how the initiative was going and how the different agencies were working together or could work together to support each other. During the meetings, different agencies committed to assist or cosponsor events and projects of the initiative.

Across the three years of the initiatives, the RBCEVP Collaborative Body met a total of 39 times. As depicted in Table 2.1, meetings increased in the second year of the project but then declined drastically in the final year. The project coordinator stated that the Collaborative Body no longer held meetings after December 2013 due to the numerous other meetings that the collaborative members participated in. The Collaborative

Table 2.1 RBCEVP Collaborative Body Meetings

Project Year	Number of Meetings
Year 1 (Oct 11-Sep 12)	12
Year 2 (Oct 12-Sep 13)	24
Year 3 (Oct 13-Sep 14)	3
Total Meetings	39

Body members saw each so frequently at other meetings and experienced “meeting fatigue” that it seemed duplicative to continue to hold meetings on similar topics. A few of the regularly scheduled meetings that RBCEVP staff and Collaborative Body members also attended include:

- The Community Wellness Coalition Meeting: This meeting consists of an overarching group of all service agencies on Rocky Boy’s Reservation. The Wellness Coalition meets monthly and discusses all issues related to public health and social service at Rocky Boy. The Wellness Coalition meetings started prior to the RBCEVP and will continue after the grant ends. After the Collaborative Body meetings ended, the RBCEVP issues that would have been discussed became a formal part of this meeting.
- Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT): MDT meetings are held to review cases of child abuse and neglect and child sexual assault cases which have been investigated and are being prosecuted federally in an effort to provide or maintain services to children and/or family members. Core team members are from Chippewa Cree Social Services, Local Law Enforcement, Prosecutors from the Chippewa Cree Tribal Courts, an Assistant United States Attorney from the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Montana who is specifically assigned to the Rocky Boy’s Indian Reservation, Special Agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), FBI Victim Witness Specialist, a Doctor and Psychologist from the local Health Clinic, and staff from RBCEVP. The MDT meets monthly.
- Sexual Assault Response Team (SART): SART includes all agencies and projects who work in the area of sexual assault, including the RBCEVP staff. The SART meets monthly.
- Child Protection Team: With a focus on child health and protection, this team coordinates among efforts focused on children. These meetings are held monthly, and the RBCEVP staff are members and regular attendees. The CPT includes Chippewa Cree Social Services, Local Law Enforcement, Prosecutors from the Chippewa Cree Tribal Courts, a Doctor and Psychologist from the local Health Clinic, FBI Victim Witness Specialist, School Counselors from Box Elder and Rocky Boy Public Schools, White Sky Hope Center, and staff from RBCEVP.
- High Priority Performance Goals (HPPG) and Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI): These two efforts hold meetings simultaneously on a monthly basis to address topics on violence reduction, alternative sentencing, restorative justice, drug and alcohol abuse, and other related issues in the community. HPPG was awarded to the Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to reduce crime throughout Rocky Boy’s Reservation.²²

²² In 2009, the Secretary of the Interior and the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs established a High Priority Performance Goal (HPPG) to reduce violent crime on targeted tribal reservations. The selected reservations were Rocky Boy’s (Montana), Mescalero (New Mexico), Wind River (Wyoming), and Standing Rock (North and South Dakota).

Project Staffing

The funding for Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project went through the Chippewa Cree Division of Human Services. The staff is housed in the Reservation's Family Resource Center, using space donated for the project. The staffing structure of the project has included the following positions, all of whom are employed by the Chippewa Cree Tribe:

- Project Coordinator (1): The project coordinator is responsible for the overall vision and day-to-day operations of the project. This position is usually the main contact for OJJDP as well as for the national technical assistance providers (Futures Without Violence and Native Streams) and evaluator (Center for Court Innovation). There have been three project coordinators over the course of the grant.
- Domestic Violence Advocates (1-2): The domestic violence advocate position involves crisis intervention and follow-up case management for families experiencing domestic violence; direct help for survivors and children through advocacy during the police response and court process; and referrals for additional services as needed. The domestic violence advocates report to the project coordinator.
- Child Advocates (1-2): The child advocate position is primarily responsible for prevention and intervention work in the Rocky Boy schools. This role involves prevention program implementation, case management and counseling, and handling child abuse/neglect cases. The child advocates are also involved in the child welfare working group, discussed later. The child advocates report to the project coordinator.
- Project Assistant (1): This position oversees all aspects of general office coordination; handles the phone calls, billing and paperwork; and schedules meetings. This position also ensures that supplies are in stock, including supplies required for crisis management of victims, such as food, clothing, children's toys and related items. The project assistant may also assist advocates in their work by covering for them when they are not available. The project assistant reports to the project coordinator.
- Community Outreach Coordinator (1): This position focuses on developing and improving community outreach efforts. The position was phased out in September 2012.

Originally, all of these positions were full-time and fully funded by the Department of Justice Defending Childhood Initiative (DCI) grant. Throughout the course of the grant period, the domestic violence and child advocate positions were occasionally unfunded, or funded by other grants, depending on the status of DCI funding.²³ When positions were unfunded or receiving alternative funding, the advocates continued their crisis management work, in part because they continued to receive calls from families, but they worked fewer hours overall and had to reduce work in other areas such as case management and prevention programming.

²³ The status of DCI funding changed when the federal government was shut down and at times when funds could not be drawn down due to challenges with the funder, as described in Chapter 4.

The project coordinator position saw the most turnover during the grant period, while the core staff of advocates generally remained consistent. This turnover in leadership had a significant impact on the work of the staff. One major leadership transition occurred in January 2012 with the replacement of the project coordinator. The Domestic Violence Advocates were then hired in January and May 2012. The Child Advocate position change its original title from Crisis Counselor in September 2012. The Community Outreach Coordinator position was ended in September 2012. In August 2013, the project coordinator was once again replaced. There have been no subcontracts with any agencies; therefore, all Defending Childhood funding was used to hire and support the aforementioned staff positions and their efforts, as well as for the purpose of federally required travel to attend cross-site DCI meetings.

Chapter 3

Rocky Boy’s Children Exposed to Violence Program Model

Rocky Boy’s Children Exposed to Violence Project (RBCEVP) targets the entire Reservation, because all tribal members are seen as one community and one nation. There were no efforts to focus on specific subpopulations or smaller geographic units within the Rocky Boy’s Reservation. While the population of the Reservation is considered to be small at about 3,000 residents, the residents are dispersed on a large, rural area and the location is considered to be “frontier,” meaning that it is extremely isolated and rural.

The work primarily focuses on addressing the immediate needs of parents and children, youth in schools, and victims of violence. While the family is seen as the primary unit and many activities involved a focus on the family, individuals of all backgrounds were targeted through prevention, community awareness, and intervention efforts.

In this chapter, we will summarize the philosophy underpinning the RBCEVP and then describe the program activities in each of the key areas that comprise the initiative: (1) victim and family advocacy and related case management; (2) treatment and healing (direct intervention services); (3) prevention programming; (4) community awareness and education; and (5) professional training. In each of these key areas, challenges to implementation will also be discussed. The figure below shows the different program model components of the RBCEVP, and the goals it hoped to achieve through these activities:



Philosophy

Before describing the various activities that Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project has implemented, it is important to understand the philosophical framework that provides the foundation for and informs the work. The vision of the project is "that all children will be protected and nurtured in a holistic, cultural, safe, and healthy community environment." The project puts a quote from Chief Rocky Boy at the center of its work: "Love one another and take care of each other."

The philosophy of the RBCEVP centers around the belief that a return to Chippewa Cree culture, tradition, and language is a primary protective factor for families and children on the reservation. At least one of the advocates is trained in traditional forms of healing (e.g., smudging and sweat lodges), and the staff incorporates song, dance, drumming, and prayer in their programming. The staff opens meetings and events with prayers and sweet grass and uses sage to cleanse and clarify the mind, body, and soul. One of the project coordinators stated, "Culture is prevention. Culture is unity. Culture is identity."

Project strategies aim to infuse a positive, culture-based approach for all activities. That is, the focus of all the work (i.e., public forums, outreach material, training, and work with collaborative partners) was streamlined to instill a philosophy that reflected the strengths of the Chippewa Cree Culture as a protective factor. Project staff leveraged the expertise and skills of the local elders and Peacemakers through their ongoing involvement in the RBCEVP. The 14 Peacemakers possess specialized knowledge about traditional healing and ceremonial practices, spirituality, arts and crafts, tribal stories, native language, traditional gender roles, rites-of-passage, life cycles, morals and ethics, tribal and family histories, native plants, and traditional belief systems. Peacemaker involvement has changed during the course of the Initiative, but Peacemakers remain important partners for the project and the staff.

Victim and Family Advocacy and Case Management

Advocacy is a major component of Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project. There are two main advocacy branches: 1) Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault advocacy and 2) Child Advocacy.

The Role of the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Advocates

The domestic violence/sexual advocates (hereafter referred to as DV advocates) received advocacy training through the Montana Coalition against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, along with additional and booster trainings, including training on the Medicine Wheel for traditional healing. In addition, the DV advocates are part of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN), which provides them with access to webinars and through which they have received training on trauma.

The DV advocacy component is a confidential domestic violence program that includes safety planning, client intake and referral, short-term and emergency housing assistance, court and law enforcement accompaniment, and support groups. The DV advocates provide survivors and their

families with access to support services, court and systems advocacy, referrals, and continuous follow up. The domestic violence advocates are on call constantly, and, as the tribal residents became more familiar with the project, the advocates started receiving more calls.

Crisis advocacy is an important component of their work. The DV advocates receive calls for assistance from the Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement. Police officers will often contact them as soon as they receive a DV call, allowing the advocates to respond to the immediate crisis. Two of the current advocates are former police officers and have good relationships with law enforcement. Due to a large community awareness campaign, and a focus on increasing people's awareness of the existence of the RBCEVP (see below), the DV advocates also receive many calls from victims and other community members. In the last two years, the DV advocates also began accepting referrals from Chippewa Cree Social Services and TANF. These referrals would come when case workers became aware of a domestic violence situation amongst their clients.

In addition to receiving calls and providing immediate assistance during a crisis, the advocates assist victims with filing restraining orders, providing information on the court process, and providing additional accompaniment (e.g., to court) and advocacy as requested.

In some situations, domestic violence victims may choose to return to their abusive partners. In these cases, the advocates work with the victim to develop a safety plan for herself and her children, if children are involved. The advocates work closely with law enforcement to retrieve personal belongings if a woman has left the home and to accompany victims to the police station or hospital. They also work with the FBI victim/witness specialist by attending home visits and facilitating communication and appointments with agencies and relevant contacts.

The Role of the Child Advocates

The Child Advocates work on child abuse and neglect cases, providing case management and advocacy. Child advocates receive case referrals from Rocky Boy agencies including social services, TANF, and Rocky Boy Schools. Their advocacy work involves spending time with the child, taking him/her to the hospital or doctor's appointments, and playing an advocacy role in court proceedings and other formal events. The Child Advocate is involved at all times while the child abuse/neglect case goes through the court process, and the assigned Child Advocate comes to know the child in depth, including medical history. The Child Advocate does not do any kind of formal assessment; however, other Rocky Boy agencies may do their own assessments. Even when the child is referred to other services, the advocate is usually present when the child receives those services. In 2013, one of the advocates revived the tribe's child welfare meetings, which brings together all child welfare case workers for case-by-case discussions about children who are victims of abuse and neglect. These meetings help ensure appropriate service provision and care coordination.

Caseloads, Cultural Context, and Challenges of Advocacy Work

In all of their advocacy work, RBCEVP staff bring their spirituality and incorporate their traditional beliefs. As of October 2014, the Child Advocates had a total caseload of 90 clients and the DV advocates had a caseload of 30-40 clients. Because of their commitment to the

community and their traditions, the advocates do not formally “close” any cases or end relationships with clients. They will continue to work with clients if the client continues to request services.

Many collaborative partners believed that the advocacy work was vital to Rocky Boy and that the community was better for it. One client who received services from a child advocate described the advocate as “amazing” and “a life saver.” The story was typical of many clients of the RBCEVP: a child experiences abuse at the hands of a caregiver and the child advocates work with other family members to provide advocacy and services for the child and family. In this client’s situation, the abusive caregiver was incarcerated, and the advocates helped the family understand the court papers and how the system works. The advocates also helped connect the family with child services, and worked with family members to ensure that the appropriate persons had custody of the children. The advocate also visited the child regularly, helping to connect her with medical care and bringing children’s items, such as clothing and toys.

Advocacy work has many challenges. The work itself is exhausting, since advocates are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The advocates were concerned about self-care and helping themselves to not burn out. One of the ways they addressed this was by coming together over food to care for each other, but it was clear that additional support was necessary. The rural nature of the land also presented a challenge. When advocates received a call from someone in need, they would often have to travel over long distances to meet with her. Another challenge that impacted their work was the limited partnership with the police. Police officers have wide discretion in how they charge perpetrators, and the advocates said that the police would sometimes charge disorderly conduct instead of assault or domestic violence.

Treatment and Healing

The Rocky Boy’s Children Exposed to Violence Project approaches healing from a holistic perspective. The staff provide limited direct services, but referrals were given for substance abuse treatment, mental health services, and other services as needed and available by Collaborative partner agencies. The RBCEVP has primarily focused on the use of advocacy for victims of violence, as described previously, because of the dire lack of crisis and domestic violence advocacy on the reservation. It was considered a high priority need by all stakeholders.

The advocates also do some work that falls under the umbrella of healing and direct treatment. One of the advocates is an expert in traditional healing and uses Sweat Lodge Ceremonies (often referred to simply as sweats) with victims and youth to help mend the damage done to their spirits, their minds, and their bodies. It is considered to be a traditional form of mental and physical healing.

The advocates are also trained in the Medicine Wheel Model, a pathway to personal healing and transformation. The Medicine Wheel Model is a guide developed by and for native people to help participants find balance in their lives and to understand how their actions affect everything

around them.²⁴ The advocates also run a batterer program that aims at creating a process of change for men who batter. It uses the Duluth model a psycho-educational curriculum that combines education about the roots of battering with cognitive behavioral treatment aimed at increasing the use of nonviolent communication strategies) and also incorporates components of the Medicine Wheel model.²⁵ The Duluth model also relies on a large coordinated community response that seeks to change the way systems respond to men’s violence against women and seeks to hold men accountable for the violence they commit, although these broader aspects of the model—beyond the direct service batterer program—were challenging for the advocates to fully apply.

The batterer program also included adaptations that are specific to Rocky Boy and that draw on culture and tradition. The advocates stated, “In our tradition we believe in respecting women—like you’d respect your mom, grandma, auntie, and it should be the same with your partner.” They discussed how men in the tribe have roles, but those roles do not involve anger, aggression or violence. The batterer program has also involved prayer and traditional ceremonies, since the advocates believe that connecting to a higher power and to tradition is an important part of ending violent behavior. The batterer program did not fully begin until 2014 and has had 11 participants as of September 2014.

The White Sky Hope Center, which is a collaborative partner located on the reservation, provides treatment for substance abuse and mental health services at no cost to tribal members. White Sky works with adolescents and adults and provides both western and traditional treatment and healing services. White Sky uses standardized assessment instruments to determine severity of alcohol or drug abuse and also connects people with inpatient treatment facilities as needed. In addition to therapeutic groups, White Sky also provides groups that are open to the public including a morning group and a women’s group. White Sky utilizes several programs, many of which are evidence-based. For the purposes of this study, programs and interventions with at least two strong evaluation designs (randomized trials or quasi-experiments) are considered evidence-based. Programs with research supporting their effectiveness that do not reach this threshold are considered promising.²⁶ White Sky’s programs include cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT)²⁷, the Matrix Model,²⁸ and Helping Women Recover,²⁹ as well as other tribal

²⁴ More information about the Medicine Wheel Model can be found at:

<http://www.medicinewheelmodel.com/cms/index.php?page=Medicine-Wheel-Model>

²⁵ More information about the Duluth model can be found at: <http://www.theduluthmodel.org/>

²⁶ The cross-site report has more information on the definition of evidence-based used in this evaluation: Swaner R, Hassoun Ayoub L, Jensen E, and Rempel M. 2015. *Protect, Heal, Thrive: Lessons Learned from the Multisite Defending Childhood Demonstration Program*. New York: Center for Court Innovation.

²⁷ CBT for drug and alcohol use is considered evidence-based. Studies demonstrating its effectiveness include: Rowan-Szal GA, Bartholomew NG, Chatham LR, and Simpson DD. 2005. A combined cognitive and behavioral intervention for cocaine-using methadone clients. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*. 37(1):75-84; and Bennett GA, Withers J, Thomas PW, Higgins DS, Bailey J, Parry L, and Davies E. 2005. A randomised trial of early warning signs relapse prevention training in the treatment of alcohol dependence. *Addict Behavior*. 30(6):1111-24.

²⁸ The Matrix Model is considered evidence-based. Studies demonstrating its effectiveness include: Rawson RA, Marinelli-Casey P, Douglas AM, Dickow A, Frazier Y, Gallagher C, Galloway GP, Herrell J, Huber A, McCann MJ, Obert J, Pennell S, Reiber C, Vandersloot D, Zweben J, and the Methamphetamine Treatment Project Corporate Authors. A multi-site comparison of psychosocial approaches for the treatment of methamphetamine dependence. *Addiction*. 99: 708-711; and Shoptaw S, Rawson RA, McCann MJ, and Obert J. 1995. The Matrix Model of Outpatient Stimulant Abuse Treatment: Evidence of Efficacy. *Journal of Addictive Diseases*. 13(4):129-141.

based programs such as Native PRIDE. PRIDE stands for Positive Reinforcement in Drug Education and works through a comprehensive plan that addresses all aspects of a substance abuse problem.³⁰

Providing direct services was not part of the original strategic plan for RBCEVP and attempts to include it were made based on changed funder requirements, as described in Chapter 4.

Prevention

The Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project has taken a multi-faceted approach to youth violence prevention efforts. The Child Advocate, who manages individual cases of child abuse and welfare as described previously, also works closely with Rocky Boy and Box Elder Schools. Rocky Boy's Reservation has one elementary school, one junior high school, and one high school, which most of the youth who live on the reservation attend. Some Chippewa Cree youth attend public school in Box Elder, which are off the Reservation and about 20 miles away. Box Elder has one elementary school, one middle school, and one high school. The Child Advocate was unsuccessful in setting up prevention programming at Box Elder schools, but there are several ongoing efforts at Rocky Boy's junior high school led by the RBCEVP:

- HOPE/DELTA Group: The Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) focuses on students who have experienced violence and trauma. The Child Advocate meets with them on a weekly basis and has also presented in classrooms to encourage students not to remain silent about violence in relationships. The DELTA group was started in partnership with Rocky Boy's High School but was phased out as funding ended. The group was renamed and continued as the HOPE group, also known as the Tahn-ke-sah youth group.
- The BFF Curriculum: The "Be a Friend First" curriculum was developed by the Girl Scouts of America as a bullying prevention program. It aims to help girls develop skills for healthy relationships. It was offered to Rocky Boy junior high girls in the general student body on a regular basis. It includes lessons on topics that include bullying, building healthy relationships, conflict resolution, and cliques. In Years Two and Three of the project, some of the presentations were also given in partnership with the Girl Scouts. BFF consists of eight sessions, although it can be condensed into four or six sessions.³¹
- Eyes on Bullying: Eyes on Bullying is a national multimedia bullying prevention program designed to help parents, caregivers, and educators use evidence-based practices to deal effectively with the problems of bullying in the lives of children. The Eyes on Bullying Toolkit provides specific insights, strategies, activities, and resources to address

²⁹ More information about Helping Women Recover can be found at: <http://www.stephaniecovington.com/helping-women-recover-a-program-for-treating-addiction.php>

³⁰ More information about PRIDE can be found at: http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/PublicHealth/research/centers/CAIANH/journal/Documents/Monograph%204/Mono04_Dorpat_PRIDE_122-133.pdf

³¹ More information on the BFF curriculum can be found at: http://girlscoutshs.org/assets/1467/bff_booklet.pdf

bullying. The advocates drew from the Eyes on Bullying Toolkit in her work with youth at Rocky Boy's Junior and High Schools and Box Elder Junior and High Schools.³²

- Healthy Lifestyles: During Year Two, junior high students received a violence prevention curriculum once a week during the school year. This was a completely novel program developed by the staff at the RBCEVP.

These efforts were also paired with individual school-based events that were aimed at violence prevention. In addition to presenting individual sessions to classrooms at Rocky Boy Box Elder schools, the RBCEVP also brought in guest speakers when possible. For example, in February 2013, a guest speaker held a two-hour presentation on his personal experiences of violence for middle school students. He also discussed Crow culture and traditions. He used traditional song and dance to engage with students and highlighted issues around bullying and substance abuse.

Annually, the RBCEVP organized and led youth summer camps, known as Healthy Journey Youth Camp. There was a youth camp held each summer of the project. The camp was held in the Bear Paw Mountains of the Reservation and was three days and two nights. The staff recruited youth through the schools as well as by using flyers and radio announcements. Youth who have experienced violence were targeted during the recruitment period. In Year One, 27 youth attended the camp, in Year Two it was 30. The camps aim to increase protective factors by promoting positive culture-based learning opportunities that encourage healthy lifestyles.

Challenges related to Prevention

Working on youth violence prevention programming has encountered a variety of challenges. Initially, it was difficult for the RBCEVP staff to set up programs, including a student support group, at Box Elder Schools. It was much easier to get into Rocky Boy Schools because of the consistent presence of the Superintendent at the Collaborative Body meetings. Additionally, staff cited many of the standard challenges that encompass working with youth and implementing youth violence prevention programs: a lack of student engagement and long-term continued engagement; a changing landscape when it comes to drug popularity (e.g. increasing use of methamphetamine); challenges ensuring that programming is interesting and relevant to youth; lack of parental involvement or concern; and youth living in poverty or households that already have violence or alcohol abuse.

Community Awareness and Education

The Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project has utilized multiple approaches and strategies when it comes to generating community awareness. Throughout the timeframe of the project, they have held 57 community awareness events and 24 youth awareness events. Nearly half of all community awareness events and publication distribution occurring in Year 2, as shown in Table 3.1. A detailed list of all community awareness events can be found in Appendix A. Preliminary findings from the follow-up community survey indicate that community awareness about the RBCEVP and children's exposure to violence has increased in response to

³² More information on Eyes on Bullying can be found at: <http://www.eyesonbullying.org/>

the activities listed here. Specifically, about 25% of respondents indicated knowing about RBCEVP at baseline, a number that increased to 50% at follow up.³³

The first component of community awareness was familiarizing the tribal community with the project. To accomplish this, staff developed and distributed items with the Rocky Boy Children’s Exposed to Violence project logo, including T-shirts, backpacks, bumper stickers, and water bottles. Project staff expected that once people were aware of the RBCEVP and its work, they would

Table 3.1 RBCEVP Community Awareness Efforts

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Community Awareness Events		-		
Community Events	16	25	16	57
Youth Events	7	12	5	24
<i>Total</i>	23	37	21	81
Community Awareness Publications				
Event Flyers	9	17	9	35
Radio/PSA	3	3	6	12
Brochures/Info Cards	1	15	8	24
Newsletters	0	12	0	12
<i>Total</i>	13	47	23	83

become more likely to be engaged in other community awareness efforts, as well as be aware of the advocacy work and other initiatives that were established.

Community Awareness Events

Although all 81 of the community awareness events held in the first three years of the project were open to the community at large, they had a variety of target audiences and goals:

- **Family Fun Nights:** Family fun nights are family-oriented events that involve all the collaborative partners and relevant agencies at Rocky Boy. Family fun nights usually have a theme (e.g., Halloween, Christmas, or Easter) and provide food and activities for families. RBCEVP staff encourage teen parents and domestic violence survivors to come with their children. The fun nights also include informational tables set up by service providers and agencies around the Reservation, including an information table for the RBCEVP.
- **Community Summits:** Community Summits are 1-2 day events that bring professional providers together, but also aim to provide awareness and information to the general community of Rocky Boy. They typically cover topics such as domestic violence, bullying, and youth violence prevention. There were at least three community summits over the course of the grant, attended by over 300 people. Appendix B includes agendas from two of the community summits.

³³ For more information about the community survey results, please refer to the cross-site outcome evaluation of report, forthcoming in 2015.

- Cultural Fairs: Cultural fairs are Rocky Boy community gatherings where traditional, cultural, and spiritual topics pertaining to the Chippewa Cree way of life are discussed or demonstrated.
- Awareness Walks: Awareness walks occur to mark relevant awareness months, including Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October and Child Abuse Awareness Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. Walks usually occur in the Rocky Boy's Agency area of the Reservation and involve many local providers and partners, clients and staff, and occasionally local youth. In October 2012, the Domestic Violence awareness event involved ribbon tying and a long walk around Rocky Boy.
- Specific Traditional Events: Over the course of the three years, RBCEVP has played a leadership role in organizing specific traditional events, with the goal of raising awareness among youth and adults about the importance of tribal culture in the prevention and treatment of violence exposure. These events also provide an opportunity to raise awareness about important issues such as bullying and substance abuse, youth engagement, and culture as a protective factor. These events include the Traditional Regalia Making, the Rocky Boy Youth Powwow, Round Dance, and Story Telling Night.

Publications and Mass Media Campaigns

Other than specific events, key components of the project's community awareness efforts included the creation and distribution of publications and mass media campaigns. The RBCEVP developed many different kinds of brochures and information cards (83 in total, see Table 3.1 above), varying in topic and design, and which can usually be found at associated events such as family fun nights. All publications contain information about the project itself, as well as awareness information about the central topic of the document—e.g., violence or bullying.

In Year Two, over 19,000 copies of publications were printed, including newsletters, flyers, and brochures. Sample publications are available in Appendix C. In addition, the local radio station, 88.5 KHEW, was used for public service announcements (12 over three years) as well as announcing community awareness events. Although the exact number of listeners to KHEW is unknown, it is available across the entire Reservation, and can be heard in the nearby town of Havre (about 30 miles away). It can also be heard in some parts of the city of Great Falls (about 100 miles away) and Billings (215 miles away). In 2012, an advertisement for the RBCEVP was played in the Havre Cottonwood Theaters, which has 60,000 visitors a year. The advertisement featured local youth and the native flute.

Another aspect of mass media is the RBCEVP Facebook page.³⁴ As of September 2014, the page had 387 likes, which are the number of people who follow the page and receive its updates. The page is updated almost daily with information about events, interesting articles and publications, and inspirational quotes. The postings often include the hashtag #violenceisnotinmytradition, a reflection of the Chippewa Cree philosophy regarding connecting anti-violence efforts to

³⁴ See RBCEVP Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/RBCEVP>.

traditional culture. Appendix D provides a few examples of social media postings by the RBCEVP.

Challenges related to Community Awareness

Numerous challenges exist when attempting to raise community awareness in a setting such as Rocky Boy's Reservation. First and foremost, the rural nature of the Reservation makes dissemination of information challenging. Despite having a population of only about 3,000 residents, Rocky Boy's Reservation is spread out across nine settlements, and the vast nature of the land and isolation of some of the homes make it difficult to reach everyone. In the cold and snowy winter months, many areas are unreachable by car or foot. It may also be challenging for some residents to make it to the Rocky Boy Agency area where most events are held, particularly if they do not have access to reliable transportation.

For the Chippewa Cree, like many other tribal communities, bringing people together for community events should also involve food. Eating together is an important component of group events for the tribe. Federal funding constraints did not allow federal dollars to be used for food, and this proved to be a significant challenge in ensuring the success of events. Early on in the project, the RBCEVP staff worked with their partners to fund the meals at events from other sources. In the middle of Year Two, they were finally able to obtain a waiver from the Department of Justice so that they could provide food at the community events.

Professional Training

The Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project organized and coordinated several training sessions for the Human Services Division, local service providers, and professionals working with victims. The project also ensured ongoing training and education for their own domestic violence advocates and child advocates.

In general, professional trainings fell into three categories: 1) trainings offered by RBCEVP; 2) trainings offered by outside organizations where RBCEVP facilitated participation by local service providers; and 3) information sessions for professional groups about the work that RBCEVP conducts in order to increase service provision. Appendix E provides a full list of all trainings reported by RBCEVP.

One of the main venues for trainings were community summits. As mentioned previously, community summits aimed in part to educate the community and provide awareness, but they also brought professionals and service providers together for in-depth training sessions. In January 2013, the RBCEVP held a Strengthening Families Summit aimed at training local service providers and raising awareness. The agenda can be found in Appendix B. There were 278 attendees. National and local speakers led sessions, including, but not limited to:

- Domestic Violence Awareness and Montana's Native Women's Coalition
- Victim Witness Advocacy
- Sexual Offender Registration and Notification Act
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACES)

- Domestic Violence 101
- Recognizing Signs of Child Abuse/Neglect
- Batterer's Intervention
- Teen Parenting Panel
- Youth Dynamics Overview and Cree Teachings
- Cultural Views on Suicide
- Youth Suicide Prevention

The RBCEVP also took advantage of local and national training opportunities and often sent their own staff and other local service providers to attend. In March 2013, The RBCEVP staff and staff from Collaborative Body partners attended the Montana Native Women's Coalition Tribal Listening Session. The Listening Session focused on addressing domestic violence and sexual abuse in tribal communities and systems and had training topic areas including tribal programs and tribal systems' responses to domestic violence, building stronger collaborations between agencies, and the Native Domestic & Sexual Violence Report.

Chapter 4

Implementation Barriers, Facilitators and Sustainability

General Barriers and Challenges

Apart from the barriers and challenges described above in relation to specific elements of the Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project, several important challenges cut across multiple aspects of the initiative.

Administrative and Budget Issues

The Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project experienced many challenges when working with OJJDP and their grant managers. At different times, RBCEVP staff would realize that holds had been placed on their federal funding (making funds unavailable), but staff would be unclear of the reason. The reasons typically involved delays in submitting required reports or providing information to OJJDP, but staff stated that they did not receive sufficient notification that holds on their funds would happen. It is clear that there was some confusion and lack of clarity around standard grant reporting requirements. In one instance, unbeknownst to the evaluation team, delays in submitting implementation reports to the evaluation team led to a federal funding hold, a circumstance that should ideally not have occurred.³⁵

The federal government shutdown in October 2013 resulted in the Child Advocate being furloughed. Because of the temporary lack of funding, the Child Advocate left the position and found a job at another organization. It took nearly six months for the position to be filled again.

Leadership Staff Turnover

Although many of the program staff remained the same throughout the course of the project, the project coordinator position experienced significant turnover, which often impacted the general progress of the project. The project has seen three project coordinators, and the transitions were not smooth ones. The different project coordinators also had different priorities and expectations, which are reflected in the changing versions of the strategic plan. The final Rocky Boy strategic plan was not finalized until mid-2014, almost three years after the start of implementation. While the domestic violence advocates and child advocates continued to do their work regardless of who was the project coordinator, other efforts were impacted by the change, including work towards system infrastructure change (see next section below).

Changes in leadership staff also impacted external relationships with grant managers, TA providers, and the evaluation team. Building relationships with new project coordinators can be

³⁵ The evaluation team assured the site multiple times that the funding hold was unrelated to the evaluation, but both teams did not realize that it was in fact related. Both the evaluation team and the RBCEVP staff did not believe that evaluation objectives or delays in meeting evaluator needs should have been related to the funding stream.

challenging for stakeholders and changes to the strategic plan may ultimately impact the outcome evaluation.

Lack of System Infrastructure Change

In the strategic plan, Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project planned to work on system-wide infrastructure change. Specifically, project staff planned to:

- 1) Assist both Rocky Boy and Box Elder Schools to revise student/teacher handbooks to include bullying/cyber-bullying prevention.
- 2) Hire a Child Advocate to co-facilitate parenting classes with Chippewa Cree Tribal Court staff utilizing the "Strengthening Families Program" curriculum.
- 3) Work with the Chippewa Cree Tribal Courts to revise relevant tribal law and order codes that concern children exposed to violence.
- 4) Work with the Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services (CCLES) to systematically track data from police dispatches that involve children in home and community settings. This data was intended to help generate a list of needed services and to identify community and program resources to address those needs. This system was to be permanently in place at the CCLES.
- 5) Work with elected Tribal Business Committee members to enact tribal legislation (i.e., passage of ordinances and resolutions) for sexual harassment policies for all tribal programs and departments by 2013.
- 6) Work with elected Tribal Business Committee members to enact tribal legislation that addresses the prevention of bullying, harassment, and misconduct using social media.

Despite these ambitious aims, the RBCEVP was unable to accomplish many of these elements of the strategic plan. Regarding goal # 2, staff members began to implement the "Strengthening Families Program: at the tribal courts, but were unable to sustain the effort. Regarding goal #5, RBCEVP staff have initiated work on a new tribal sexual harassment policy, with the approval of the Tribal Human Services Subcommittee. Turnover in leadership staff and de-prioritizing systems change and prioritizing advocacy and community awareness work contributed to the lack of progress in this area. It was also difficult to establish the kind of working relationships with the Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services and Tribal Courts that would allow for making these changes, despite positive collaboration between the advocates and police for crisis intervention and case management on a case-by-case basis. Moreover, it did not seem that any of the project coordinators were able to pursue working with the Tribal Business Committee to enact new tribal legislation.

System infrastructure change can be challenging in many communities and jurisdictions; in fact, many of the other sites funded in the Defending Childhood Initiatives were only able to make limited system-wide or infrastructure changes. Like other jurisdictions, tribal communities face challenges when working with elected officials to prioritize issues like children's exposure to violence, particularly when officials are often working to address many important concerns. In tribal communities, other priorities include high unemployment and substance abuse. Engaging policy makers and tribal leaders on children's exposure to violence is a necessary component of systems change.

Substance Use and Abuse on the Reservation

Widespread substance abuse was repeatedly highlighted as a concern when working on issues related to children's exposure to violence. According to 2011 statistics by the Rocky Boy Health Board and the Indian Health Service, 65-75% of the adult population of the Reservation suffers from alcohol and/or substance abuse. Numerous collaborative partners discussed the impact of such widespread substance abuse on their efforts to make change in their community. Staff from Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) discussed their heavy caseloads, but also that although "being clean" is required to receive services from TANF, a 2013 random testing provided positive results for 60% of their clients. About a quarter of the Reservation residents are on TANF, and their benefits may be impacted because of their alcohol and substance abuse. TANF staff have been trying to work with clients to connect them with treatment. Collaborative partners identified the abuse of prescription medications and methamphetamines as increasing, although marijuana and alcohol remained as the primary drugs of choice. The White Sky Hope Center is the primary reservation-based treatment provider for outpatient substance abuse treatment, and it has to provide referrals to inpatient treatment services off the reservation.

Facilitators

One of the main facilitators of the RBCEVP work on the Reservation is the nature of the Chippewa Cree community. As a tight knit community, it did not take long for the advocates to gain the trust of community members, which increased the number of calls they received. The staff of the RBCEVP believe that community members are familiar with their work, especially the advocacy and community awareness work, and that their work is having a positive impact on the community. The central commitment to reviving Chippewa Cree culture and tradition was also evident in a variety of other initiatives and agencies at the Reservation, facilitating the work of the RBCEVP.

Rocky Boy also has a history of being resource-rich and having strong collaboration amongst its agencies. As is evident with the many tribal working groups and meetings, there are multiple agencies and stakeholders working towards the same goals as the Defending Childhood team. One collaborative body member described the RBCEVP as a "model for collaboration." The multiple committees/collaborative meetings may have caused some committee fatigue but also ensured that all of the relevant stakeholders came together regularly and that events were well-coordinated.

Despite the nature of the land, Rocky Boy's Reservation has a central agency area where most people go to access services. The RBCEVP moved into the Family Resource Center, which is central in its location within the reservation and allowed easy access between Collaborative partners and to community members.

During the course of the grant, RBCEVP staff have worked with three different OJJDP grant managers. While changes in grant managers can occasionally be stressful, and the staff have stated that they liked all of their grant managers, they found certain practices particularly helpful.

For examples, regular coordination meetings that involved the grant manager, RBCEVP staff, and Native Streams, the technical assistance provider, ensured that everyone was on the same page and that the staff were able to meet all deadlines and work towards their goals. As illustrated previously (regarding the reasons for and circumstances surrounding repeated funding holds), communication issues between the former grant managers and former project coordinators created challenges for funding and implementation. In general, staff have stated that it is important for their success to have a grant manager who is open-minded, supportive, easily accessible, and who understands their philosophy, the needs of their community, and their choice of strategies. Additionally, grant manager site visits have allowed everyone to build stronger relationships.

Technical Assistance

The Rocky Boy team received training, support, and technical assistance from Futures Without Violence and Terri Yellowhammer from the Native Streams Institute (“Native Streams”), who received a subcontract from Futures Without Violence, the technical assistance provider for the national *Defending Childhood Demonstration Program*.

RBCEVP participated in the bi-weekly TA calls and attended all-sites and project director meetings annually. They often led presentations on their own work at these meetings, on phone calls, or at other conferences.

In March and April, 2013 a series of calls were arranged by the technical assistance providers for the two Defending Childhood tribal sites, Rosebud and Rocky Boy, to discuss specific strategies and to address barriers encountered.³⁶ Topics included establishing relationships with law enforcement and increasing collaboration; engaging elders (peace makers) in prevention; cultural programs such as regalia making; and approaches to best engage collaborative body members and partner organizations. One outcome of these calls was an interest among Rocky Boy staff in visiting the Rosebud reservation. Several calls were held to determine the best date, goals of the visit and logistics. Due to leadership changes at both sites, the visit was ultimately postponed.

RBCEVP also participated in the all of the efforts of the technical assistance providers, including: 1) two project director’s meeting (April, 2012 and Aug, 2013) and three all-sites meeting (May 2012, July 2013, and June 2014); 2) bi-monthly project director technical assistance calls; 3) webinar series on topics related to children’s exposure to violence and prevention. Technical assistance providers also held more than 75 one-on-one calls with the RBCEVP staff. Additionally, a roundtable discussion was held with Rocky Boy’s Tribal Social Service and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families caseworkers on June 5, 2014 at the Family Resource Center on the Rocky Boy’s Indian Reservation. Home visitation, self-care, vicarious trauma, and the Indian Child Welfare Act were addressed.

TA providers also conducted five in-person site visits to Rocky Boy:

³⁶ To learn more about Rosebud, please see R Swaner. 2014. Nawicakiciji - Woasniye - Oaye Waste: A Process Evaluation of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe’s Defending Childhood Initiative.

- December 2011: Focus on strategic plan and budgetary support; domestic violence advocacy program inception; and clarifying staff roles and new positions.
- August 2012: Focus on Rocky Boy cultural strengths, and 50th anniversary Pow-Wow and sobriety walk; regalia making with families; meeting with juvenile justice staff and presentation on building comprehensive advocacy responses to DV/SA.
- March 2013: Focus on Appreciative Inquiry; Engaging students, parents and teachers; Bullying (cyber bullying, bullies & bystanders, EBPs and Indian Country); Domestic Violence, Historical/intergenerational Trauma, and vicarious trauma. Also helped facilitate Center for Court Innovation research visit to foster greater partnership and cohesiveness with RBCEVP staff.
- May 2013: Focus on providing an overview of DCI Initiative, results of Appreciative Inquiry, discussion of engaging students, parents, and teachers, discussion of cyber bullying, bullies and bystanders, EBPs, and Indian Country. Day 2 focus was on discussions around Domestic Violence, Vicarious Trauma, and Historic/Intergenerational Trauma. TA assistance was provided to schools for students that have been exposed to violence through trauma informed care. This site visit was conducted along with our research team and the agenda can be found in Appendix F.
- June 2014: Focus on providing the Rocky Boy's Community with tools, resources, skills, cultural approaches, and traditional values when dealing with exposure to violence. During this in person visit TA provider and Project Manager were able to get a hands on approach to how the RBCEVP program incorporates intervention, prevention, culture, tradition, and support to collaborative partners, victims of violence, schools, children, and community at large.

The technical assistance providers and RBCEVP have collaborated in a variety of ways to share Rocky Boy's strategies and strengths. RBCEVP and technical assistance staff presented a workshop at the Women are Sacred Conference on June 10-11, 2013 in Albuquerque, NM. The two-part workshop explored how tribal communities can build trauma informed advocacy responses for children exposed to violence and their families, implement prevention strategies community-wide, and promote cross program collaboration. Also, RBCEVP, in collaboration with technical assistance providers, Department of Justice staff, the Rosebud Defending Childhood Initiative, and Nakota Designs developed a national public education campaign and materials (billboards and posters) that address children's exposure to violence in Indian Country. RBCEVP and TA staff also presented at the Investigation and Prosecution of Child Fatalities, Neglect, and Abuse Seminar on July 16, 2014 held at the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, SC. The session explored how tribal communities can build trauma informed advocacy responses for children exposed to violence and their families, implement prevention strategies community-wide, and promote cross program collaboration.

Sustainability

All of the staff of the Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project are partially or fully funded by the grant. These positions will be eliminated when the grant ends; however, the Tribal Planning Office is actively working on obtaining additional funding and new grants. For instance, RBCEVP staff have identified available domestic violence grant streams, including Family Violence Prevention and Services (FVPSA) grants under the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services and grants from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) under the U.S. Department of Justice and are working on applying for continued funding.

Staff members indicated that they were aware that their positions would end when the grant ended. Although they were accustomed to this because of the transient nature of funded projects on the reservation, they believed that the services they offer the community were too vital to lose. The staff were optimistic that some aspects of the program might continue, such as the continuation of the student groups and awareness activities in the schools. Although collaborative body meetings ended year three, participation of the other meetings (described previously) will ensure that some aspects of the project continue. As of October 2014, the RBCEVP received an additional \$300,000 from OJJDP to extend their project until September 2016.

Conclusion

Despite some staff turnover and challenges, Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project produced important accomplishments: 1) bringing a strong advocacy program to the reservation and providing victims with assistance; 2) providing prevention programming and support services to Rocky Boy's youth; 3) providing greater access to training for local service providers; and 4) raising community awareness about children's exposure to violence through concerted awareness campaigns. According to staff and community feedback, the work has made a difference in people's lives.

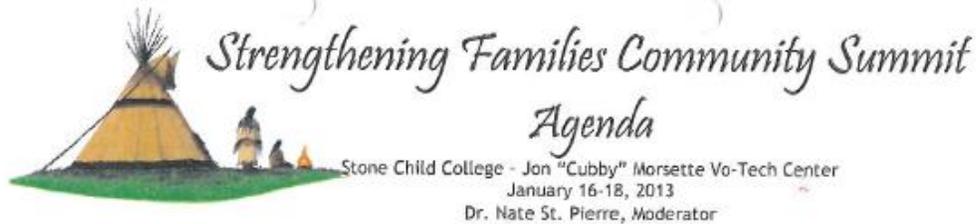
Throughout this work, the RBCEVP staff have infused a culture-based approach and have brought back a focus on Chippewa Cree language, spirituality, and tradition, reflecting the strengths of traditional culture as a protective factor. By helping youth and community members improve their connection to their culture and the Chippewa Cree way of life, they may be impacting children's exposure to violence in ways that are difficult to measure.

Appendix A Community Awareness Events

Event	Audience
Year 1 (October 1 2011 – September 30 2012)	
Unite, Build and Lead	Community Members
Cultural Fair	Community Members
Community Summit	Community Members
Chippewa Cree Youth Symposium	Local Youth
Cultural Fair	Community Members
Traditional Regalia Making	Adult and Youth Community Members
Community Summit	Community members
Pregnant and Teen Parenting	Local Youth
Fatherhood	Local Youth
Tribal Courts Youth Workshop	Local Youth
Community Event	Community Members
Family Swim Trip	Community Members
Rocky Boy Youth Powwow	Community Members & Visitors
Youth Camp	Local Youth
Pregnant and Teen Parenting	Community Members
Year 2 (October 1 2012 – September 30 2013)	
Purple Bucket Collection & Ribbon Tying	Community Members
Community Canvas	Community Members
Box Elder Schools Parent Advisory Committee Presentation	Parents & Staff
Film Festival	Community Members
Boys Night In & Girls Night Out	Community Members
Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Awareness Walk	Community Members
RBCEVP Spooktacular Give Away	Community Members
Rocky Boy Schools Staff Event	School Staff & Administration
Rocky Boy Schools Students Event	Students
Rocky Boy Schools Staff Event	School Staff & Administration
Job Corp Presentation	Community Members
Christmas "BASH" & Cultural Fair	Community Members
Community Summit	Community Members
Family Fun Night	Community Members
Story Telling Night	Community Members
Family Fun Night {Easter Theme}	Community Members
Collaboration Fair	Community Members
Family Fun Night	Community Members
Box Elder High School	Students
Youth Symposium	Students, Staff, Community
Fatherhood Appreciation	Community Members
Batter intervention	Community Members
Round Dance	Local Youth
Family fun day and Cultural fair	Staff, Community

Slogan Contest	Community Members
Domestic Violence Awareness	Adult Healing to Wellness Participants
Talk with Our Elders	Community Members
Community Awareness BBQ	Community Members
Early Childhood Parenting Skills	Parents
Three Legged Race (parents/children)	Community Members
Singing With Our Children	Youth
"Reclaiming Our Families" - Community Workshop	Community Members
Year 3 (October 1 2013 – September 30 2014)	
Community Fair	Rocky Boy Community
Prep and Awareness Day	7th - 12th Grade Students
Native American Club	Students & Teachers - Rocky Boy Elementary School
Healing Lodge	Community Members
Family Fun Night {Christmas Theme}	Community Members
Anonymous Santa	Community Members
Winter Round Dance	Community Members
Indian Club	Local Youth
Community Canvas - Child Abuse Awareness	Community Members
Canvas the Community for Sexual Assault Awareness	Community Members
Community Regalia Making	Community Members
Easter Egg Hunts	Students from local schools
Youth Mini Pow-Wow	Community Members
Community Forum	Community Members
Community Wellness Conference	Community Members

Appendix B Community Summit Agendas



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2013 - THEME OF THE DAY: HPPG, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIAL

8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Registration (on-going)			
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Invocation <i>Welcoming Address: Kenneth Blatt-St. Marks, Chairman of the Chippewa Cree Tribe</i>			
9:15 am - 10:15 am	<i>Keynote Address: Voyd St. Pierre, Superintendent of Rocky Boy Schools</i>			
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Break			
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Panel: Truancy Issues - Representatives of Rocky Boy Schools, Box Elder Schools and Chippewa Cree Tribal Courts			
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch Break Chontay Standing Rock			
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Breakout Session Topic: Juvenile Probation Process Presented by: Tribal Court Staff	Breakout Session Topic: Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative/Adverse Childhood Experience Study Presented by: Elinor Nault	Breakout Session Topic: Victim Witness Advocacy Presented by: Heather MacLean	Breakout Session Topic: TANF 101 Presented by: TANF Staff
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	Breakout Session Topic: Truancy Presented by: Tribal Court Staff	Breakout Session Topic: Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative/Adverse Childhood Experience Study Presented by: Elinor Nault	Breakout Session Topic: Sexual Offender Registration and Notification Act Presented by: Mary Gallegos	Breakout Session Topic: TANF 101 Presented by: TANF Staff
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	Break			
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm	Breakout Session Topic: Juvenile Probation Process Presented by: Tribal Court Staff	Breakout Session Topic: Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative/Adverse Childhood Experience Study Presented by: Elinor Nault	Breakout Session Topic: Victim Witness Advocacy Presented by: Heather MacLean	Breakout Session Topic: Methamphetamine Presented by: Tri-Agency Drug Task Force - CJ Reichelt and Corey Matkin
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	Breakout Session Topic: Truancy Presented by: Tribal Court Staff	Breakout Session Topic: Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative/Adverse Childhood Experience Study Presented by: Elinor Nault	Breakout Session Topic: Sexual Offender Registration and Notification Act Presented by: Mary Gallegos	Breakout Session Topic: Methamphetamine Presented by: Tri-Agency Drug Task Force - CJ Reichelt and Corey Matkin
4:15 pm - 4:30 pm	Closing			

Exhibits Open (Vo-Tech Hallway)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2013 HEME OF THE DAY: HUMAN SERVICES AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Registration (on-going)				
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Invocation Welcoming Address: Gerald Small, Sr., Chairman of the Chippewa Cree Tribe's Human Services Sub-Committee				
9:15 am - 10:15 am	Keynote Address: Michael Cotter, United States Attorney for the District of Montana				
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Break				
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Panel: Domestic Violence Awareness and Montana Native Women's Coalition Introduction - Presented by Toni Plummer-Alvernaz and Patty McGeshick				
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch Break Head Start Class				
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Exhibits Open (Vo-Tech Hallway)	Breakout Session Topic: Designer Drugs Presented by: White Sky Hope Center - Tina Corbin	Breakout Session Topic: Domestic Violence 101 Presented by: RBCEVP	Breakout Session Topic: Child Support - State vs. Tribal Cases Presented by: Child Support	Breakout Session Topic: Planning for our Future Presented by: Beau Mitchell
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm		Breakout Session Topic: Designer Drugs Presented by: White Sky Hope Center - Tina Corbin	Breakout Session Topic: Domestic Violence 101 Presented by: RBCEVP	Breakout Session Topic: Child Support Enforcement Presented by: Child Support	Breakout Session Topic: Planning for our Future Presented by: Beau Mitchell
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm		Break			
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm		Breakout Session Topic: Substance Abuse Prevention Presented by: White Sky Hope Center	Breakout Session Topic: Investigative Training Presented by: Toni Plummer-Alvernaz Patty McGeshick	Breakout Session Topic: Recognizing Signs of Child Abuse/Neglect Presented by: Child Welfare	Breakout Session Topic: Batterer's Intervention Presented by: RBCEVP
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm		Breakout Session Topic: Substance Abuse Prevention Presented by: White Sky Hope Center	Breakout Session Topic: Investigative Training Presented by: Toni Plummer-Alvernaz Patty McGeshick	Breakout Session Topic: Recognizing Signs of Child Abuse/Neglect Presented by: Child Welfare	Breakout Session Topic: Batterer's Intervention Presented by: RBCEVP
4:15 pm - 4:30 pm		Closing			

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2013 - TIME OF THE DAY: PEACEMAKERS AND YOUTH

8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Registration (on-going)			
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Invocation <i>Welcoming Address: Dustin Whitford, Vice-Chairman of the Chippewa Cree Tribe's Human Services Sub-Committee</i>			
9:15 am - 10:15 am	<i>Keynote Address: Youth Dynamics Overview and Cree Teachings; Human Birth, Wishakesahk, Creator's Laws, & 7 Cree Pipe Laws - Rachel TopSky</i>			
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Break			
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Panel: Introduction to the Creation Story - Presented by Peacemakers Circle			
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Feast			
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Breakout Session Topic: Continuation of the Creation Story Presented by: Sam Vernon Windy Boy	Breakout Session Topic: Cultural Views on Suicide Presented by: Peacemakers	Breakout Session Topic: Teen Parenting Panel Presented by: Rose Saddler, Anjelica Denny	Breakout Session Topic: Social Media Literacy Presented by: Federal Bureau of Investigation
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	Breakout Session Topic: Continuation of the Creation Story Presented by: Sam Vernon Windy Boy	Breakout Session Topic: Cultural Views on Suicide Presented by: Peacemakers	Breakout Session Topic: Teen Parenting Panel Presented by: Rose Saddler, Anjelica Denny	Breakout Session Topic: Youth Suicide Prevention Presented by: Laurie Sun Child
2:30 pm	Closing			
January 18-19, 2013	International Unity of the Cree Nation Round Dance Family Resource Center (Old Stone Child College)			

Exhibits Open (Vo-Tech Hallway)



**Chippewa Cree Tribe
Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence
Project**

**Community Summit
"Reclaiming Our Families"
June 3 & 4, 2014**

Stone Child College - Jon Morsette Vo-Tech Center, Box Elder, Montana

Agenda

Day One – June 3 rd , 2014 <i>Thomas Limberhand, Moderator</i>	
8:00 to 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 to 9:15 am	Opening Prayer/Song – TBA
9:15 to 9:30 am	Invocation – TBA Welcoming – <i>RBCEVP Staff</i>
9:30 to 10:25 am	Keynote Address: Healing by Tradition White Sky Hope Center Jackie Ironmaker & Mike Geboe
10:25 to 10:35 am	Break – Door Prize Drawings
10:35 am to 12:00 pm	<i>Our Families</i> Robert Murie, NAS Stone Child College
12:00 to 1:00 pm	Lunch - Door Prize Drawings
1:00 to 2:00 pm	<i>Families from a Law Enforcement Perspective</i> Lt. Steve Henry, Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services
2:00 to 3:00 pm	<i>DCI National Campaign</i> Anna Marjavi, Futures Without Violence
3:00 to 3:10 pm	Break – Door Prize Drawings
3:10 to 4:05 pm	<i>RBCEVP Program Staff</i>
4:05 to 4:15 pm	Wrap-Up, Complete Day 1 Evaluations, and Door Prize Drawings

<i>Day Two: June 4th, 2014</i> <i>"Reclaiming Our Families"</i>	
8:00 to 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 to 9:15 am	Opening Prayer/Song – TBA
9:15 to 9:30 am	Invocation – TBA Welcoming – RBCEVP Staff
9:30 to 10:25 am	Keynote Address: Montana Native Women's Coalition Mrs. Tony Plummer-Alvernaz and Tiger Scalpcane
10:25 to 10:35 am	Break – Door Prize Drawings
10:35 am to 12:00 pm	Juvenile Drinking & Driving Officer Sean Richardson, Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services
12:00 to 1:00 pm	Lunch - Door Prize Drawings
1:00 to 2:30 pm	<i>Tee-Pee Raising</i> <i>Josh Seaton, Language Preservation, Stone Child College</i>
2:30 to 3:00 pm	<i>Recovering Through Tradition</i> Jolene Crebs, CCT TANF
3:00 to 3:10 pm	Break – Door Prize Drawings
3:10 to 4:05 pm	<i>Creation of Family Cultural Kits</i> Family to complete
4:05 to 4:15 pm	Wrap-Up, Complete Day 2 Evaluations, and Door Prize Drawings Closing Prayer

Appendix C Sample Publication Materials

You're Worth It...



Dating/Domestic Violence
loveandrespect.org
895-4547 / 783-4715
(Local Advocates)
1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
Sexual Violence
www.nsvrc.org
395-4542/395-4513
(Local Advocates)
1-800-656-4673 (SA Hotline)
Child Abuse and Neglect
395-4092/395-4513 (Local)
1-866-820-5437 (Montana)
1-800-422-4453 (National)
Sexual Harassment
www.eeoc.gov
1-800-273-4000 (8255)

National SUICIDE Prevention
Lifeline
1-800-273-TALK (8255)
Bullying
www.stopbullying.gov
1-800-773-TALK (8255)
24/7 Treatment Referral Line
1-800-662-HELP (4357)
Disaster Distress Helpline
1-800-985-5990
Text "Talk With Us" to 66746
Victims Hotline
www.ncvc.org
1-800-FYI-CALL (394-2255)



You're Worth It...

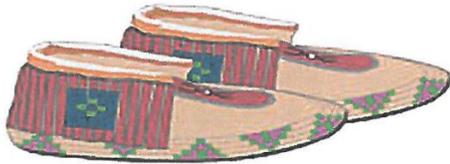


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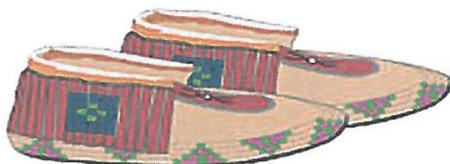


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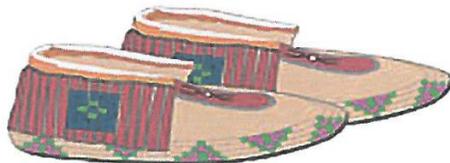


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Vision Statement

The Vision of the Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project is that *all children will be protected and nurtured in a holistic, cultural, safe, and healthy community environment.*

*"Love one another
and take care of
each other"*
Chief Rocky Boy



Strengthening the Circle

Successful awareness, prevention, and intervention initiatives involve community leaders, agencies, and families working together to make lasting improvements to the community's infrastructure. Partnerships are a great way to make communities more supportive of families and help ensure children's health and safety. Protective factors can serve as a helpful framework for community partnerships supporting stressed and vulnerable families.

Collaborative Partners

Box Elder Public Schools
Chippewa Cree Child Support Program
Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services
Chippewa Cree Tribal Courts
Chippewa Cree Tribal Planning Department
Chippewa Cree Tribal TANF
Rocky Boy Health Board
Rocky Boy Public Schools
Stone Child College Day Care
White Sky Hope Center — Chemical Dependency Provider

Project Staff

Dr. Nate St. Pierre.....Coordinator
Donny Ferguson.....Child Advocate
Trina Wolf Chief.....Domestic Violence Advocacy Coord.
Thomas Limberhand.....Domestic Violence Adv. Assistant
Brooke Sosa.....Project Assistant

Rocky Boy's Children Exposed
to Violence Project
31 Agency Square
Box Elder, MT 59521
Phone: (406) 395-4542
Fax: (406) 395-5881

**DEFENDING
CHILDHOOD**
PROTECT HEALTH THRIVE

Rocky Boy's



Children Exposed to Violence Project

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Chippewa Cree Tribe
of the
Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation

Violence Prevention among Children

There is no single reason why children commit violent acts or become victims of violence. The causes and effects of violence are complicated. Violence prevention consists of stopping a person from inflicting emotional or physical harm on another before it happens.

Understanding some of the factors that help prevent a child's exposure to violence includes:

- The temperament of a child
- The developmental stages of a child
- The impact of domestic violence
- Different ways to parent
- A strong family is important
- A strong community is important
- Providing Tools & Skills: on how to deal with exposure

Rocky Boy and the Chippewa Cree

Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation is the home of the Chippewa Cree Tribe. Located in north central Montana, and established in 1936, Rocky Boy is the smallest reservation in the state. An estimated 4,000 people reside at Rocky Boy. Approximately 40% of the residents are under the age of 18.

Local data indicate an urgent need to address the rise in children's exposure to violence in the community. When children are exposed to violence, some of the most prominent effects include increased bullying, higher violent crime rates among juveniles, higher rates of alcohol and drug abuse, an increase in the number of grandparents raising grandchildren, reduction in school attendance/achievement, depression, suicides, and attempted suicides.

Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project

The Chippewa Cree Tribe's Division of Human Services administers the Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project (RCEVP). The RCEVP is co-funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice and the Office on Violence Against Women. The purpose of the RCEVP is to implement a comprehensive strategic plan based on an effective continuum of care and services for children and their families exposed to violence. The strategic plan involves prevention, intervention, and public awareness.

The RCEVP utilizes the *Eyes on Bullying* curriculum which focuses on bullies, victims of bullying, and bystanders both in real-life situations and with cyber-bullying from social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and the Internet. The RCEVP is working to educate the community that bullying should not be tolerated and that there are resources to help community members stand up against it.

The RCEVP has established a Domestic Violence Advocacy Program to serve the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation. Advocacy services provide access to training, supportive services, court advocacy and identification, referral for and follow-up with families and victims of domestic and sexual violence. Crisis advocacy is also available to victims and families exposed to violence.



Findings from the RCEVP community needs assessment indicated the following:

Factors that *contribute* to violence are:

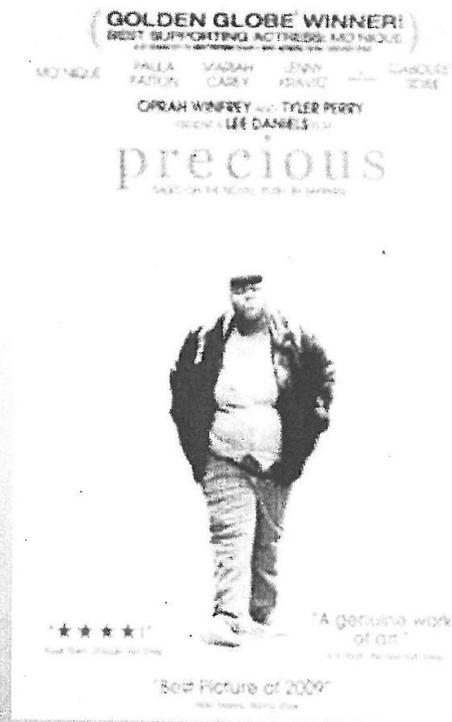
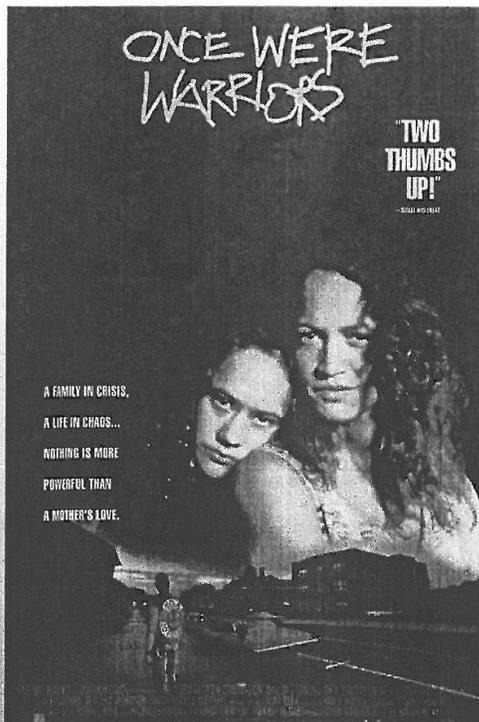
- Alcohol/Drugs
- Lack of Parenting/Role Models
- Lack of Activities
- Lack of Apathy
- Lack of Education
- Violent Media
- Family problems
- Poverty

Ways to deal with violence in the community:

- Programs to strengthen families and improve parenting skills
- Programs to increase self-esteem, learn how to solve differences without violence, and not give into peer pressure
- Programs to help youth do well in school
- Cultural activities
- Good jobs in the community
- Adults in the community for youth to talk to
- Strong anti-violence message from the community
- Increase policing



Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project will be having a film Festival and Discussion at the Family Resource Center , Old Stone Child College on October 17th 2012 starting at 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

*Please join us for a month of events which promote living in
a safe, healthy and positive way.*

- October 3rd · Ribbon Tying and "Purple Bucket" Collection
7:45AM in front of Old Stone Child College, Agency
11:45AM in front of Old Police Department, Upper Rd.
- October 10th · Community Canvass · Ribbons and Information handed out.
8AM - 4:30PM
- October 17th · Film Festival and Discussion – Family Resource Center, Old Stone Child College
5:00PM - 7:00PM
- October 19th · "Girls Night Out" - Mary Kay Party & Healthy Relationship Discussion
Father and Son Talking Circle - Family Resource Center, Old Stone Child College
4:00PM - 7:00PM
- October 26th · Walk Against Domestic Violence · Call for information
12:00PM - 1:00PM
- October 31st · RBCEVP SPOOKTACULAR Give-Away.
Family Resource Center, Old Stone Child College
4:00PM - 6:00PM

For more information on each event please call
Thomas, Donny or Trina at 395-4542

Snacks and Refreshments will be provided for events

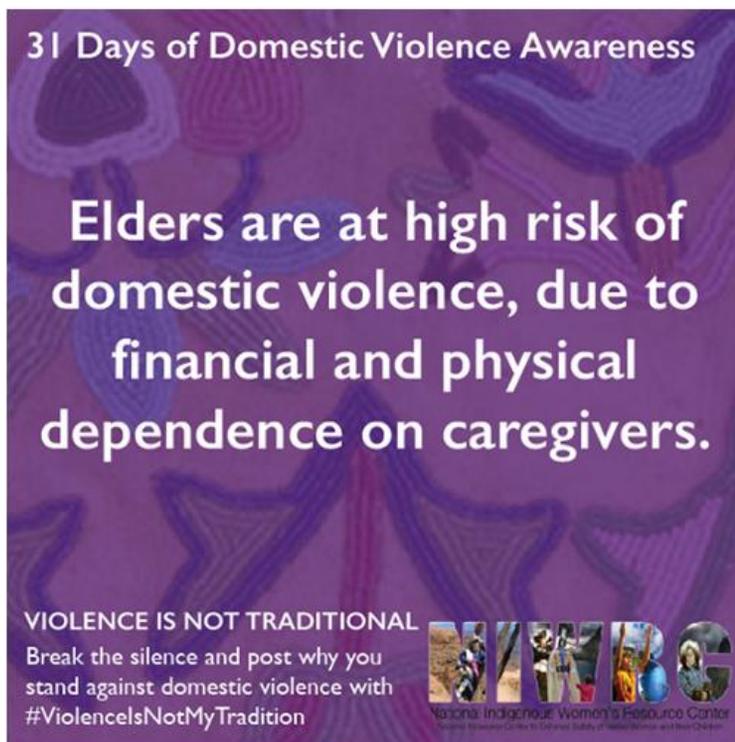


Sponsored by the Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project a Division of Human Service

Appendix D Sample Social Media Postings


Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project shared National Indigenous Women's Resource Center's photo.
 October 24

31 Days of #DVAM--Day 24: Elders are at a high risk of domestic violence, due to financial and physical dependence on caregivers.
 #ViolencelsNotMyTradition #domesticviolence

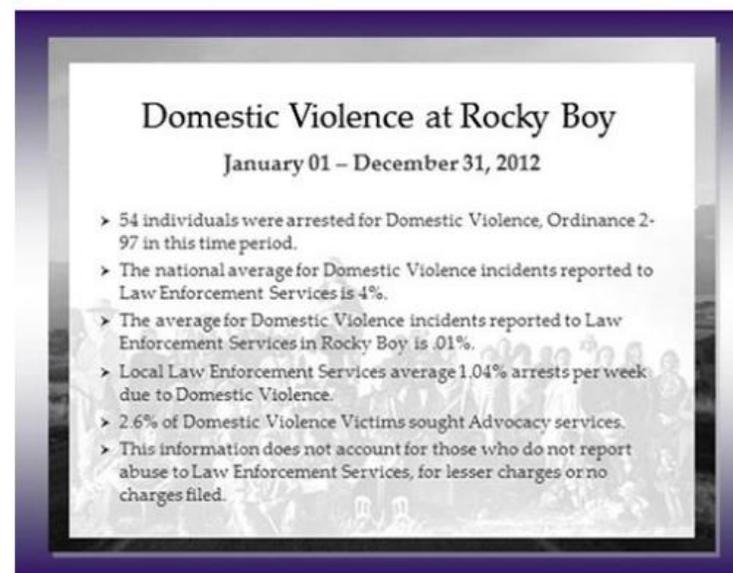


Like · Comment · Share


 likes this.


Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project
 November 5, 2013

We continue to offer hope, encouragement and support to Domestic Violence Victims and their families.



Like · Comment · Share

 2

EFENDIN HILDHOC DIRECTHEALTH Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project July 8, 2013

Thought for the day: Make children a priority. Ensure their safety. Keep your circle of family strong. NSP



Like · Comment · Share

6 1 Share

EFENDIN HILDHOC DIRECTHEALTH Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project August 9, 2013

RBCEVP Youth Camp 2013



Like · Comment · Share

22 2 2 Shares

Appendix E RBCEVP Trainings

Training Name	Event Date	Event Time	Participants	Audience
Domestic Violence Training Day One	2/21/2012	9:00am - 3:00pm	74	Collaborative partners & local service providers
Domestic Violence Training Day Two	2/22/2012	9:00am - 3:00pm	54	Collaborative partners & local service providers
Community Wellness Coalition/SORNA Training	3/13/2012	9:00am-5:00pm	Unknown	Collaborative partners & local service providers
"Ending Violence Together" Community Summit Day One	3/29/2012	9:00am - 3:30pm	121	Local service providers and community members
"Ending Violence Together" Community Summit Day Two	3/30/2012	9:00am - 3:30pm	89	Local service providers and community members
Basic Advocacy Training	05/09/2012 - 05/10/2012	9:00am-4:30pm	7	DV/SA Advocates
"Living in a Good Way" Community Summit	07/11/2012 - 07/12/2012	9:00am-4:15pm	Unknown	Local service providers and community members
Sexual Assault Response Protocols Training	10/19/2012	12:00pm-3:30pm	18	Service Providers, Law Enforcement, Advocates
Prosecuting and Investigating Sexual Assaults in Indian Country	11/13/2012 - 11/15/2012	8:00am-5:00pm	118	Local service providers
Strengthening Families Community Summit	1/16/2013 - 1/18/2013	9:00am-4:30pm	278	Local service providers and community members
Child Forensic Interviewing	04/01/2013 - 04/05/2013	8:00am-5:00pm	40	Local service providers
Head Start Presentation	4/8/2013	10:00am- 11:00pm	43	Head Start Staff
Montana Native Women's Coalition Tribal Listening Session	3/26/2013 - 3/27/2013	9:00am - 5:00pm	10	RBCEVP staff and Collaborative partner staff
Technical Assistance Training	5/1/2013 - 5/2/2013	8:30am-4:00pm	11	Local School Staff
Defending the Forensic Interview	06/12/2013 - 06/13/2013	8:00am-5:00pm	50	Local service providers
Sexual Assault Response Protocols Training	6/18/2013	9:00am-4:00pm	26	Local service providers
RBCEVP Camp Training for Staff	7/29/2013 - 8/1/2013	9:00am-3:00pm	25	Individuals hired for Camp Counselor Positions & Camp Sponsors
High Priority Performance Goal Training	9/11/2013 - 9/12/2013	10:00am-3:00pm	18	WSHC, Law Enforcement, Human Services, Judicial
American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Native	9/20/2013	11:00am-1:00pm	11	Medical Staff

American Health				
MCSART Forensic Interviewing	9/23/13 - 9/27/2013	8:00am-5:00pm	30	Law Enforcement, CPS Workers
Medicine Wheel Training	11/1/2012 - 11/3/2013	8:00am-4:30pm	18	Local Victim Services providers
Batterer's Intervention - Duluth Model	11/07/2013 - 11/09/2013	8:00am-5:00pm	15	Local service providers
Reclaiming Our Families Community Summit	06/03/2014 – 06/04/2014	9:00am-4:30pm	40	Local service providers and community members
Collaboration is Key	6/5/2014	9:30am -2:30pm	16	Human Services Departmental Staff: Social Services, TANF, RBCEVP, WSP
Domestic Violence Training	8/14/2014	9:30am – 3:00pm	12	Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services: Law Enforcement Officers, Women's Safety Program, Tribal Sexual Assault Program, TANF, RBCEVP

Appendix F Technical Assistance Site Visit Agenda



Chippewa Cree Tribe Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project Technical Assistance for School and Community Partners and External Evaluator Site Visit Lutheran Mission Community Center and Family Resource Center May 1-3, 2013 Agenda

Wednesday, May 1st	
8:30 am-12:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Opening: Earl Arkinson • Welcoming and Technical Assistance Purpose/Objectives • Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rocky Boy's Children Exposed to Violence Project (RBCEVP): Staff ○ Box Elder and Rocky Boy Schools (staff) ○ RBCEVP community partners ○ Futures Without Violence (FWV): Casey Corcoran ○ Native Streams Institute (NSI): Terri Yellowhammer • Overview of DCI Initiative (FWV/NSI) • Overview of Rocky Boy and Box Elder Schools (School staff) • Appreciative Inquiry activity (RBCEVP/FWV/NSI)
12:00-1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00-4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of Appreciative Inquiry (RBCEVP) • Facilitated discussion: Engaging students, parents and teachers (FWV/NSI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group work/activity • Facilitated discussion: Bullying (cyber bullying, bullies & bystanders, EBPs and Indian Country) (FWV/NSI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group work/activity • <i>Be a Friend First</i> (observation activity)
4:30 pm	Conclude for the day

Thursday, May 2nd			
8:30-9:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Opening: Earl Arkinson • Welcoming and introductions of RBCEVP External Evaluators (CCI) • Logistics for the day: two tracks 		
	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">Technical Assistance Track</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">Evaluation Track</td> </tr> </table>	Technical Assistance Track	Evaluation Track
Technical Assistance Track	Evaluation Track		

9:00 am-12:00 pm	Presentation: Domestic Violence, Historical/intergenerational Trauma, vicarious trauma (FWV/NSI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RBCEVP staff accompany CCI to CCT Business Committee Meeting at Tribal Chambers • Tour of Rocky Boy's Reservation—hosted by RBCEVP staff • CCI scheduled interviews
12:00-1:00 pm	Lunch	
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources, Recommendations, and Action Steps • Wrap-up and feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCI meet with Human Services Division Sub-Committee • CCI scheduled interviews

Friday, May 3rd at Family Resource Center Conference Room		
8:30 am-12:00 pm	CCI Evaluators to meet with RBCEVP staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCI meet with Traditional Peacemakers Circle members • RBCEVP Staff interviews • CCI review RBCEVP evaluation documents • CCI scheduled interviews 	
12:00-1:00 pm	Lunch and Meet with HOPE/DELTA youth at FRC	
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCI scheduled interviews • Batterer's Intervention work (Thomas Limberhand) • Wrap-up and feedback 	