

Alaska's Support for those Experiencing Sexual and Domestic Violence

March, 2025



Presenters:

Brenda Stanfill – Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault - Overview

Keeley Olson – Standing Together Against Rape, Anchorage

Information on the support provided to victims of sexual assault and the SART Process with or without the Criminal Justice System.

Randi Breager– AWAIC, Anchorage

Information on the support provided to domestic violence victims

Eileen Arnold – TWC, Bethel

Information on the support provided in a dual agency in rural Alaska

History of the Movement

1976 - concerned women who saw the need for services for battered women and victims of rape established the Alaska Women's Resource Center in Anchorage- Rape rates in Alaska were 2x that of the US average. Domestic violence was not yet a crime.

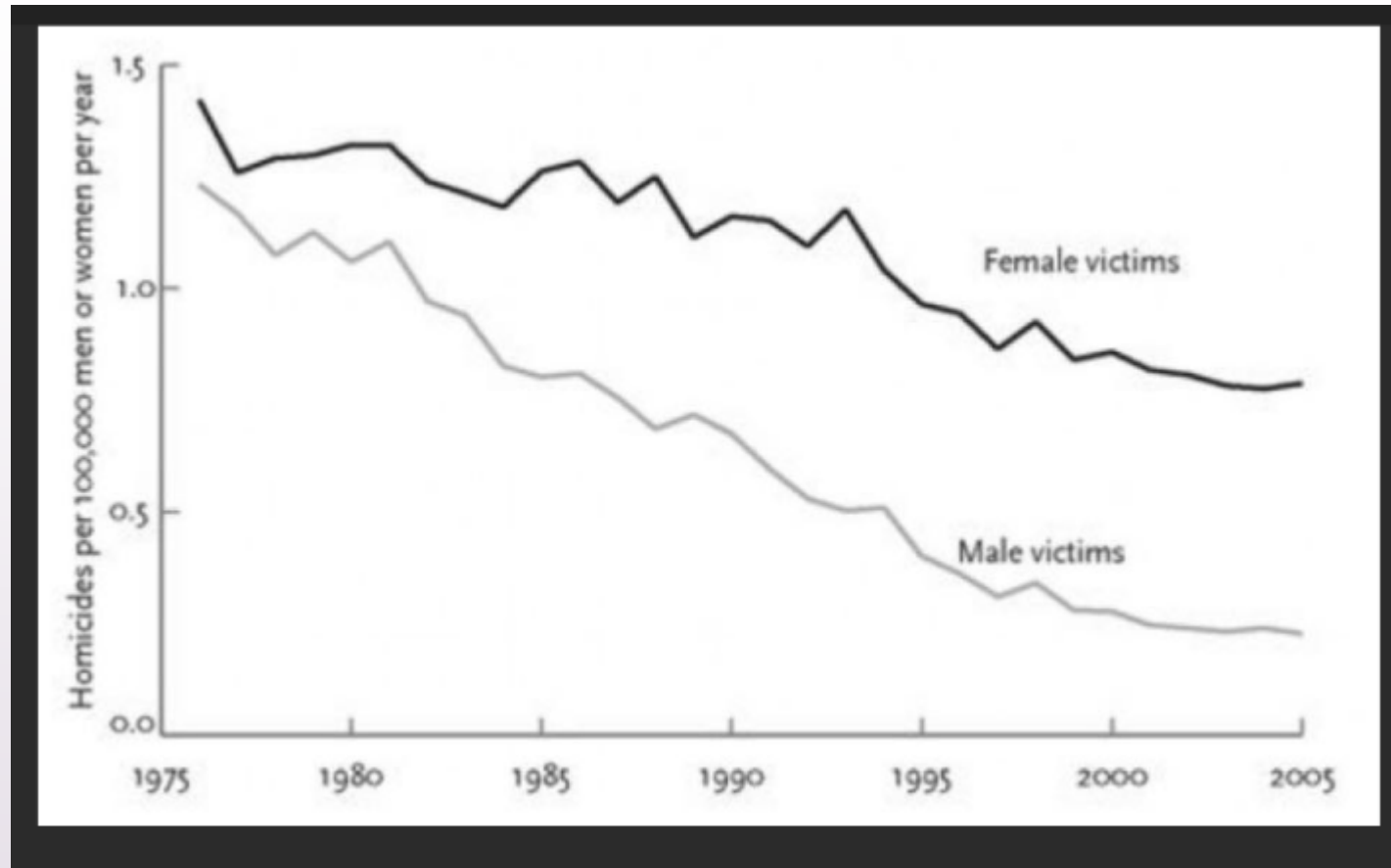
1977 - State's first shelter was established in Anchorage - followed by Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, Nome, Bethel, Kodiak, and Ketchikan.

1980 – Formed the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault – Non-profit membership organization made up of direct service providers.

1981- In Alaska, general funds for shelters increased to 1.8 million and the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault was formed – first statutory purpose - create, support and maintain direct service providers across the state to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

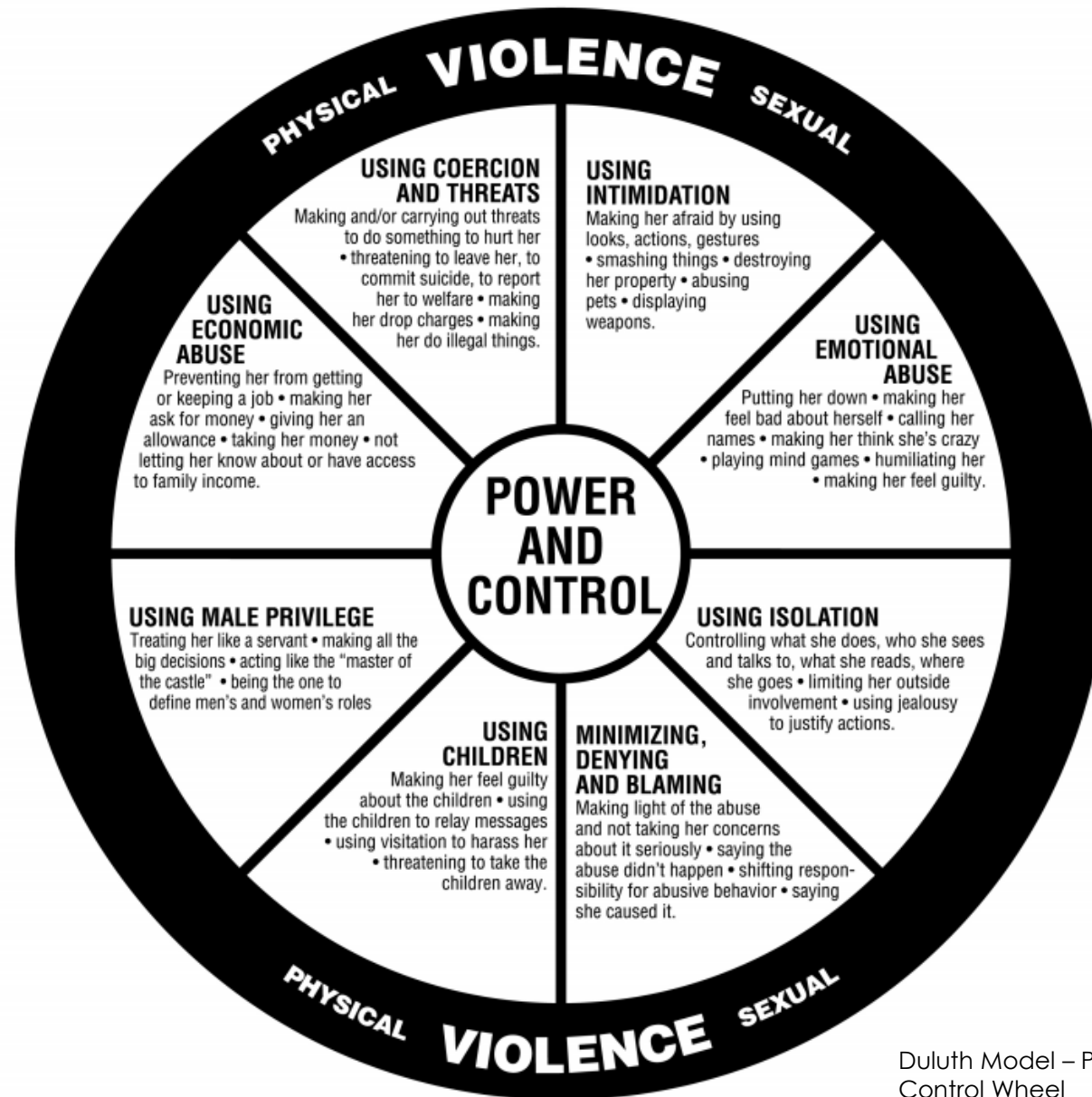
Mid 1990's – Criminalization of DV, Mandatory arrest laws, and passage of first Violence Against Women act in Congress.

Why Safe Shelter and Supports –



These programs are a **response** to the violence and an attempt to prevent further injury and death

Not all Domestic Violence is a criminal act -



Duluth Model – Power and Control Wheel

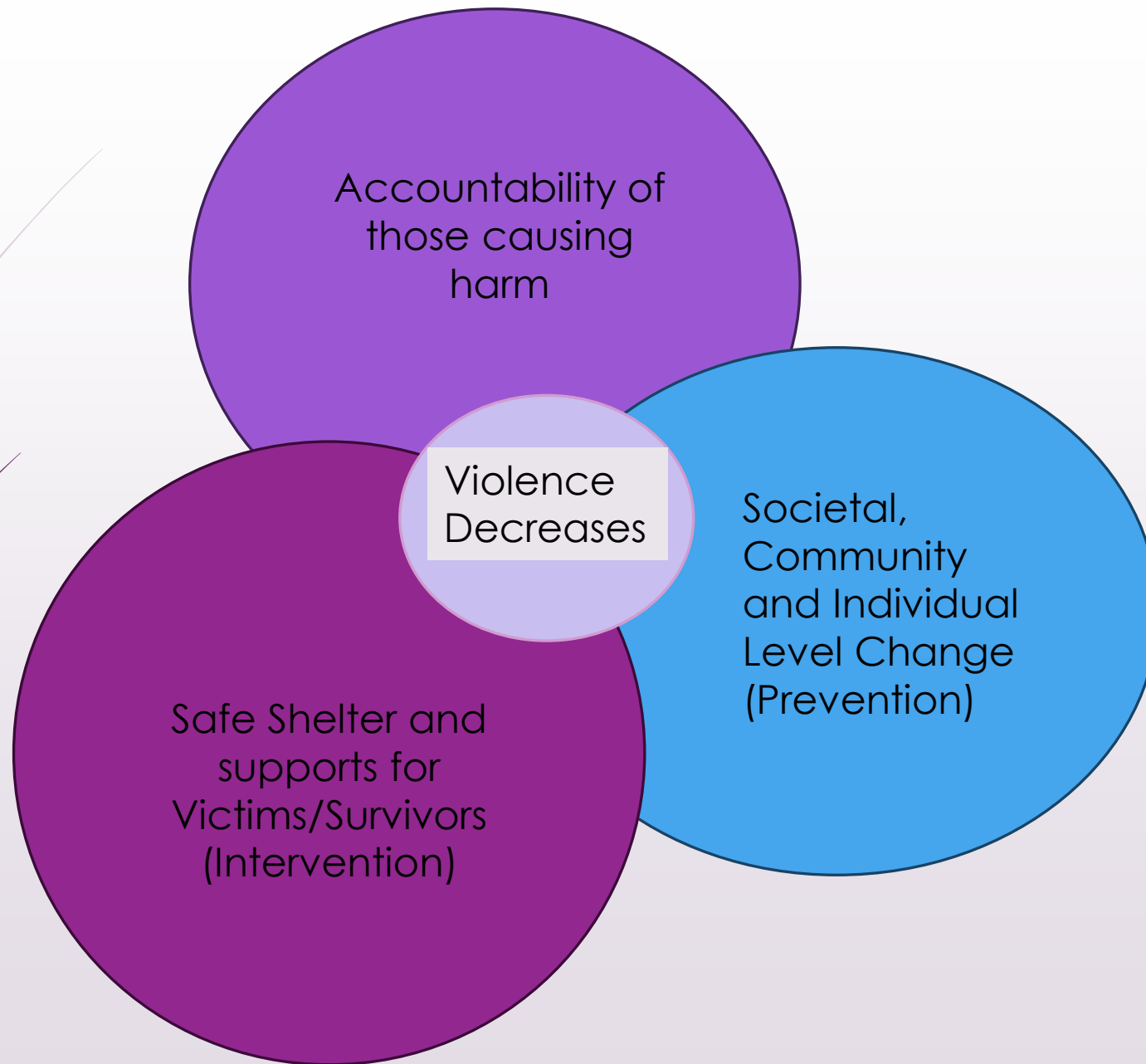


Among adult Alaskan women who experienced Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), Sexual Assault (SA) or Stalking in their lifetimes:

29.4% talked to the police about at least one of their experiences.

70.6% Did not talk to the police about any of the IPV, SA or Stalking that happened in their lifetime

Service Receipt among Alaskan Women who Experienced IPV, SA, or Stalking Sept 2024



Changes Over Time: 2010 - 2020

The following table shows how the 2020 lifetime and past year estimates of women's experiences with violence compared to the 2010 and 2015 estimates.

Table 2. Past year and lifetime intimate partner and sexual violence victim experiences changes over time (2010-2020).



Type of Violence	Lifetime (%)			Past Year (%)		
	2010	2015	2020	2010	2015	2020
Intimate partner violence (composite)	47.6	40.4	48.0	9.4	6.4	6.9
Threats of physical violence	31.0	25.6	28.5	5.8	3.0	2.6
Physical violence	44.8	39.6	46.8	8.6	5.9	6.5
Sexual violence (composite)	37.1	33.1	40.5	4.3	2.9	3.4
Alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault	26.8	22.6	27.5	3.6	2.0	2.1
Forcible sexual assault	25.6	23.5	27.7	2.5	1.6	2.2
IPV, SV, or both (composite)	58.6	50.3	57.7	11.8	8.1	8.1

Network of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Support Programs

**24 Providers of
Safe Shelter and
supports**

ANCHORAGE Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC)
Standing Together Against Rape (STAR)

BETHEL Tundra Women's Coalition (TWC)

CORDOVA Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC)

CRAIG Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies (HOPE)

DILLINGHAM Safe and Fear-Free Environment (SAFE)

EMMONAK Emmonak Woman's Shelter (EWS)

FAIRBANKS Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IAC)

HOMER South Peninsula Haven House (SPHH)

HOOPER BAY Bay Haven

HAINES Becky's Place

JUNEAU AWARE

KENAI/SOLDOTNA The LeeShore Center

KETCHIKAN Women in Safe Homes (WISH)

KODIAK Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center (KWRCC)

KOTZEBUE Maniilaq Family Crisis Center (MFCC)

NOME Bering Sea Women's Group (BSWG)

PALMER/WASILLA Alaska Family Services

PETERSBURG Working Against Violence for Everyone (WAVE)

SEWARD SeaView Community Services

SITKA Sitkans Against Family Violence (SAFV)

UNALASKA Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (USAFV)

UTQIAGVIK Arctic Women in Crisis (AWIC)

VALDEZ - Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV)





Intervention

DV/SA Victim Crisis Services

- Emergency food, shelter, clothing, and transportation
- Safety planning
- Assistance with protective orders
- Individual/group counseling and peer support
- Referral to local services
- Legal aide, advocacy, case management
- Transportation, childcare, job training, employment services and financial planning to allow for economic independence
- Parenting classes
- Homelessness prevention
- Sexual Assault Response Training (SART)
- Emergency Hotline

STAR's Services

Crisis Line

- 1-800-478-8999
- Available 24/7
- 365 days a year



Advocacy

- Crisis intervention
- Long term support
- Counseling
- Case management



Prevention & Education

- ASD approved curricula
- Community trainings
- Outreach



All of STAR's services are *free* and *confidential*

Crisis Line

Standing as the core of our services, the STAR Crisis Line is free, confidential, and available 24/7. It's often the first lifeline for sexual assault survivors seeking help



- Covered by STAR staff members during business hours
- Volunteers cover evenings, overnights, weekends & holidays
- Reporting, resources & referrals
- Main line for communication with partners and on-call advocates

5,754

Total Crisis Line Calls

Who Calls the Crisis Line?



- Survivors & Loved Ones
- Individuals Needing Resources & Support
- Existing/Potential Clients
- Law Enforcement
- Forensic Nurses
- Community Organizations
- Advocates/STAR Staff

What is a SART And how does it work



- SART Team Response
- Jane Doe (Anonymous) Reporting

Direct Services Advocacy



- **Safety Planning**
- **Legal Advocacy**
- **Counseling & Financial Assistance**
- **Resources & Referrals**
- **1:1 Support**
- **Support Through Reporting Process**
- **Emergency Financial Assistance**

Direct Services Advocacy Data FY24



- **16,544 Individual Advocacy Services**
- **439 On Scene Crisis Response (SART, AVR, ER)***
- **901 One-on-One Appointments**
- **542 Total Clients Served**

*SART: Sexual Assault Response Team

AVR: Anonymous Victim Reports

ER: Emergency Room Callouts

Direct Services

Advocacy Data FY24



- **3,557 Advocacy Phone Services**
- **2,872 SART Call-Out Hours**
- **1,802 One-on-One Hours**
- **93 Clients Received Counseling**
- **1,229 Counseling Sessions Provided**
- **1,685 Criminal & Civil Advocacy Services**

AWAIC
100 W 13th Ave
Anchorage, AK

Mission

To provide domestic violence safe shelter, intervention,
and prevention.

AWAIC History and Services

- AWAIC's mission is to provide domestic violence safe shelter, intervention, and prevention
- AWAIC was formed in 1977 and has been at the current site since 1983
- Completed the Safe Spaces Expansion in 2021
- Our core services are our 67-bed emergency shelter for adults and children and our 24-hour crisis line
- In FY24, 1,019 people stayed in the emergency shelter, about half of which at any given time are children. 15,950 safe shelter bed nights were provided.
- Another 320 adults and children received services in our other programs

AWAIC Services

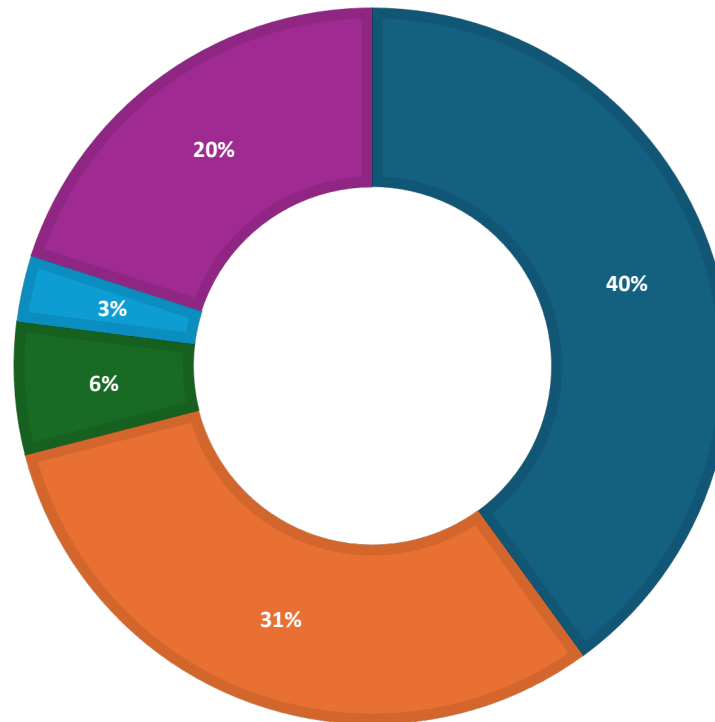
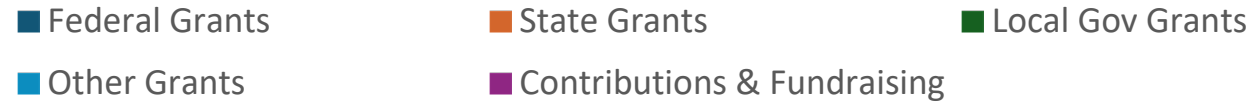
Housing Services

- 67-bed secure emergency shelter
 - All food, clothing, and hygiene items are provided
- Transitional Housing
 - Harmony House
 - Willa's Way
- Moving Forward
 - Rapid Re-Housing
- Safe Haven housing for pets
- Emergency Cold Weather Program

Supportive Services

- 24-hour crisis line
- Support and education groups
- Children's Program
- Legal Advocacy
- Nonresidential case management
- Alaska Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Intervention Project (Financial Assistance)
- Community Education/Prevention

FUNDING SOURCES FY25 BUDGET: \$4.8M





Tundra Women's Coalition



A short history...

- 1767 Wife-beating is legal, “The Rule of Thumb”
- 1871 Alabama and Massachusetts are the first to declare wife-beating illegal.
- 1970-1971: First women’s shelter opens in England and first rape crisis center opens in the United States
- 1978 TWC opens along with over 250 shelters throughout the United States (will soon be 50)



Classic Services

- Emergency Shelter: 325+ unduplicated people a year for 10,000+ shelter nights
- Transitional Housing: 15+ unduplicated people a year for 4000+ transitional housing nights
- Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) response to sexual violence: 60+ responses a year; 200+youth seen at the CAC
- Legal Advocacy: 140+ people assisted with P.O.s, VCCB, court accompaniment, etc.

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) MDT

- Expanded through Telesafe into three of five sub regional communities
- Trained Tribal Victim Advocates
- Began an Advocate Initiated Response (AIR)
- Trained advocates on response to strangulation
- STAR Clinic Exam Room #2





Classic Services

- Children's Program
- Teens Acting Against Violence (TAAV)





Housing Options for Survivors



Atsaq Place
Tundra Youth Home
Stabilization Vouchers





Thrift
Store:

Out of debt
and in the
black!





- Emergency shelter for 17 women and 24 children
- Transitional housing for three women and six children,
- Three non-resident adults with three children were helped with housing vouchers
- One survivor of sexual assault got updates on her legal case from staff
- Eight youth attended TAAV
- 28 Cases were reviewed by MDT members at the CAC case review.
- A SART call out happened at 5
- Local Law enforcement dropped off a mom with a baby at the shelter around 11:00 pm
- And 12 full-time staff came to work, eight of whom are survivors of interpersonal violence.

A Snapshot: April 7th, 2024 from
Midnight to Midnight

Quyana!



TWC:


1-800-478-7788

907-543-3444

907-543-3456

(crisis line)

twc@twcpeace.org



**Thank you for your commitment
to ensuring support services for
those harmed by domestic and
sexual violence in Alaska are
available throughout our great
state.**