

COPPER RIVER BASIN AND PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

DV/SV RESOURCE GUIDE

SURVIVING ABUSE

PROMOTING WELLNESS

CHANGING HARMFUL BEHAVIORS



If you or someone else needs help with safety:

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

ADVOCATES FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE (AVV)

24-hour Crisis Number: 1-800-835-4044

CORDOVA FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER (CFRC)

24-hour Crisis Number: 1-866-790-4357

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Police Departments in Valdez, Cordova, Glenallen: 911

State Troopers: Contact your local Trooper post or call your community's VPSO

REGIONAL OCS OFFICES:

Valdez, Chenega Bay, Tatitlek: 1-888-297-5950

Nanwalek/English Bay: (907) 235-7114

Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Gakona, Gulkana, Kenny Lake, Lake Louise,

McCarthy, Slana, Tazlina: (907) 822-3089

Cordova, Port Graham: (907) 357-9780



CALL 211 OR 1-800-478-2221
FOR ANY SOCIAL SERVICE OR
SAFETY RESOURCE.

More Contact Info: next



PROGRAM DIRECTORY:

Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV)

551 Woodside, Valdez, AK
24-hour Crisis: 1-800-835-4044
Phone: (907) 835-2980
www.avvalaska.org

Chugachmiut Women's Violence Intervention

Phone: (907) 255-6342 or 877-907-8738
www.chugachmiut.org/services/community/violence.html

Copper River Basin Child Advocacy Center

Phone: (907) 822-3733

Copper River Native Association (CRNA) Behavioral Health

Mile 111.5, Richardson Hwy, Copper Center, AK, 99573
Phone: (907) 822-5241
24-hour Behavioral health Crisis Line: (907) 320-1520
www.crnative.org/departments/behavioral-health

Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC)

705 2nd St, Cordova, AK 99574
Business: (907) 424-5674
24-hour Crisis: 1-866-790-4357 or (907) 424-HELP
www.cordovaalaska.org

Mount Sanford Tribal Consortium Healthy Relationships Program

Phone: (907) 822-5399 x305

Native Village of Eyak's Arnat Women's Project

110 Nicholoff Way, Cordova, AK, 99574
Confidential Phone: (907) 424-2232
www.nveyak.com/pages/womensproject.html

DEFINITIONS:

For detailed definitions related to domestic violence see PDF titled "Basic Definitions". For additional information on the reporting and response to domestic violence and child abuse, see PDF infographics.

REPORTING: FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

(See PDF called “**Basic Definitions**” and PDF called “**Infographic: What to Do if You Suspect a Child is Being Abused or Neglected**” for more information on Child Advocacy Centers, or CACs.)

The **Copper River Basin Child Advocacy Center**, located in Gakona, is the region’s child advocacy center (CAC). It is dedicated to providing support for child victims of abuse and their caregivers in a child-friendly environment. Services include:

- **Child-friendly, developmentally appropriate interviews** conducted by a trained forensic interviewer
- **Medical examinations** (when necessary) performed by a caring health care provider with special training in child abuse
- **Family advocates** to guide families through the CAC process and support them afterwards
- **Information and support** to help caregivers understand the abuse and how to help the child
- **Referrals** for counseling, legal services, and any other needs
- **Accompaniment and support** for the child through the court process



The Copper River Basin Child Advocacy Center is a family-friendly environment where children can tell their story and be believed, and where children and families can get help.

Advocates receive training in cultural competency, speak multiple languages, and use professional interpreters through Alaska Language Services.

After contacting law enforcement or OCS, **child and teen victims in Valdez, Cordova, and the villages in the Prince William Sound** would likely travel (at no cost to the family) to Alaska CARES, the CAC in Anchorage. See Anchorage profile for more information on Alaska CARES.

REPORTING: FOR ADULTS

(See PDF called “**Basic Definitions**” and PDF called “**Infographic: what are your options as an adult victim of DV and/or SV**” for more information about the option of reporting and about Sexual Assault Response Teams or SARTs.)

Adults (ages 18 and older) are not required to make a report if they are abused by a partner or sexually assaulted by anyone, but if they choose to, here is what’s in place:

- If a victim (female or male) of sexual assault **in Cordova or the surrounding area** contacts local law enforcement, they can receive transportation (at no cost to them) to a confidential, secure facility in Cordova for the SART process.
- If a victim (female or male) of sexual assault **in Valdez or the surrounding area or in the Copper River Basin** contacts local law enforcement, they can receive transportation (at no cost to them), along with an advocate from Advocates for Victims of Violence, to the secure, confidential SART center in Anchorage.
- In the SART process, the victim can meet with a law enforcement officer, receive support from an advocate, and complete a forensic exam done by a trained medical professional.
- If a victim (female or male) of sexual assault **in Chistochina, Mentasta, or Slana** contacts the Mount Sanford Tribal Health Consortium, staff and/or volunteers can work with the Troopers to provide transportation to the SART in Fairbanks (see Interior profile for more information)
- Partner physical violence can be reported to local law enforcement or health care providers. With the victim’s permission, they can contact victim advocates to assist with safety planning.
- Victims and concerned loved ones may also contact one of the advocacy organizations listed in this guide to get help making a police report and/or to get information about the reporting process.



REPORTING: FOR ADULTS (CONT.)

If a victim chooses not to report to Law Enforcement, they are still highly encouraged to get a medical exam for their own personal health (e.g. antibiotics and Plan B to prevent STDs and pregnancy) and to address any other medical conditions as a result of being assaulted (e.g. strangulation).

Additionally, if a victim chooses to not report or have a medical exam, they are still encouraged to speak with an advocate, who can help them talk about their experience, safety plan etc.



The AVV shelter in Valdez strives to create a family-friendly, home-like atmosphere for women and their children, keeping families together and providing support.

SHELTER

For victims of abuse and their children needing immediate safety, the following options are available:

Valdez:

Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV), a shelter with six beds and one crib for women and their children up to age 18.

Male victims can receive short-term emergency shelter in a hotel through AVV.

Copper River Basin:

Copper River Native Association can help coordinate transportation to the AVV shelter in Valdez

Temporary safe house run by **Mount Sanford Tribal Consortium** in Chistochina for residents of Chistochina, Mentasta, and Slana. Volunteers through Mount Sanford can help coordinate transportation.

Cordova and the villages of Prince William Sound:

There is no shelter in Cordova, but the **Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC)** and the **Native Village of Eyak** can help transport victims to Anchorage for shelter at AWAIC.

The Native Village of Eyak Violence Prevention Program and the **Arnat Program** provide emergency shelter in a hotel for up to 3 days for all victims of violence (men & women).

ADVOCACY, SUPPORT, AND INFORMATION

Trained, compassionate advocates at the following organizations are available to help victims of violence, their family members and loved ones, or others who have questions about abuse:

- Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC), Cordova**
- Native Village of Eyak (NVE), Cordova**
- Copper River Native Association (CRNA) Behavioral Health, Copper Center**
- Mount Sanford Tribal Consortium Healthy Relationships Program, Chistochina**
- Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV), Valdez**
- Chugachmiut DV Program, Valdez and Nanwalek (can travel to other villages)**

Advocates can provide the following:

- **24-hour hotline** where they provide a listening ear, support, and information to victims of violence, their family members and loved ones, or others who have questions about abuse (CFRC & AVV)
- **Safety planning**
- **Legal advocacy** (court accompaniment, protective orders, connecting victim to a lawyer at no cost, etc.)
- **Medical advocacy** (supporting victim to get healthcare and accompanying victim to a SART exam)
- **One-on-one support** and information, and group support and education (see section 4 of prevention)
- Help to find housing, food, clothing, job training and other **basic needs**
- Help to find other needed **resources**, such as counseling or children's programs
- Trained interpreters/language lines for languages other than English, and some staff who speak other languages, such as Spanish and Tagalog
- Staff trained in and sensitive to working with LGBTQ clients (AVV, Chugachmiut, CFRC, Eyak)

PROMOTING WELLNESS

YOUTH MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Education Opportunities:

Copper River Basin:

The **Copper River Basin health department staff** teaches safe touch curriculum in schools in the area.

Valdez:

Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV) offers K–12 presentations as requested at the schools. These include topics such as:

- bullying prevention
- healthy relationships
- teen dating violence
- conflict resolution

Copper River Basin:

Copper River Native Association (CRNA)'s DV coordinator can do presentations for youth in villages about healthy relationships, bullying, suicide, and more.

Promoting Wellness: next



YOUTH MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Education Opportunities:

Cordova and the villages of Prince William Sound:

The **Chugachmiut DV Program** can talk in classrooms in Nanwalek, Port Graham, Tatitlek, and Chenega Bay about topics such as:

- healthy relationships
- dating red flags
- suicide prevention
- protective factors and increasing community support

Cordova and the villages of Prince William Sound:

The **Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC)** helps schools in Cordova implement the “Fourth R” healthy relationships curriculum and teaches children in schools, churches and other settings about topic such as:

- personal safety
- the three types of touches
- bullying
- healthy relationships

Ways Youth Can Get Involved:

In Valdez, AVV runs arts-based after-school programs at the elementary and middle schools in Valdez. These programs use art to address self-esteem, conflict resolution, healthy relationships, and more.

In Cordova and the villages of Prince William Sound:

CFRC and the **Native Village of Eyak’s Tribal Youth Council** provide opportunities for youth to engage in statewide violence prevention and leadership work, including attending the statewide Lead On! Youth Summit. CFRC provides opportunities for youth to make a difference among their peers in school and through arts-based summer programs.

The **Chugachmiut DV Program** involves teens in Valdez, Nanwalek, Port Graham Tatitlek, and Chenega Bay in meaningful activities, such as planning a traveling health fair for the villages.

TRAININGS FOR TRIBES AND PROFESSIONAL GROUPS:

Valdez and the Villages of Prince William Sound:

The **Chugachmiut DV Program** offers trainings to tribes and professional groups in the Valdez and Prince William Sound area. Trainings can help tribes and organizations to:

- create policies, protocols and practices to address domestic violence
- build crisis intervention skills
- build capacity in legal advocacy, protective orders, mandated reporting, etc.

Valdez and the Villages of Prince William Sound:

AVV can provide trainings to school personnel, organizations, medical providers, and others in the Valdez area on topics such as:

- DV and SV basics
- Indicators and impact of family violence
- Basic skills for victim advocacy
- Protective orders, Alaska statutes, mandated reporting, etc.



TRAININGS FOR TRIBES AND PROFESSIONAL GROUPS: (CONT.)

Copper River Basin:

The **Copper River Basin Child Advocacy Center**, located in Gakona, can support local organizations to provide educational outreach and promote family-friendly activities.

The **Mount Sanford Tribal Consortium Healthy Relationships Program** can provide trainings on DV and related topics to Health Aides, law enforcement, volunteers, and others in Chistochina, Mentasta, and Slana.

Cordova:

CFRC is available to train church personnel, professional groups, and others on child sexual abuse and how to teach children about personal safety.

CHANGING COMMUNITY NORMS:

In Valdez:

AVV, along with local partners, puts on many events and displays in Valdez during October for DV awareness month and during April for SV awareness month, and promotes prevention messages via local media. AVV welcomes volunteers to help with this work.

In Copper River Basin:

The Copper River Basin Child Advocacy Center presents at community health fairs and other outreach opportunities about keeping children safe.

In Cordova and the villages of Prince William Sound:

Numerous organizations, including CFRC and The Native Village of Eyak, work together to engage the Cordova community during October for DV awareness month and during April for SV awareness month.

The Chugachmiut DV Program and CFRC put on a traveling health fair addressing healthy relationships in the villages of Nanwalek, Port Graham Tatitlek, and Chenega Bay.



Advocates (like this one at the AVV shelter in Valdez) provide a listening ear, support, information, and help connecting to resources. They also give educational presentations and trainings to youth and adults, run support and empowerment groups, and raise awareness in the community.

EMPOWERMENT, SUPPORT, AND EDUCATION GROUPS :

In Valdez and the villages of Prince William Sound:

- The Chugachmiut DV Program holds regular women's groups on health and wellness in Nanwalek to build self-care, self-esteem, and communication skills, and offers yoga and meditation for women in Valdez.

In Cordova:

- CFRC holds a women's art class and puts on a parenting group in partnership with Sound Alternatives Behavioral Health.
- The Native Village of Eyak's Arnat Women's Project hosts a women's gathering where women can make arts and crafts, build self-esteem, and strengthen their support network.

Changing Harmful Behaviors: next



Angel and her colleagues at CRNA Behavioral Health provide culturally-relevant education and group sessions for those who have abused others.

HELP FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE HARMED OTHERS

Batterer Intervention Programs:

There are no batterer intervention programs in the region; that is, there are no group programs that address the beliefs and learned behaviors that contribute to violence and how to change them. The resources that do exist (all of which are available to those who are court-referred and to those who choose to get help) are:

In Valdez, state-approved anger management classes and individual counseling at Providence Counseling Center

In Cordova and the villages of Prince William Sound, there is individual counseling at Safe Harbor in Cordova and referrals by the Chugachmiut Women's Violence Intervention Program to the Batterer Intervention Program in Homer for people living in the villages close by

For parents:

For information on responses for caregivers who are involved with the Office of Children's Services (OCS) or at risk of OCS involvement, contact your local OCS office or ICWA coordinator.