

Red Wind Consulting, Inc.
Creating Sister Space: Building an Interconnected Web of Support
Tribal Transitional Housing Conference



Date: December 6-8, 2017

Location: Denver Sheraton Downtown 

Who: This conference will serve Tribal Advocates and Program Managers/Coordinators working in Transitional Housing, Tribal Advocates and Program Managers/Coordinators wanting to develop Transitional Housing, and Tribal Transitional Housing supporting community practitioners.

Victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and trafficking are on a long journey as they navigate the web of safety needs, trauma, life changing events, resources and system responders. Tribal Transitional Housing is one of our strongest resources for making a difference in the lives of women who have lived with violence. It provides us a longer period of time while also offering a more comprehensive range of services and supports to help them get solid on their feet. As tribal advocates working with a woman coming in to the program, we want to think about her as our relative. We want to offer safety, make her comfortable, make sure she has breathing room to think about what is happening, to think about her next steps and to think about her life.

This conference will help you expand your understanding of transitional housing, how to respond to a range of issues facing victims and survivors in their lives and support you in building the web of resources to enhance your tribal transitional housing program.

Registration

Tuesday

Evening Registration

6:00pm – 8:00pm

For those wanting to register in advance, you can stop by the registration table located <<insert location>> to sign in, pick up your materials and name tags.

Wednesday

Registration and Networking

7:30am – 8:30am

Registration is located at <<insert location>>

- *We encourage you to sit with new people to learn about other tribal programs and their work.*

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DAY 1 – Wednesday, December 6, 2017

What is our core approach to working with victims in transitional housing? Our work today includes building the foundational belief about creating a time and space for victims/survivors and their families to get on their feet, recover from the violence, and look toward their futures. This includes addressing the barriers that often prevent a person's from moving toward the future they envision for themselves.

Objectives for Day 1

Participants will:

1. *Develop an understanding of what transitional housing is.*
2. *Build an understanding of what guides their work with tribal victims and families in transitional housing.*
3. *Explore challenging issues and learn new options for care.*

General Session - <<insert room>>

8:30am – 8:45am **Traditional welcome**

8:45am – 9:00am **Opening Comments**

- *Overview of the conference*
- *Logistics*

9:00am – 9:20am **What is Transitional Housing? And why do we need it?**

An introduction to Transitional Housing programs, including: basic requirements, designs, responses for safety, and the impact they can make in your community.

- *Victoria Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*

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DAY 1 – Wednesday, December 6, 2017

9:20am – 10:30am Creating Sister Space: Overarching Philosophy/Theory for Our Approach

What it means to “Create Sister Space” in housing programs and how to build programs that honor the sacredness of women.

- *Victoria Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*
- *Daryl Olson, Consultant*

10:30am – 10:45am Break

10:45am – 11:30am Whole family, whole life

Designing a program that extends services to secondary victims on an ongoing basis.

- *Wyanet Tasker, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*
- *Denise Lindquist, Consultant*

11:30am – 12:00pm Transitional Housing Community Forum

A review of the web-based transitional housing community forum, how to access it and its benefits for programs

- *Victoria Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*

12:00pm – 1:30pm Lunch (on your own)

Transitional Housing Forum in Action <<location>> (optional)

Opportunity to practice. Sign up at the registration table for 10 minute sessions during the lunch break

- *Red Wind Consulting, Inc. staff*

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DAY 1 – Wednesday, December 6, 2017

1:30pm – 3:00pm Breakout Session A

<p>A1. <<ROOM>> TRADITIONAL WORK WITH VICTIMS, BUILDING PERSONAL IDENTITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Deb Manuel, Morning Star Leadership Foundation</i> 	<p>A2. <<ROOM>> PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT, INSPIRING, MOTIVATING AND CREATING CHANGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Daryl Olson, Consultant</i> 	<p>A3. <<ROOM>> WORKING WITH FAMILIES WITHIN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, STRATEGIES AND COLLABORATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wyanet Tasker, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.</i>
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3:00pm – 3:15pm Break

3:15pm – 4:45pm Breakout Session B

<p>B1. <<ROOM>> WHEN VICTIMS USE ALCOHOL AND DRUGS, ADDRESSING THE PROBLEMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Karen Artichoker, Consultant</i> 	<p>B2. <<ROOM>> MENTAL HEALTH BARRIERS AND STRATEGIES, TRAUMA INFORMED WORK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Denise Lindquist, Consultant</i> 	<p>B3. <<ROOM>> DECOLONIZING TRAUMA, AN INDIGENOUS RESPONSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Deb Manuel, Morning Star Leadership Foundation</i> • <i>Raquel DeHerrera, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.</i>
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5:00pm – 5:30pm Transitional Housing Forum in Action <<location>> (optional)

Opportunity to practice - sign up at the registration table in advance for 10 minute sessions

- *Red Wind Consulting, Inc. staff*

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DAY 2 – Thursday, December 7, 2017

Today our work includes putting in place the complex resources to enhance the range of our advocacy available for victims/survivors in transitional housing. We will explore an array of resources surrounding economic advocacy to help victims/survivors build a future for themselves that goes beyond just surviving.

Objectives for Day 2

Participants will:

- *Be able to identify the VAWA housing protections.*
- *Increase their knowledge of housing resources necessary for working with victims within transitional housing.*
- *Gain an understanding of economic justice options for victims.*

8:00am – 8:45am **Transitional Housing Forum in Action** <<location>> (optional)

Opportunity to practice - sign up at the registration table in advance for 10 minute sessions

- *Red Wind Consulting, Inc. staff*

General Session - <<insert room>>

9:00am – 9:15am **Processing Yesterday, Moving into Today**

- *Victoria Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*

9:00am – 10:00am **Addressing Poverty, Building Independence**

Advocacy strategies that help with uncovering and securing resources that support economic independence.

- *Daryl Olson, American Indian Community Housing Organization*

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DAY 2 – Thursday, December 7, 2017

10:00am – 10:45am Housing and Violence Against Women

Overcoming a lack of affordable housing; a significant barrier for women who are experiencing violence.

- *Eric Shepherd, Consultant*

10:45am – 11:00am Break

11:00am – 12:00pm Introduction to Financial Literacy

Knowledge and skills that survivors need in order to make informed decisions with their financial resources.

- *Victoria Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*

12:00pm – 1:30pm Lunch (on your own)

Transitional Housing Forum in Action <<location>> (optional)

Opportunity to practice - sign up at the registration table in advance for 10 minute sessions

- *Red Wind Consulting, Inc. staff*

Transitional Housing Technical Assistance (optional)

Opportunity to receive technical assistance and discuss your program while having lunch together. We have a reserved table for this session in the <<insert location>>.

Sign up at the registration table. Limited to 4 participants.

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DAY 2 – Thursday, December 7, 2017

1:30pm – 3:00pm Breakout Session C

<p>C1. <<ROOM>></p> <p>HOUSING FIRST. WORKING WITH LANDLORDS AND TRIBAL HOUSING AUTHORITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Daryl Olson, American Indian Community Housing Organization</i> • <i>Karen Artichoker, Consultant</i> 	<p>C2. <<ROOM>></p> <p>BUILDING A PARTNERSHIP WITH YOUR TRIBAL HOUSING AUTHORITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eric Shepherd, Consultant</i> 	<p>C3. <<ROOM>></p> <p>BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC JUSTICE OPTIONS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Deb Manuel, Morning Star Leadership Council</i>
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3:00pm – 3:15pm Break

3:15pm – 4:45pm Breakout Session D

<p>D1. <<ROOM>></p> <p>DYNAMIC SAFETY PLANNING STRATEGIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Raquel DeHerrera, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.</i> 	<p>D2. <<ROOM>></p> <p>FINANCIAL LITERACY. OVERVIEW OF THE PURPLE PURSE CURRICULUM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Victoria Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.</i> 	<p>D3. <<ROOM>></p> <p>FAMILY SERVICES, WORKING WITH THE ENTIRE FAMILY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wyanet Tasker, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.</i> • <i>Deb Manuel, Morning Star Leadership Council</i>
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DAY 2 – Thursday, December 7, 2017

5:00pm – 5:30pm **Transitional Housing Forum in Action <<location>> (optional)**

Opportunity to practice - sign up at the registration table in advance for 10 minute sessions

- *Red Wind Consulting, Inc. staff*

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DAY 3 – Friday, December 8, 2017

Our work today will help to pull everything we learned together. We will focus on the critical importance of putting in place documentation to support our work. This is basic compliance and you will learn a simple method for tracking activities. Community is a core for addressing the isolation that exists as a result of the violence. We will discuss what it means to be in community and explore some strategies for building community with your transitional housing program. And finally, we will engage in a work session to develop a plan to incorporate their new ideas into their program design and practice.

Objectives for Day 3

Participants will:

1. Learn how to conduct program and client documentation.
2. Develop their understanding of the importance of building community within tribal transitional housing.
3. Develop a plan to incorporate their new ideas into their program design and practice.

General Session - <<insert room>>

9:00am – 9:10am Processing Yesterday, Moving into Today

- *Victoria Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*

9:15am – 10:00am Program Documentation

Meeting grant requirements and maintaining confidentiality in housing program documentation to ensure program compliance.

- *Raquel DeHerrera, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*
- *Victoria Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*

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DAY 3 – Friday, December 8, 2017

10:00 am – 10:30am Building Community

Creating a community of support, connections, and resources for housing participants.

- *Daryl Olson, American Indian Community Housing Organization*

10:30am – 11:00am Break (extended break allowing time to check out of the hotel)

11:00am – 12:00pm Transitional Housing Planning: Incorporating New Ideas in Your Work

Strategies and action plans that go beyond intentions and beliefs into positive effects for program participants.

- *Vicki Ybanez, Red Wind Consulting, Inc.*

12:00pm – 12:15pm Closing comments

12:15pm – 12:30pm Traditional Closing

12:45pm – 1:30pm Transitional Housing Technical Assistance (optional)

Opportunity to receive technical assistance and discuss your program having lunch together. We have a reserved table for this session in the <<insert location>>.

Sign up at the registration table. Limited to 4 participants.

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Conference Session Descriptions

Breakout Sessions A – 1:30pm – 3:00pm

A1. TRADITIONAL WORK WITH VICTIMS, BUILDING PERSONAL IDENTITY

Offering traditional healing options can be powerful pieces of healing for survivors. Cultural knowledge leads to stronger feelings of identity and belonging. Each tribal community will have their own cultural practices that survivors can participate in. For example, some teachings form a sense of connectedness to the earth by promoting roles and responsibilities, raising awareness of development, or correlating healing with seasons. Incorporating ceremonies, sweats, and smudging into your advocacy program produces a more holistic experience. This session will discuss how advocates can bring traditional options into programs to shape holistic practices for survivors to feel empowered to lead the life they are meant to have.

A2. PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT, INSPIRING, MOTIVATING AND CREATING CHANGE

Transitional Housing programs often overlook supportive services that create empowered survivors who can construct an enhanced skill set for self-sufficiency. Program participants need a range of services, compassion, and understanding around where they are at in their journey for successful outcomes. This session will review how to engage in meaningful ways with survivors, and provide inspiration and motivation for changes.

A3. WORKING WITH FAMILIES WITHIN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, STRATEGIES AND COLLABORATIONS

Advocates working in Transitional Housing programs usually interact with family members who accompany and live with the survivor. While Advocates are focused on the primary victim, there are simple ways to work with the whole family. It involves a philosophy that recognizes the wide spread impact of violence. This session will provide information on some approaches when working with families and collaborative possibilities to overcome possible obstacles.

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Conference Session Descriptions

Breakout Sessions B – 3:15pm – 4:45pm

B1. WHEN VICTIMS USE ALCOHOL AND DRUGS, ADDRESSING THE PROBLEMS

Substance use and abuse are relatively new problems in our tribal communities. As alcohol and drugs were introduced, tribes have had to develop healthy responses to these problems. As Advocates, it's important to understand our unique history as Native people and distinct forms of trauma if we are to formulate respectful methods for working with victims. Presenter will explore challenges for victims who are using drugs and alcohol, and ways to lower barriers while helping them access resources.

B2. MENTAL HEALTH BARRIERS AND STRATEGIES, TRAUMA INFORMED WORK

Knowing that our communities have a high rate of trauma, Transitional Housing Advocates need a fundamental understanding around mental health complexities and strategies for obtaining appropriate services. Events that lead to someone needing housing are inherently traumatic. Utilizing "Universal Precautions" when working with victims and realizing that behaviors are a part of coping helps create an awareness of how trauma impacts lives. This session will review essential mental health information necessary for holistic Advocacy and how to implement Trauma Informed Care in your local programs.

B3. DECOLONIZING TRAUMA, AN INDIGENOUS RESPONSE

Transitional Housing programs may find difficulties when trying to apply policies and procedures utilized by mainstream service providers. Unintended consequences can negatively impact victims by using options that are more harmful than helpful. Instead of replicating programs built through colonization, Advocates have the opportunity to make structures that are balanced and harmonious. This session will discuss traditional perspectives on healing, resiliency, connectedness, and community to decolonize the Advocacy work that is being done in Indian Country.

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Conference Session Descriptions

Breakout Sessions C – 1:30pm – 3:00pm

C1. HOUSING FIRST. WORKING WITH LANDLORDS AND TRIBAL HOUSING AUTHORITIES

The Housing First model makes obtaining stable housing the priority before starting to address other barriers in victim's lives. However, it is not an easy task to find suitable housing for participants because many landlords do not understand the dynamics of violence and oppression. Presenters will examine ways to recruit and cultivate relationships with landlords to produce valuable long-term resources and partners for Transitional Housing.

C2. BUILDING A PARTNERSHIP WITH YOUR TRIBAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

Finding consistent housing options can be challenging in our tribal communities. A times, available services struggle to meet the community's needs. Information in this session will include barriers in creating partnerships with housing authorities and how to identify opportunities for collaboration. Tactics will be shared to improve the possibilities for successful partnerships that improve outcomes for housing participants.

C3. BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC JUSTICE OPTIONS

Participants in Transitional Housing programs can face a variety of economic barriers, such as: court debt, debts resulting from predatory practices, the loss of financial benefits, and discriminatory practices. Economic justice involves creating a foundation for dignified, productive, and creative opportunities for financial stability. This session will give information on building partnerships and collaborations that promote economic justice.

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Conference Session Descriptions

Breakout Sessions D – 3:15pm – 4:45pm

D1. DYNAMIC SAFETY PLANNING STRATEGIES

Safety planning is a dynamic process that should be ongoing, flexible, and responsive to changing needs. Effective safety planning is done in a way that develops a survivor's skill set to be able to plan independently at home, to and from work, at public locations, and with their children. In this session, Advocates will learn what questions can be asked of survivors to help them develop clarity of the situation, the planning process, how to develop safety strategies, and how to access resources during this session.

D2. FINANCIAL LITERACY. OVERVIEW OF THE PURPLE PURSE CURRICULUM

Financial literacy is a tool that empowers survivors to be self-sufficient throughout barriers that they face. The curriculum presented will include plans for addressing complex financial and safety challenges that come when victims leave perpetrators, how to protect financial safety, methods for dealing with the misuse of financial records, and tools to help participants work towards long term financial stability.

D3. FAMILY SERVICES, WORKING WITH THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Advocates are often at a loss on how to comprehensively work with the whole family in Transitional Housing programs. Programs may not have family services in place and Advocates are not sure what interventions are allowed. Presenters will discuss appropriate resources, safety planning, and family service coordination during this session. Because our families are such integral parts of our lives, creating healing options for family members makes positive impacts on victims as well.