

ǎstcawt FAQ

A PROGRAM OF RURAL RESOURCES VICTIM SERVICES

What is Rural Resources Victim Services?

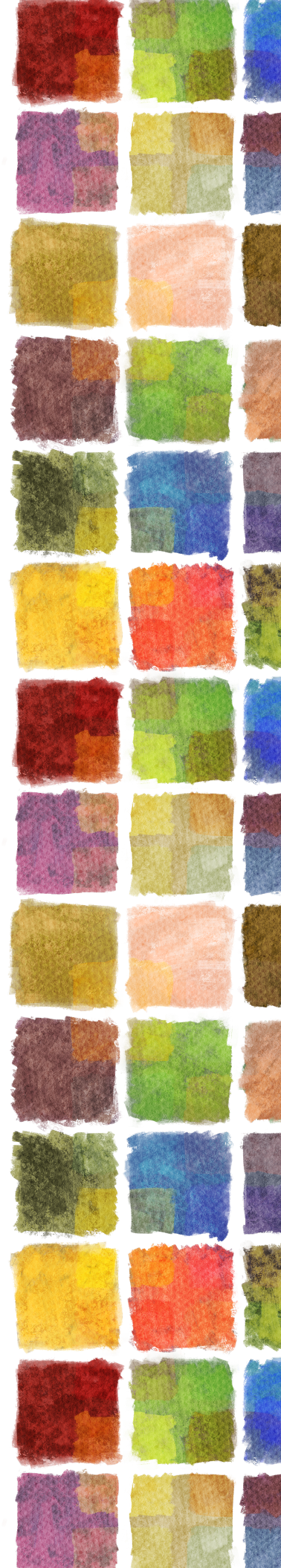
Rural Resources Victim Services serves victims of crime and abuse in Stevens, Ferry, and Lincoln counties through direct service and advocacy. This can include services like emotional support, crisis intervention, emergency shelter, 24/7 helpline, assistance with protection orders or other legal advocacy, information and referrals to community resources, medical responses to local hospitals, and safety planning. All of our services are free, confidential, and non-judgmental.

Rural Resources Victim Services is also home to the Community Engagement Program, which is responsible for outreach about our services, community education, and prevention of future abuse and victimization.

Rural Resources Victim Services is a nonprofit - we're funded through federal, state, and community grants and donations.

What is ǎstcawt?

ǎstcawt is a weekly, indigenous culture-based curriculum developed by local tribal members and Rural Resources Victim Services to meet the specific needs of our service area's tribal communities. The program facilitators engage youth using various hands-on cultural and language activities to help them reconnect to their culture and traditions while building the skills they'll need to grow into healthy, responsible community members. Through partnership with The Boys and Girls Club of Inchelium, program facilitators stay with the same cohort throughout the year when possible to facilitate the greatest amount of individual growth.



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What topics do we cover?

Each class covers a combination of social-emotional learning topics as well as key components of the interior Salish traditions and knowledge. Skills such as empathy, healthy communication, boundaries, emotions, healthy coping skills, conflict resolution, bystander intervention, and supporting survivors of violence are taught in conjunction with traditional Salish values and experiences to empower our youth and families in their healing from trauma experienced as a result of colonization. In addition, we gather feedback from the youth and community to design activities that take into account their interests and needs.

Why do we cover these topics?

Many of those topics are “protective factors”, or skills that promote individual emotional health and positive relationships. Research shows that by targeting risk factors such as lack of empathy, lack of healthy relationships, unhealthy coping skills, etc. and by increasing protective factors, rates of violence drop significantly.. Further research suggests that culture revitalization in tribal communities creates a reduction in violence, abuse, addiction, and suicide rates.

What are our goals?

Our ultimate goal is preventing violence and abuse by helping youth build important social skills and become rooted within their cultural identity. In the short term, we strive to create positive, measurable change in protective factors, and decrease risk factor behaviors. We measure youth learning in each class through surveys, observation, and other evidence-based evaluation methods.

Contact us:

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