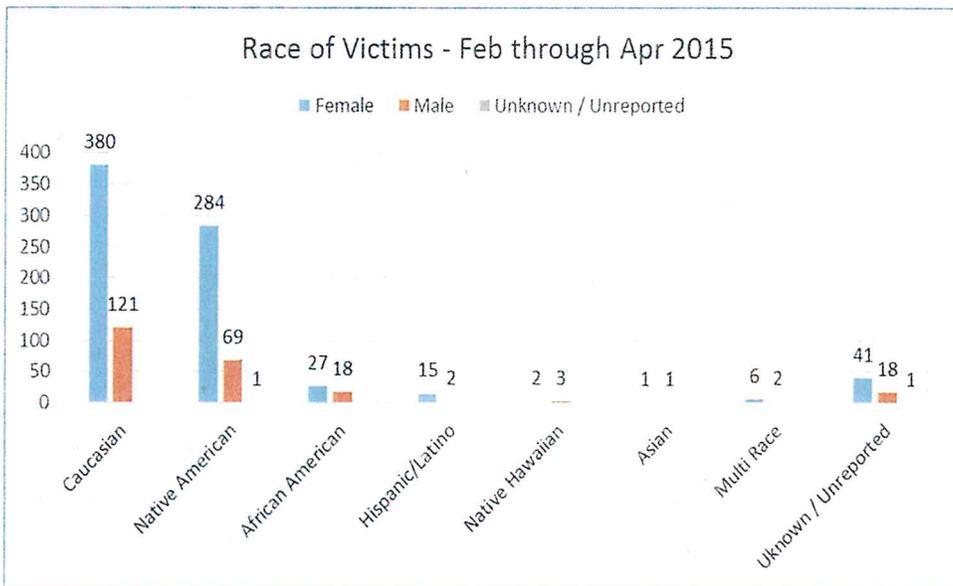
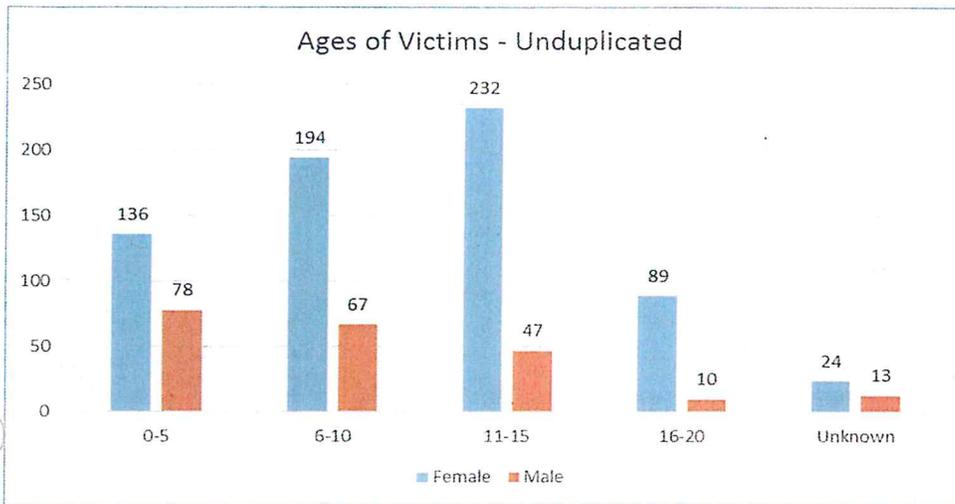


Jolene's Law Task Force 2015

Child sexual abuse is an adult problem. In no other way do we make our children responsible for their own safety, as we give them shelter, clothing, food, education and take care of them when they are sick.

And yet if they are being sexually abused, we leave it up to them – to tell, endure, to heal

Child Sexual Abuse Victims in South Dakota, 2015



Reporting Agencies: Central South Dakota Child Assessment Center, Children's Home Child Advocacy Center, Child's Voice, Oglala Sioux Tribe Child Protection Services, South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation, and South Dakota Department of Social Services Division of Child Protection Services, only one tribe reported

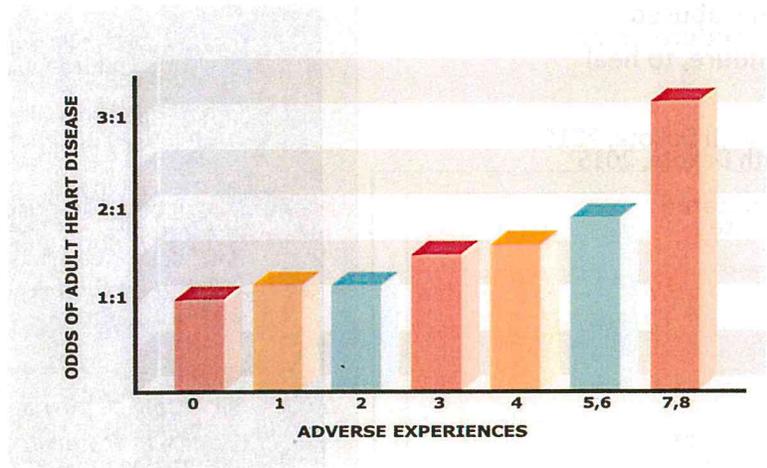
Child Sexual Abuse in South Dakota

- Yearly 4,000 children are reported to have experienced sexual abuse.
- Female victims comprise 76.2% of all reports and male victims comprise 23.8% of all reports.
- Females are more vulnerable as they age to 15, with males most at risk ages 0-5.
- It happens in all socio-economic and race groups.
- The highest percentage of offenders are known by their victims, with the most being "other known person" followed by parent/guardian and other relative, it is not about "stranger danger".
- All counties report child sexual abuse.
- Only 4 counties and 2 reservations in South Dakota are within a county or tribal community that has a NCA Accredited Child Advocacy Center.

Sen. Shute

The Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACES) reveals the staggering proof of the health, social, and economic risks that result from childhood trauma, such as:

- One or more ACE increases the risk of cancer, heart, depression and obesity.
- Those with an ACE score of 6 and higher have a lifespan almost two decades shorter than those with a score of zero.
- Toxic stress damages developing brain architecture leading to life-long problems in learning, behavior, and physical and mental health.



Recommend Continued Work in 2016

Convene a statewide coalition of vested entities regarding child sexual abuse to:

- Develop ten year measurable goals for improvement in all areas
- Develop incremental benchmarks within the larger goal
- Design action plans to attain benchmarks and ten year goals
- Secure funding and implement developed plan strategies
- Measure incremental outcomes to inform change of action steps
- Design statewide infrastructure that sustains the effort moving forward

Lead Agencies and Framework of Approach

USD Center for Child Maltreatment
KNOW

- Lead statewide collaborative with all schools that educate mandatory reporters
- Lead evidence-based/research work that informs Respond & Prevent, along with outcome measurement

CPS & CACs 5 Regions System
RESPOND

- Lead statewide collaborative to plan and implement identified response structure
- Lead statewide collaborative design of best practice CAC involvement in every case

Children's Home Society
PREVENT

- Lead statewide collaborative for public awareness and prevention
- Lead statewide collaborative for K-12 education system

Jolene's Law Task Force Major Conclusions:

- Child sexual abuse is serious, significant issue in South Dakota.
- This topic is a public health priority for the safety and health of our kids.
- For victims, this is a medical problem that demands specialty response, treatment, and referrals.
- The most powerful lever for change rests with mandatory reporters.
- A coordinated system of response and early intervention must be developed.
- Using a Child Advocacy Center (CAC) & Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDT) is best practice in response to child sexual abuse.
- A single entity should be responsible to aggregate statewide child sexual abuse data.
- South Dakota adults need to lead a culture shift to protect our children.

Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment

Committed to the safety of children

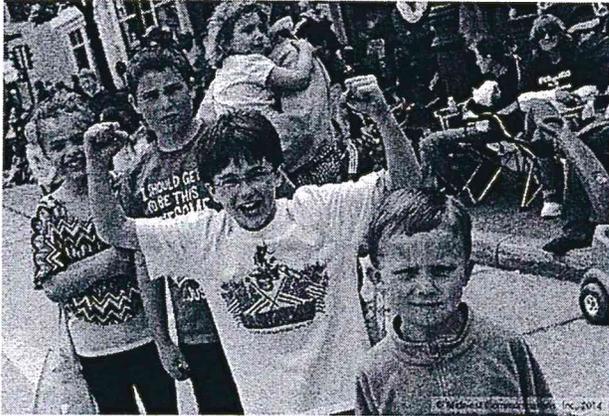
Since 2014, the Jolene's Law Task Force has studied the devastating impact of child sexual abuse in South Dakota. The Task Force's work has included policy recommendations to improve the State's recognition of, response to, and prevention of child maltreatment and sexual abuse through victim support, public and private collaboration, and the use of research and evidence based practice. This work has created an opportunity for South Dakota to emerge as a regional and national leader in the identification and prevention of this problem. The research is clear – prevention efforts are a successful strategy to stop the cycle of child abuse. With this context in mind, the University of South Dakota (USD) in partnership with the Jolene's Law Task Force proposes a *Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment*. The Center aims to contribute to the State's overall public health by playing a significant role in strengthening the State's culture related to preventing and responding to child maltreatment.



Professional education in health and human services is critical in translating policy into practice. USD's broad expertise in psychology, counseling, social work, public health, medicine, nursing, law, and education provides unparalleled opportunities to offer education related to the prevention of child maltreatment and sexual abuse. The USD *Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment* will coordinate education, outreach, and research initiatives that increase public awareness and prevention of child maltreatment and sexual abuse throughout the state. The Center will actively engage education partners (public and private universities, tribal colleges, and technical schools), state and tribal governments, and professional organizations in determining training needs. In addition, the Center will develop and deliver learning competencies and training programs appropriate for all levels – from students first learning about child maltreatment, to skills for counselors, teachers, and social workers who work with victims, to legal and health professionals who may require specialized training for licenses and certifications. Research within the Center will benefit the state by identifying the latest prevention and treatment techniques and providing data management and analysis assistance to state agencies. The *Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment* at the University of South Dakota will operate under the following broad guidelines:

1. Develop competencies, curricula, consistent training standards, and professional development opportunities for mandatory reporters of child maltreatment and sexual abuse in partnership with state, community, and academic organizations;
2. Facilitate the creation of community, state, and education partnerships to advocate against child maltreatment and sexual abuse;
3. Identify potential funding sources and develop inter-professional grant proposals for research and practice related to treating and preventing child maltreatment and sexual abuse;

4. Collaborate with state, regional, and national stakeholders, and provide leadership in developing research areas addressing child maltreatment and sexual abuse; and
5. Provide assistance/expertise to Board of Regents institutions on creating new degree programs related to child maltreatment and sexual abuse as well as revising/creating courses in fields requiring mandatory reporter training.



The proposed funding includes support for 1.0 FTE position to lead the Center and work with inter-professional teams at USD and across the state (12-month professor in social work and/or public health with a doctorate, expertise in child maltreatment issues, and strong research and grant experience). Two graduate assistants to perform data compilation, analysis and management assistance. Operating resources will support general supplies and materials.

General Fund Request

➤ **\$210,725**