

Tom Barrett Mayor

Bevan K. Baker, CHE Commissioner of Health

Health Department

Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

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September 2, 2015

Lyle Ignace, M.D., M.P.H. Executive Director Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center Inc. 1711 S. 11th St Milwaukee, WI 53204

Dear Dr. Ignace:

The Milwaukee Commission of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is pleased to write a letter of commitment and support for the Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center's 2015 application to the Indian Health Service to establish a Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative.

In 1979, the City of Milwaukee's Common Council created a multidisciplinary team of system and community stakeholders known as the Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (MCDVSA). Housed in the City Health Department's Office of Violence Prevention, the Commission's mission is to increase safety for victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and to hold perpetrators accountable. The Commission staff and leadership strive to facilitate Milwaukee's coordinated response to intimate partner and sexual violence by establishing a focus point for coordination and discussion of the community's needs. The Commission provides a centralized conduit for dissemination and development of community awareness activities and professional training as well as change of policy and practice in the areas of abuse and assault.

The Commission agrees to work with identified project partners and is committed to:

- Providing in-kind staff expertise and consultation in support of grant goals and activities and promoting collaboration with current institutional and community stakeholders who serve persons impacted by abuse and assault.
- Facilitating policy and protocol review during monthly Commission subcommittee meetings to improve response to American Indian victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, with recommendations and status updates at general monthly Commission meetings.
- Distributing relevant materials and resource information to professionals and the community at large through Commission and City of Milwaukee communications resources, including web, print, and other city-wide communications outlets.

The Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is pleased to assist the Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center in its work to achieve the goals of this initiative and to enrich current efforts to provide culturally competent domestic violence and sexual assault prevention and intervention services for the benefit of American Indian women and families in the Milwaukee area.

Sincerely,

Erin M. Perkins

Coordinator, MCDVSA