

KENAI

DV/SV RESOURCE GUIDE

SURVIVING ABUSE

PROMOTING WELLNESS

CHANGING HARMFUL BEHAVIORS



Photo Credit: Laura Avellaneda-Cruz

If you or someone else needs help with safety:

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

HAVEN HOUSE IN HOMER:

24-hour Crisis Number: (907) 235-8943

LEESHORE CENTER IN KENAI

24-hour Crisis Number: (907) 283-7257

SEAVIEW IN SEWARD

24-hour Crisis Number: (907) 224-3027

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Police Departments (Homer, Kenai/Soldotna, Seward): 911
Contact your local State Trooper post or call your local VSPO

REGIONAL OCS OFFICES:

Seward, Hope, Sunrise, Moose Pass: 907-224-5236

Kenai, Clam Gulch, Cooper Landing, Kasilof, Soldotna, Nikiski, Sterling: 907-283-3136

Homer, Anchor Point, Seldovia, Nanwalek (English Bay), Ninilchik, Nikolaevsk, Voznesenka: (907) 235-7114

PROGRAM DIRECTORY:

Chugachmiut Women's Violence Intervention

Phone: 907-255-6342 or 877-907-8738

www.chugachmiut.org/services/community/violence.html

Kenai Child Advocacy Center

601 Frontage Rd. Ste. 102., Kenai, AK 99611

Phone: 907-283-4455

www.havenhousealaska.org

LeeShore Center

325 S Spruce St, Kenai, AK 99611

24-hour Crisis: 907-283-7257

Business: 907-283-9479

www.LeeShoreak.org



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

More Contact Info: next



DIRECTORY OF PROGRAMS (CONT.):

Seaview Community Services

302 Railway Avenue, Seward, Alaska 99664
24-hour Crisis: 907-224-3027
Business: 907-224-5257 or toll free (within Alaska)
1-888-224-5257
www.seaviewseward.org

Seward Child Advocacy Center

216 4th Avenue, Seward, AK 99664
Phone: 907-769-1010
www.havenhousealaska.org

Sovereign Nation of the Kenaitze

Na'ini Social Services Dept.
150 North Willow Street, Kenai, Alaska 99611
Phone: 907-335-7600
www.kenaitze.org

Sovereign Nation of the Kenaitze

Nakenu Family Center
508 Upland St., Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: 1-888-491-3360 or 907-335-7300
www.kenaitze.org

South Peninsula Haven House

(DV/SV agency/shelter, Child Advocacy Center, and Batterer Intervention Program)
3776 Lake St., Homer, AK, 99603
24-hour Crisis: 907-235-8943
Business: 907-235-7712
www.havenhousealaska.org

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 **Kenai Peninsula** has Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) in **Homer, Kenai, and Seward**. They are all affiliated with Haven House in Homer. Each are dedicated to providing support for child victims of abuse (children ages 0 – 17 and adults of a developmental age under 18) and their caregivers in a child-friendly environment and in secure, confidential facilities. Services include:

- **Transportation** to the CAC, if needed
- **Interviews** conducted by a trained forensic interviewer
- **Medical examinations** (when necessary) performed by a compassionate, specially-trained health professional
- **Well-child check-up** and needed basic medical care
- **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

Advocates have training in working with families from multiple cultural and linguistic backgrounds, and use language lines for languages not covered.



Pictured above is family advocate Tawna in front of the Kenai Child Advocacy Center, a family-friendly environment where children can tell their story and be believed, and where children and families can get help. Tawna also supports the CAC in Seward.

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 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 for victims in the region:

- If a victim (female or male) of sexual assault contacts local law enforcement or one of the shelters, they can receive transportation (at no cost to them) to the closest SART (Homer, Kenai, or Anchorage). If desired, an advocate can go with the victim to support them while traveling.
- **In Kenai**, the SART meets in a confidential room at Kenai Public Health.
- **In Homer**, the SART meets in a confidential room at the South Peninsula Hospital.
- 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.
- 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.
- **In Kenai**, anonymous reporting is available, which means that a victim can have forensic evidence collected without filing a report, in case they want to report the assault later.
- 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 not to 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.

SHELTER

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

Homer:

South Peninsula Haven House

10-bed shelter for women and their children up to age 18

Emergency lodging and housing assistance is available for men, women, and families through support from the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

Male victims can receive short-term emergency shelter in a hotel through Haven House

Transitional housing assistance is available to survivors for up to 2 years.

Stay at shelter is around 30 - 60 days, but women can stay longer if they're working with advocates towards their goals

In-shelter mental health counselor, groups for adults, and groups for children, including a children's gardening group that uses the on-site garden (see section 4 of prevention)

Dogs can either stay in shelter with families or be housed temporarily at the animal shelter.

Kenai:

LeeShore Center

32-bed shelter for women and their children up to age 18

Kennels available at shelter for dogs; LeeShore Center collaborates with a local vet clinic to keep dogs current on shots

Male victims who are in immediate danger may receive hotel accommodations through the LeeShore Center for safety

Nearby is the LeeShore Center's **25-bed transitional housing facility** where victims (who are not in immediate crisis) can stay for up to two years

Emergency housing for victims for up to five days in a hotel through the **Sovereign Nation of the Kenaitze's Na'ini Social Services Department**

In-shelter support and skill building groups for adults and for children, including groups run by staff from **Kenaitze's Na'ini Social Services Department**

Stay at LeeShore Center's shelter is around 60-90 days, but transitional housing is available

In-shelter support from the school district's homeless youth liaison and from local behavioral health services



SHELTER (CONT.)

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

Seward:

Temporary emergency housing is available for 3 to 4 days through Seaview Community Services. Seaview Community Services can arrange transportation to another shelter.



Shelters work to create family-friendly atmospheres. The Haven House shelter in Homer (pictured here) collaborates with early childhood organizations such as the Infant Learning Program and Sprout to offer high-quality programs for children and their caregivers.

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.

South Peninsula Haven House in Homer

LeeShore Center in Kenai

Sovereign Nation of the Kenaitze Na'ini Social Services Department in Kenai

Seaview Community Services in Seward

Chugachmiut Women's Violence Intervention in Nanwalek and Valdez

Advocates provide the following services (which are not just for people in shelter):

- **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
- **Safety planning**
- **Legal advocacy** (court accompaniment, protective orders, connecting victim to a lawyer at no cost. Financial assistance for an attorney at LeeShore Center. Monthly legal clinics at Haven House.)
- Support with **tribal courts and tribal protective orders** (Kenaitze)
- **Medical advocacy** (supporting victim to get healthcare and supporting victim through the SART process)
- **One-on-one support** and information, group support and education (see section 4 of prevention)
- Help to find housing, food, clothing, car seats, job training and other **basic needs**
- Assistance filing for money through **Victims of Violent Crimes Compensation**
- **Transportation** to medical, legal and social services
- Help to find **other needed resources**, such as counseling or children's programs
- **Drug and alcohol counseling** (at Seaview Community Services in Seward)



ADVOCACY, SUPPORT, AND INFORMATION (CONT.)



"The job of the advocate is to help women find their voice and help them come up with goals that will meet their needs and the needs of their families. We help them say in their own voice what they want next and we connect them to the resources they need to get there." – advocate at Haven House shelter (pictured above in shelter)

Advocates provide the following services (which are not just for people in shelter):

- Culturally-specific support (a Russian speaking advocate at Haven House in Homer to work with Old Believer families, Alaska Native—including fluent Yup'ik-speaking advocates—at Kenaitze and Lee Shore in Kenai, and advocates fluent in Spanish and Tagalog at LeeShore)
- LGBTQ staff and/or staff trained in and sensitive to working with LGBTQ clients (at Haven House, Lee Shore, Seaview)



YOUTH MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Education Opportunities:

Homer:

Haven House supports local schools who are implementing the Fourth R healthy relationships curriculum and gives information at the Safe Kids Fair. They are also available to talk in classrooms about issues such as:

- healthy relationships
- how to support your friends
- how to get help
- who are safe people to talk to

Kenai:

The **LeeShore Center** is available to talk in K-12 classrooms about issues such as:

- kindness and respect
- bullying
- healthy relationships
- DV/SV
- dating violence
- sexual assault / harassment

Nanwalek:

The Chugachmiut Women's Violence Intervention Program can talk in classrooms in Nanwalek about:

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

Seward:

Seaview Community Services offers presentations at schools, fairs, and other places on issues such as:

- dating violence
- bullying
- sexual assault

WAYS YOUTH CAN GET INVOLVED:

In **Homer**, the **Haven House** collaborates with the **Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic R.E.C. Room** for youth empowerment projects, such as Youth on Record. It is a collaborator in the Homer Prevention Projects, and provides opportunities for youth to get involved through projects like PhotoVoice. Haven House provides training and support to organized youth groups who are interested in community service activities. Lastly, Haven House administers the **Girls on the Run** program, open to girls in 3rd - 5th grade.

In **Nanwalek**, the **Chugachmiut Women's Violence Intervention Program** involves teens in Nanwalek and other villages in planning a traveling village health fair that addresses healthy relationships.



TRAININGS FOR TRIBES AND PROFESSIONAL GROUPS:

Homer:

The **Haven House Child Advocacy Center (CAC)** shelter staff provide training on topics such as recognizing signs and symptoms of child abuse, responding appropriately to suspected child abuse, and response protocols and dynamics of DV/SV.

Haven House is a member of the The Homer Prevention Project, a collaborative effort to reduce adult binge drinking and the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and underage drinking that often result from it. This project has offered community level trainings on these topics and what works to prevent and help children recover from early life adversity.

Kenai:

The **Kenai Child Advocacy Center (CAC)** provides training on child abuse, including recognizing signs and symptoms and responding appropriately.

The **LeeShore Center** provides community and professional training and targeted workshops on issues of DV/SA as requested. The **LeeShore Center** also holds twice yearly Community Awareness Workshops (40 hour trainings).

The **Kenaitze Na'ini Social Services Department** offers presentations on cultural sensitivity and Alaska Native people.



Photo Credit: Laura Avellaneda-Cruz. As part of the The Homer Prevention Project's efforts, Homer-based epidemiologist and child trauma expert Dr. Linda Chamberlain (pictured) has given trainings on what we can do to prevent and help people heal from adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).

Nanwalek:

The **Chugachmiut Women's Violence Intervention Program** is available to offer trainings on many aspects of DV/SV, including tribal policy.

Seward:

The **Seward Child Advocacy Center (CAC)** provides training on child abuse, including recognizing signs and symptoms and responding appropriately.

Seaview Community Services offers training at hospitals, schools, parent groups, health fairs, and workplaces on topics such as:

- domestic violence and sexual assault
- teen dating violence
- bullying
- workplace awareness
- perpetrator behavior and how to keep children safe
- infant learning



Advocates at The Sovereign Nation of Kenaitze's Na'ini Social Services Department not only provide support, resources, and opportunities for survivors to engage in subsistence activities, but they also raise awareness in the community through publications and public events.

CHANGING COMMUNITY NORMS:

In Homer:

Haven House and other organizations are participating in the Green Dot Initiative, a community-based program to help all people identify what they can do as bystanders to stop abuse.

The **Homer Prevention Project** focuses on changing community norms about drinking through a positive community norms campaign.

In Kenai:

The **Kenaitze Na'ini Social Services Department** and the **LeeShore Center** team up to put on public events during October for DV Awareness Month and April for SV Awareness Month. Both organizations also raise awareness through local media and community events.

The **Kenai Child Advocacy Center** and other organizations are participating in the Green Dot Initiative to promote bystander intervention and prevent violence.

In Seward:

Seaview Community Services is a member of Seward's prevention coalition and puts on community activities such as awareness marches, fundraisers, and parent and child carnivals with information about child safety

The **Seward Child Advocacy Center** is participating in the Green Dot Initiative. For more info, visit greendotalaska.com.

EMPOWERMENT, SUPPORT, AND EDUCATION GROUPS :

Homer:

Haven House offers adult support and education groups such as DV 101, safe and sober support, skills for life (e.g. emotional regulation, choosing healthy people), and conscious discipline parenting classes.

Haven House also offer groups for children including a kids gardening group (in collaboration with Sprout, the infant learning program), safety planning, and identifying and understanding emotions. All children's groups include snacks, hands-on activities, and a safe space. They are open to the children of anyone receiving services, not only those in shelter.

Kenai:

Kenaitze's Nakenu Family Program offers a woman's group and Positive Indian Parenting group.

Kenaitze's Na'ini Social Services Department can also connect parents to classes put on by ICWA workers in the region.

LeeShore Center holds daily groups for both adults and children who are staying in shelter. Three times a week, they hold community groups for women focusing on DV support, parenting for women, and changing patterns.

Changing Harmful Behaviors: next



HELP FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE HARMED OTHERS

Batterer Intervention Programs:

There are two batterer intervention programs in the region; that is, programs that address the beliefs and learned behaviors that contribute to violence and how to change them. These programs are:

In Homer:

- A 48-week State-approved program run by **Haven House** for those court-ordered to attend
- Program uses the Duluth model and Emerge models
- Program also incorporates parenting skills and a Japanese self-reflection practice called Nikon, combining accountability and compassion
- Payment plans can be arranged
- Advocates at Haven House do regular safety checks with partners of program participants

In Kenai:

- **LeeShore Center** operates a 48-week state-approved Batterer's Intervention Program for men court ordered to attend
- Affordable classes and, for those who can prove hardship, community service option available for payment
- Program is based on the Duluth and Emerge models, which focus on accountability, understanding and unlearning power and control, learning empathy and stress management, parenting, and healthy intimacy
- Advocates at LeeShore do regular safety checks with partners of program participants

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.