

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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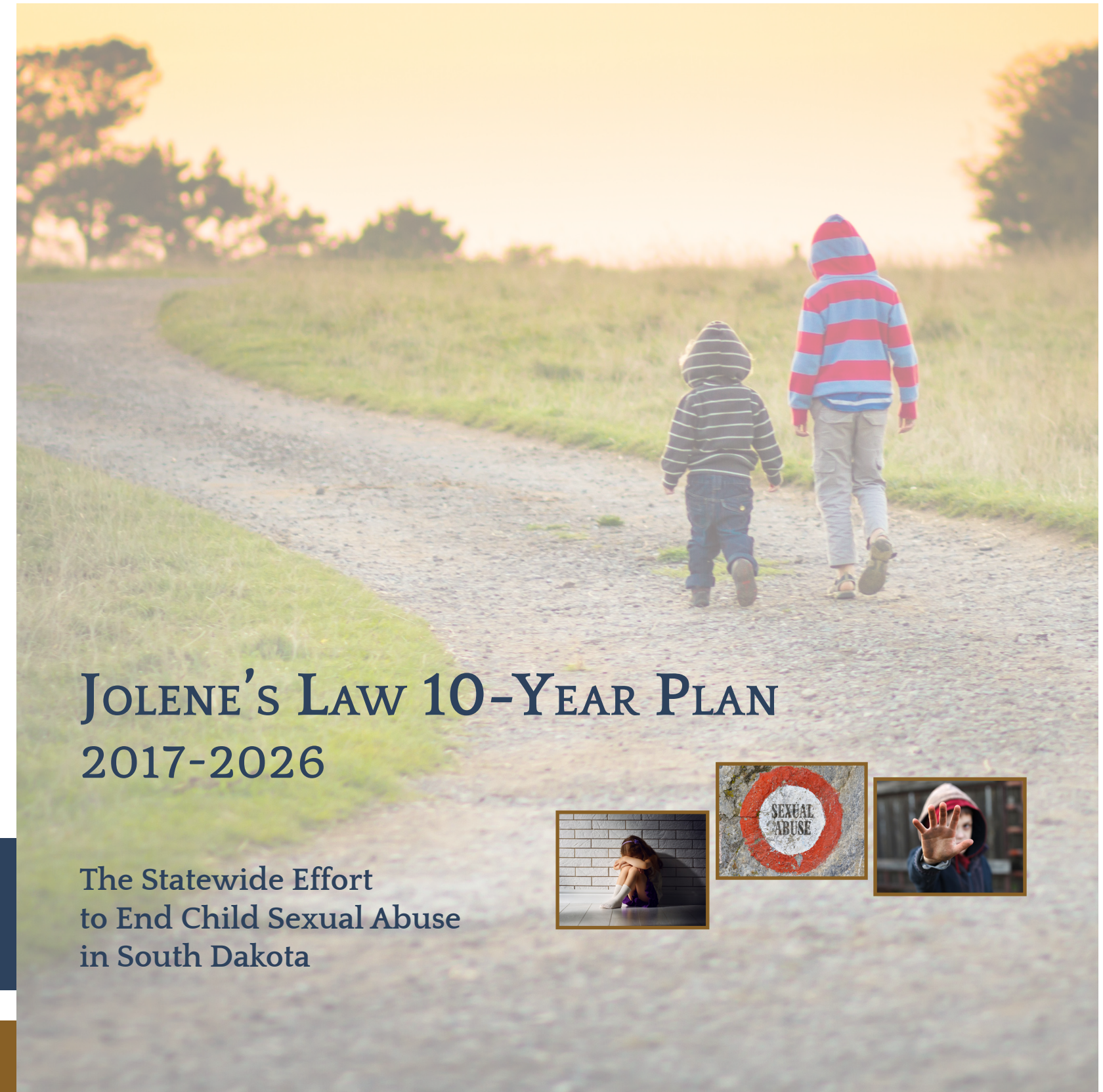
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The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment
at University of South Dakota



JOLENE'S LAW 10-YEAR PLAN 2017-2026

The Statewide Effort
to End Child Sexual Abuse
in South Dakota



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A MESSAGE FROM THE TASK FORCE CHAIR



On behalf of the 2016 Jolene’s Law Task Force, I respectfully submit a comprehensive work plan spanning ten years to combat and address child sexual abuse in South Dakota. Child sexual abuse is not an easy topic to discuss. Because of its sensitivity, to truly face the horrific nature of this experience for our children is difficult at best. Jolene’s Law Task Force took on the challenge to fully understand this issue through study of evidence-based research and quality data metrics. Based on our work, we outlined six major goals and 48 supporting objectives that address accurately capturing and analyzing data, supporting response in the private, public, and Tribal health care settings, educating and supporting law enforcement, addressing judicial system processes, educating mandatory reporters, and developing a comprehensive statewide prevention system.

The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment at the University of South Dakota (USD) will be the driving force behind coordination of the work plan, and will work to remove barriers to completing objectives. The Center’s Advisory Board will be comprised of the stakeholders from the Task Force to ensure continuity, instill a sense of urgency, and foster dialogue and action with regards to cultural awareness and respect for the diversity of families and communities across the State of South Dakota.

The time is now to bring child sexual abuse out of the shadows. Combating child sexual abuse requires removing the societal stigma about the topic, recognizing that it exists in our state amongst all populations, and having the courage to support our children through knowledge, response, and prevention. Although the focus of this plan is child sexual abuse, the objectives will increase our capacity to address all forms of child maltreatment. We believe we can do better, and to delay moving forward is to be a participant in the torture that our children endure.

This work is a beginning to understand how profound childhood stress affects the family pathway and the outcome of a lived life. This is perhaps some of the most important work that South Dakota will ever tackle to truly heal our communities. We fully believe that this plan can be accomplished. Thank you for entrusting us with this very important work to save our children.

Respectfully,

Senator Deb Soholt, District 14
Chair, Jolene’s Law Task Force

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Child sexual abuse is an adult problem. In no other way do we make our children responsible for their own safety. We give them shelter, clothing, food, education, and take care of them when they are sick. Yet, if they are being sexually abused, we leave it up to them – to tell, to endure, and to heal.

Retrospective studies among adults show that one in four women and one in six men were sexually abused before the age of 18. It is estimated that 73 percent of child victims do not tell anyone about the abuse for at least a year, and 45 percent do not tell anyone for at least five years.

Some never tell anyone about it.

In 2014, through SDCL2-6-31, Jolene’s Law Task Force was charged to study the prevalence and impact of child sexual abuse (CSA) in the state. The Task Force met during the 2014, 2015, and 2016 interim legislative sessions. Task force membership represented the executive and legislative branches of South Dakota government, along with a medical doctor specializing in child sexual abuse, a State’s attorney, professionals from Child Advocacy Centers (CACs), counselors, law enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Tribal community. Additionally, Jolene Loetscher, a victim of child sexual abuse and for whom the Task Force is named, was a member. Senator Deb Soholt, District 14, served as chair and Senator Alan Solano as vice-chair of the Task Force and its efforts.

The task force came to understand that:

- Child sexual abuse is a serious, significant issue in South Dakota.
- At least 4,000 children in our state experience sexual abuse every year.
- Students in South Dakota who have been forced to have sex, been touched sexually when they did not want to be, or forced to do sexual things other than sexual intercourse are two to five more times likely to consider or attempt to commit suicide.
- This topic is a public health priority for the safety and health of our kids.
- Child sexual abuse happens in all socio-economic and race groups.
- South Dakota adults need to lead a culture shift to protect our children.
- The most powerful lever for change rests with mandatory reporters.
- A coordinated system of response and early intervention must be developed.
- A single entity should be responsible to aggregate statewide child sexual abuse data and use that to drive effective interventions and change.

To develop a sustainable solution to reduce child sexual abuse in South Dakota, the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment at USD was established in 2016.



Each year the Task Force issued reports summarizing its work, insight gained, research, and background assumptions behind child sexual abuse in South Dakota. All prior reports are available on the SD Department of Health website (<https://doh.sd.gov/news/JolenesTaskForce.aspx>).

Based on its 2016 efforts, the Task Force outlined six major goals and 48 supporting objectives that address a comprehensive approach towards ending child sexual abuse in South Dakota. Although the focus of this plan is child sexual abuse, the objectives will increase the state’s capacity to address all forms of child maltreatment. The plan focuses on the child, family, and professionals that surround the child and family. The plan does not, at this time, focus on the offenders. It is anticipated that this will be a required future effort as the offenders’ health and learned behavior patterns are the true root of this issue.

The USD Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment will provide overall leadership in moving the work plan forward.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Three principles will guide the Center for Prevention of Child Maltreatment at USD and the statewide partners as they execute the Jolene’s Law work plan.

1. The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment at USD will be the driving force to coordinate the work plan and remove barriers to completing objectives. The Center’s Advisory Board will be comprised of many of the stakeholders from the task force to ensure continuity and sense of urgency.
2. The implementation of the work plan will require a collaborative effort between agencies across the state. Collaboration with Tribal partners in the planning, execution and evaluation will be integral to the plan’s success.
3. All efforts - materials, programming and training - will ensure that the diversity of our state is reflected and that outcomes are culturally sensitive.



Goal A
Statistics & Benchmarking



Goal B
Public, Private & Tribal Health Priority



Goal C
Mandatory Reporters



Goal D
Criminal Justice & Child Protection Services Response



Goal E
Public Awareness



Goal F
Infrastructure



GOAL A

STATISTICS & BENCHMARKING

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop a single point data agency to help inform effectiveness of implemented strategies statewide through standard methodologies that ensure accurate incidence reporting and aggregation of data via an integrated database system. Through partnership with South Dakota KIDS COUNT, leverage existing infrastructure and build upon their capacity to accomplish this aim.
2. Develop necessary Memorandums of Understanding and protocols to allow for the collection of more detailed victim information that can be used in predictive modeling, ensure the ongoing collection, measurement and analysis of aggregated data to gauge outcome and effectiveness of implemented changes, and protect victim confidentiality.
3. Adopt or adapt an integrated database software solution for the single-point data agency to effectively monitor statewide impact on outcomes for children that are the victim of maltreatment or abuse.
4. Establish and use predictive modeling techniques with the aim of preventing incidences of child sexual abuse and maltreatment.
5. Bi-annually (Odd years) survey South Dakota students grades 9 – 12 using the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBS). Report to South Dakota Department of Education, the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment, and other stakeholders every two years. Jointly create intervention strategies.
6. Incorporate Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) questionnaire elements within the South Dakota Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Report to the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment and other stakeholders annually and jointly create intervention strategies.



VISION

Create a single-point data agency with management of an integrated database system to effectively monitor and ultimately predict indicators associated with child sexual abuse in South Dakota.



GOAL B

PUBLIC, PRIVATE & TRIBAL HEALTH

OBJECTIVES

1. Establish routine screening for ACEs within medical and mental health professional practices. Launch in 2017 and in 25 percent of South Dakota medical and mental health facilities by 2020, 50 percent by 2022, 75 percent by 2024 and 100 percent by 2026.
2. Create trauma-informed and self-healing communities. Launch development of program in 2017. Establish a pilot community program in 2019.
3. Establish protocols that use de-escalation techniques to address parental disruptive behaviors and physical discipline of children (No Hit Zone), beginning with South Dakota medical facilities. Implement in 25 percent of facilities by 2018, 50 percent by 2021, 75 percent by 2023, and 100 percent by 2025.
4. Distribute pediatric sexual assault exam kits at 100 percent of medical facilities by year end 2018. Provide training on pediatric forensic evidence (rape) kits at 100 percent of South Dakota medical facilities.
5. Assess the number and locations of trained medical sexual assault response personnel. Provide a system to recruit, retain, and support those personnel. Provide training and support to Sexual Assault Response Center (SARC) and Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE-P)/Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) personnel to ensure response practices are current. Launch training in 4Q2018.
6. Establish at least one virtual nursing hub staffed with 24/7 Pediatric SANE personnel to support medical facilities that need support in child sexual abuse response. Launch in 2021.



VISION

Build capacity within the public, private, and Tribal health systems to respond to all children and families impacted by child sexual abuse in South Dakota.

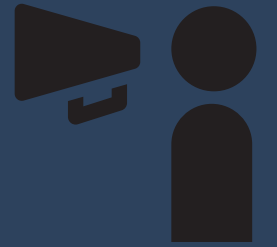


GOAL C

MANDATORY REPORTERS

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop competencies, curricula, and consistent training standards for mandatory reporters of child maltreatment and sexual abuse in partnership with state, community, and academic organizations. Implement at 25 percent of South Dakota public, private, and Tribal universities, colleges, and technical schools by Fall 2018, 50 percent by 2019, and 100 percent by 2020.
2. Provide assistance and expertise to the South Dakota Board of Regents institutions on creating new degree programs related to child sexual abuse and maltreatment. Begin efforts in 4Q2019 and report recommendations by 2Q2020.
3. Develop and deliver professional and continuing education modules regarding child sexual abuse, reporting, and response. Work with professional boards to implement and require professional or continuing education for those who require licensure or certification for their practice by 2019.
4. Offer all school district personnel mandatory reporter training. Provide tools for volunteer policy and training. Implement at 25 percent of South Dakota public, private, and Tribal K-12 schools by 2019, 50 percent by 2020, 75 percent by 2021, and 100 percent by 2022.
5. Develop a platform and infrastructure for virtual support services of counseling, behavioral health, and social work in K-12 schools. Launch statewide by 2021.
6. The Center shall collaborate with state, Tribal, regional, and national stakeholders, and provide leadership in developing the knowledge base around child maltreatment and sexual abuse. Research one to two evidence-based or promising practice programs, tools, and techniques on responding to child sexual abuse victims each year. Disseminate results via report and presentations at three to four venues per year.
7. Annually assess South Dakota statute on mandatory reporters beginning in 2019. Make recommendations for consideration in subsequent legislative sessions.



VISION

Every post-secondary institution of higher education in South Dakota will teach students entering professions where they will be mandatory reporters the skills necessary to perform this task. Every mandatory reporter will receive annual training on detecting abuse and their obligation to report.



GOAL D

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES RESPONSE

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop law enforcement processes for the collection of corroborating evidence in child sexual abuse cases. Launch in 2018 at the Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) and other education training venues. Train 100 percent of law enforcement agencies by 2021.
2. Develop and implement a Regional Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Sexual Victims Unit, Child Sexual Abuse (SVU-CSA) Pilot Project in 13 counties in Northeastern South Dakota, headquartered in Watertown, and coordinated with the nearest Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in Sioux Falls by July 2017.
3. Train all disciplines who work with child victims and their families from awareness (disclosure and/or recognition) through recovery. Use the data and analysis from Goal A to drive training content. Launch training program by July 2017.
4. Develop a list of training and education resources for professionals and family members regarding prevention, recognition, response, and recovery.
5. Evaluate MDT programs and recommend interventions, expansion, or collaboration opportunities to the State MDT Development Coordinator by December each year. Conduct a meta-analysis evaluation by the Q42019.
6. Provide advanced MDT child sexual abuse training for MDT members through statewide expansion.
7. Provide first responder child sexual abuse training, as well as training on the MDT/CAC model, starting within the pilot project and expanding statewide.
8. Create a mock house that will serve as a certified training hub for professionals to learn applied techniques in their response to child sexual abuse.

Goal D continued on next page.



VISION

Child protection workers and law enforcement officers will conduct a competent and comprehensive investigation of every child sexual abuse case that comes to their attention, and when abuse is substantiated, pursue appropriate civil and criminal actions.



GOAL D

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES RESPONSE

OBJECTIVES

9. Optimize the process and timeframe for resolution of civil child abuse cases in South Dakota. Develop plan in 2017. Roll out recommendations and education.
10. Optimize the process and timeframe for resolution of criminal child abuse cases in South Dakota. Develop plan in 2017. Roll out recommendations and education.
11. Launch a program to educate judicial system stakeholders on approaches that reduce trauma to minors aged 3 – 17 that are required to face their perpetrators in court.
12. Recommend that public and private employers of professionals working with child victims of violence develop and implement written plans specifically for vicarious and secondary trauma prevention and intervention practices within their organizations and agencies.
13. Increase the capacity of law enforcement, Child Protection Services, and 911 systems to intake child sexual abuse reports through use of the 211 system. Market the plan in campaign materials.





GOAL E

PUBLIC AWARENESS

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop infrastructure to manage a comprehensive public awareness and education campaign. Launch campaign by 4Q2017.
2. Conduct regional assessments on who has public awareness and education programming by the end of 2017. Partner with agencies to integrate or supplement contracted campaign materials with existing programs.
3. Launch train-the-trainer programs by 2018; conduct as needed thereafter.
4. Develop bystander awareness and education to build skills on how to safely intervene and help a child in distress. Provide community awareness and education seminars on what elements constitute a safe environment for children.
5. Develop a website and social media presence. Begin efforts in 3Q2017 and launch in 2018.
6. Launch and manage public awareness messages and media resources in 2018.
7. Launch a coordinated effort to teach prevention to students in school systems as well as their parents/guardians. Offer training at 25 percent of South Dakota public and private school districts by 2021, 50 percent by 2023, 75 percent by 2024, and 100 percent by 2026.
8. Launch a coordinated effort to teach child sexual abuse prevention efforts in youth serving organizations and faith-based organizations in 2018..



VISION

Develop self-healing communities through contracted campaign materials to build a movement that ends child sexual abuse in South Dakota. Launch public campaign by the end of 2018.



GOAL F

INFRASTRUCTURE

OBJECTIVES

1. Establish the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment at the University of South Dakota to contribute to the state's overall public health by strengthening culture related to prevention and response to child maltreatment by 2016.
2. Facilitate the creation of an external Advisory Board to include community, state, federal, Tribal, and education partners that advocate against child maltreatment and sexual abuse by 2Q2017.
3. Develop a strategy to reach out and work with the South Dakota Tribes.
4. Establish capacity to improve overall best practices as implemented in the various agencies statewide. Encourage and support agency and Center staff to attend one to two conferences per year hosted by key partners.
5. Develop an evaluation design for outcome measurement by 2017. Review results quarterly with Advisory Board.
6. Develop inter-professional grant proposals for research and practice related to treating and preventing child maltreatment and sexual abuse. Begin efforts in 2017.
7. Identify potential private and corporate funding sources for the prevention of child maltreatment and sexual abuse, and infrastructure to support those aims. Begin efforts in 2018.
8. Investigate and pursue angel investor and social impact bonding to fund specific proposals that stem from the Jolene's Law work plan. Begin efforts in 2018.



VISION

Create and sustain a network of statewide support and effort to move the goals of Jolene's Law Task Force forward .