

Soboba Tribal Family Services

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH



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Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 7:00am to 5:30 pm

(951) 487-0283

January is

**NATIONAL STALKING
AWARENESS MONTH**

StalkingAwarenessMonth.org

Soboba Tribal Family Services is proud to announce:

Healing Hearts

Foster Family and Relative Caregiver Training and Support Program

For the past year the Soboba Tribal Family Services Department has been developing a foster parent/ relative caregiver recruitment and training program paid for by a grant through the Administration of Native Americans. The program was developed to train Soboba tribal members and their extended families that live on or near the reservation as foster parents so that Soboba's children can remain with family or other tribal members and stay connected to their Tribe.

The six session training will include information on the Indian Child Welfare Act, the dependency court system, Child Protective Services, the impact of abuse and neglect on children and families, cultural information, the rights and responsibilities of foster parents, and parenting support.

We will be scheduling an information meeting for the end of January. Please contact our office for additional information regarding the date and time of the meeting. We look forward to seeing you there! (951) 487-0283

STALKING: MYTHS & FACTS

MYTH: You can't be stalked by someone you're dating.

FACT: If your "friend" tracks your every move in a way that causes you to fear, that is stalking.

MYTH: Technology is too expensive and confusing for most stalkers to use.

FACT: Stalkers can buy easy-to-use surveillance equipment for as little as \$30.

MYTH: If you confront the stalker, he or she will go away.

FACT: Confronting or trying to reason with a stalker can be dangerous. Get help.

MYTH: Only celebrities are stalked.

FACT: The vast majority of the 1.4 million people who are stalked each year are ordinary citizens.

MYTH: If you ignore stalking, it will go away.

FACT: Stalkers seldom "just stop." Victims should seek help from law enforcement to stop the stalking.

MYTH: Stalking is annoying but not illegal.

FACT: Stalking is a crime in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Provided by The National Center for Victims of Crime
www.ncvc.org



STALKING HAPPENS TO TEENS, TOO

STALKING is a pattern of behavior that makes you feel afraid, nervous, harassed, or in danger. It is when someone repeatedly contacts you, follows you, sends you things, talks to you when you don't want them to, or threatens you. Stalking behaviors can include:

- Notes in your locker.
- Damaging your property.
- Knowing your schedule.
- Showing up at places you go.
- Sending mail, texts, e-mail, and pictures or calling you repeatedly.
- Creating a website about you.
- Sending gifts.
- Stealing things that belong to you.
- Any other actions that the stalker takes to contact, harass, track or frighten you.

You can be stalked by someone you know casually, a current boyfriend or girlfriend, someone you dated in the past, or a stranger.

Sometimes people stalk their boyfriends or girlfriends while they're dating. They check up on them, text or call them all the time and expect instant responses, follow them, and generally keep track of them even when they haven't made plans to be together. These stalking behaviors can be part of an abusive relationship.

If you or someone you know is being stalked you should:

- Contact the police.
- Tell your parent, friend, school principal, or another person you can trust.
- Call the Soboba Tribal Family Services Department.
- Call Alternatives to Domestic Violence (ADV):
Riverside City and out of County: (951) 683-0829
Remainder of Riverside County: (800) 799-SAFE



"A nation is not defeated until the hearts of its women are on the ground. Then it is done, no matter how brave its warriors or how strong its weapons."
-- Cheyenne proverb

January is National Stalking Awareness Month

What is Stalking?

Stalking is difficult to recognize, investigate, and prosecute. Unlike other crimes, stalking is not a single, easily identifiable crime but a series of acts, a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause that person to fear. Stalking may take many forms, such as assaults, threats, vandalism, burglary, or animal abuse, as well as unwanted cards, calls, gifts, or visits.

Some things stalkers do:

- Follow you and show up wherever you are.
- Repeatedly call or text you, including hang-ups.
- Damage your home, car or other property.
- Send unwanted gifts, letters, cards, texts or emails.
- Monitor your phone calls or computer use.
- Use technology, like hidden cameras or GPS, to track where you go.
- Drive by or hang out at your home, school or work.
- Threaten to hurt you, your family, friends or pets.
- Find out about you by using public records or on-line search services, hiring investigators, going through your garbage, or contacting friends, family, neighbors or co-workers.

Stalking can happen to anyone, and it affects 3.4 million victims a year. It's a crime in all 50 states. Stalkers may assault or murder their victims, and they are hard to stop. The more you know about stalking, the more you can do to fight it.

Alternatives to Domestic Violence 24-hour Hotline
Riverside City and out of County:
(951) 683-0829
Remainder of Riverside County:
(800) 799-SAFE (7233)
(800) 787-3224 – TDD Line