CENTRAL COUNCIL OF THE TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
Ninety-First Annual Tribal Assembly
September 23-25, 2026
Juneau, AK

Resolution TA 26-15

Title: Support for Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence Prevention, Intervention, and Survivor Support Efforts

By: Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council and Seattle Tlingit & Haida Community Council / Delegate X̲'unei Lance Twitchell

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 38,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida represents Tlingit and Haida people throughout Southeast Alaska and beyond; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence, intimate partner violence, and violence against women continue to have devastating consequences for individuals, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Congress of American Indians, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) women and girls experience higher rates of violence, including stalking and trafficking; AI/AN women and girls experience violence more commonly by non-AI/AN perpetrators, AI/AN victims of violence are less likely to receive needed services, and violence against AI/AN women and girls continues to experience a lack of comprehensive reporting and prosecution at the federal, state, and local levels, creating significant safety concerns for tribal citizens and their families; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida is committed to systemic reductions in harm to Indigenous peoples across all peoples living on Tlingit & Haida traditional territories; and

WHEREAS, all Tlingit & Haida citizens are entitled to protection from violence regardless of where they live and what their living situations may be; and

WHEREAS, creating safe and healthy communities requires not only support and services for survivors, but also effective intervention strategies that address the behaviors of individuals who commit acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence and sexual violence are present in every community and can affect families regardless of background or circumstance, and the pathway to reduction is educational, systemic change, accountability, and the courage to have difficult discussions; and

WHEREAS, evidence-based and culturally responsive intervention programs can promote accountability, educate participants about the impacts of abusive behavior, and support long-term behavioral change; and

WHEREAS, many communities lack adequate access to batterer intervention programs, accountability classes, anger management education, healthy relationship training, and other services designed to reduce repeat offenses and prevent future violence; and

WHEREAS, reducing recidivism and promoting individual accountability are essential components of protecting women, children, families, and future generations from violence; and

WHEREAS, behavioral health options for Indigenous peoples often have long waitlists, limited in-person availability for services, and are often based on non-Indigenous psychological practices; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida expects all its citizens and the residents upon its traditional territory to be held to high standards of non-violence, especially leaders and cultural educators; and

WHEREAS, many Tlingit & Haida citizens reside in urban communities throughout Alaska and the United States, including areas outside Southeast Alaska, where access to culturally responsive tribal services may be limited; and

WHEREAS, access to personal safety education, self-defense training, prevention resources, and community support networks can help individuals develop skills and confidence to enhance their personal safety and well-being; and

WHEREAS, survivors of violence often face barriers to accessing culturally appropriate advocacy, legal assistance, counseling services, emergency resources, and other forms of support when living outside of tribal service areas; and

WHEREAS, strengthening partnerships among tribes, urban Indigenous organizations, victim service providers, educational institutions, and community organizations can improve access to resources and support for tribal citizens regardless of where they reside;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ninety-First Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska delegation convened September 23-25, 2026, hereby supports efforts to reduce and ultimately to eliminate domestic violence and sexual violence within its traditional territory and in all places where Tribal citizens reside;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida supports the development of a comprehensive domestic violence and sexual violence awareness and reduction program, as external funding becomes available, that includes public education to increase awareness of the prevalence of domestic and sexual violence;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida supports collaboration with courts of competent jurisdiction, victim service organizations, behavioral health providers, and community partners to increase access to intervention programs and accountability measures for individuals who commit acts of domestic violence;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida supports efforts to expand survivor advocacy, referral services, safety planning, and culturally responsive resources for tribal citizens living outside Southeast Alaska and outside existing tribal service areas;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida encourages the development of partnerships with courts of competent jurisdiction, urban Indigenous organizations, victim service providers, behavioral health providers, educational institutions, and community organizations to improve access to intervention, accountability, and survivor support services, wherever Tribal citizens reside;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the awareness and prevention, intervention and accountability, personal safety education, and survivor support efforts supported in this resolution, including those serving Tribal citizens in urban communities and outside existing tribal service areas, are to be pursued through external funding, partnerships, and existing resources, and this resolution does not request new appropriations from the Tlingit & Haida operating budget;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida advocates for the identification and pursuit of funding and resources to develop, maintain, and expand evidence-based and culturally responsive domestic violence and sexual violence prevention, intervention, accountability, and survivor support programs that contribute to safer families, healthier relationships, and stronger tribal communities, wherever Tribal citizens reside.

ADOPTED this 25th day of September 2026, by the Ninety-First Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

CERTIFY

President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST

Tribal Secretary Michelle D. Martin