



Outreach & Resources for Native American, Tribal & Indigenous Communities

A five-year analysis (1/1/2016-12/31/2020) of children reported missing to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) shows that Native American children comprised 2% of all intakes.

NCMEC provides **technical assistance and resources** for Native American and Indigenous communities. Our outreach includes collaborations with tribal nations and law enforcement, the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the National Criminal Justice Training Center.

■ U.S. DOJ Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Working Group:

This group serves to develop model protocols and procedures to apply to new and unsolved cases of missing or murdered persons in Native American and Indigenous communities. NCMEC supports this work by leveraging our resources to help children and families recover from victimization, assist law enforcement and families in finding missing children, preventing and resolving child abduction homicides, and identifying unknown deceased children. Learn more about NCMEC's case resources by visiting: MissingKids.org/caseresources.

■ **U.S. DOJ Tribal Access Program:** NCMEC supports the training and resources provided through the DOJ Tribal Access Program (TAP). This program allows federally-recognized tribes that apply for and are accepted to TAP to more effectively serve and protect their nation's citizens by ensuring the exchange of critical data across the Criminal Justice Information Services systems and other national crime information systems such as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). When missing children are entered into NCIC, NCMEC is able to provide technical assistance. Learn more about the benefits and application process for TAP at: Justice.gov/tribal/tribal-access-program-tap.

Between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2018, NCMEC assisted with **1,909 cases** involving missing Native American children.

85%

Endangered
Runaway cases

12%

Family
Abduction cases

59%

female

41%

male

65%

15-17 years old

23%

10-14 years old

■ Northeast Tribal Conference on Child

Victimization: NCMEC hosts and co-sponsors the annual "Northeast Tribal Conference on Child Victimization" in partnership with the Seneca Nation of Indians, Native American Children's Alliance, Northeast Regional Children's Advocacy Center, National Criminal Justice Training Center, the New York State Children's Alliance, and Native American Community Services. This two-day conference brings together attendees from across the U.S. and Canada representing tribal nations, non-government organizations, multi-disciplinary team representatives, and non-tribal professionals that provide services to children and families in Indian Country. Issues addressed include historical trauma, investigation, medical and mental health service provision, missing and murdered indigenous persons, and cross-jurisdictional challenges.

■ Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018:

The tragic 2016 abduction and murder of Ashlynnne Mike in Shiprock, New Mexico, brought national attention to the jurisdictional issues that can hinder the swift recovery of missing Native American and Indigenous children. With the support of NCMEC, Congress enacted the Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018, which encourages integration of tribal AMBER Alert systems into state AMBER Alert systems and provides for related grant funding. NCMEC collaborates with the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program's support for tribal nations. Examples of our work include investigative checklists which can be found here: MissingKids.org/publications.

■ **Team Adam Consultants:** NCMEC can help tribal law enforcement by deploying Team Adam Consultants (TACs). TACs are deployed to the scene and provide technical assistance and connect families and tribal law enforcement to NCMEC's vast network of resources. Learn more at: MissingKids.org/caseresources.

■ **Team HOPE:** NCMEC's Team HOPE is a group of trained volunteers who have experienced the trauma of having a missing or sexually exploited child. Our volunteers are dedicated to offering compassionate peer support, empathy, understanding, kindness and friendship to families as they cope with their child's exploitation, search for their missing child, or handle the issues they face after their child is recovered or located. For more information call 866-305-4673 (HOPE) or visit: MissingKids.org/teamhope.

■ **Long-Term Missing/Unidentified Children:** Long-term missing children cases are those in which all viable leads have been thoroughly investigated, but the child is still missing. NCMEC provides case strategies and other forms of assistance in these cases and those involving the unidentified remains of children, including:

- » Forensic artist age progressions of long-term missing children to show what they may look like today and facial and skull reconstructions for unidentified deceased children.

- » Facilitating biometric collection (e.g., dental records for forensic odontology coding and coding of fingerprints) and connecting law enforcement with public/private partners current in forensic methods and technologies.
- » Searching and analyzing data for possible matches in the NCMEC, NamUs, and NCIC databases.

For more information on these resources visit: MissingKids.org/longtermmissing.

■ **NCMEC Hotline:** After a child is reported missing to law enforcement, families or caregivers are encouraged to call NCMEC at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678). A Call Center specialist will record information about the child and a NCMEC case manager will work directly with the family and investigating law enforcement agency. Reports of child sexual exploitation can also be made to the CyberTipline at 1-800-THE-LOST or MissingKids.org/cybertipline.

■ **Law Enforcement Training:** NCMEC is committed to providing training and technical assistance to public safety and child-serving professionals through **in-person classroom training sessions** in our Alexandria, VA headquarters, as well as facilities located across the country at our regional offices and partner agencies. Online courses are also available through **NCMEC CONNECT**.

■ **Prevention Education and Community Outreach Resources:** NCMEC provides free, downloadable **resources** to engage children, parents/caregivers, and communities in important information about digital citizenship and online safety. **Into the Cloud™** is NCMEC's flagship online safety program for children ages 10 and under that is age-appropriate and engaging. Using data from actual CyberTipline reports, it teaches strategies for preventing online exploitation – from handling cyberbullying, to recognizing and reporting unsafe/inappropriate interactions and content.