

AMBER Alert in Indian Country

Protecting Children in Tribal Communities



Our Mission

The mission of the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program, AMBER Alert in Indian Country (AIIC) Initiative, is to assist Tribal communities in developing programs to safely recover endangered missing or abducted children through the coordinated efforts of the tribes and their local, state, and federal partners by using training and technology to enhance response capacities, capabilities and increase public participation in protecting children.

Our Work and Resources



The [Ashlyne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018](#) amends the PROTECT Act (Public Law 108-21), reauthorizing the AMBER Alert grant program to provide guidance and coordination between tribes and states to access and integrate state AMBER Alert plans. AIIC supports collaboration amongst tribal police, community leadership, and state counterparts, to strengthen relationships, build partnerships and identify specialized resources and training to support effective response to children who go missing or are abducted from a tribal community. As partners, we help to identify resource and skill needs, as well as existing capacities and strengths, to deliver the strategic training and technical assistance that is most needed for each Native American/Alaskan Native community.

AIIC Implementation Meetings provide opportunities to develop strategies for implementing AMBER Alert plans within Indian Country through targeted and proactive collaboration with designated representatives from Native American/Alaskan Native communities and their respective state AMBER Alert programs. The goal of implementation work is to build readiness for effective response to incidents of endangered missing and abducted children. AIIC has provided support to 172 tribes through the provision of technology toolkits and will continue to work with tribal communities to assess their technology needs, providing support as funding allows.



The AIIC team held multiple implementation meetings and Child Abduction Tabletop Exercises across the U.S. in 2024, working with Tribes including the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony in Nevada, the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming, the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians and the Lipay of Santa Ysabel in California, as well as the Eastern Shawnee and Citizen Potawatomi Tribes in Oklahoma.

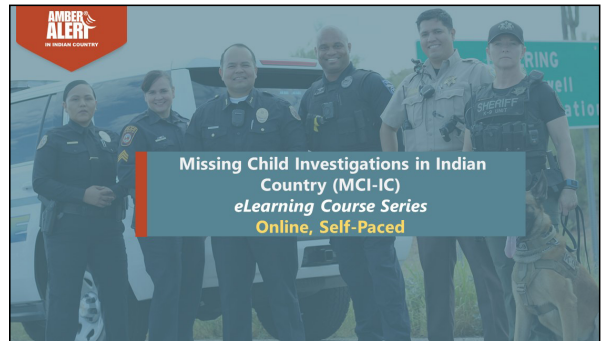
Child Abduction Tabletop Exercises for Indian Country (CATE-IC) provide facilitated sessions during which tribal law enforcement and other child protection partners work through endangered missing child scenarios, actively and collaboratively assessing incident dynamics as they are provided, and determining appropriate actions to be taken in response as the case unfolds. Participants come to better understand one another's role and responsibilities while also learning new information and considering how important resources can be applied.



National AIIC Symposium Events bring together designated Tribal leaders, public safety and emergency management personnel, and AMBER Alert Coordinators to improve integration and alignment between state or regional AMBER Alert communication plans with federally recognized Tribes across the nation.



The [AMBERAdvocate.org website](https://www.AMBERAdvocate.org) provides a vast array of information, resources from AATTAP-AIIC and its partners, and the latest developments on the work of state and Native American/Alaskan Native child protection professionals. Our latest news, in-depth stories and downloadable resources address a wide array of protection and prevention topics, including dynamics related to investigation, intervention, and prevention of abduction, victimization, exploitation, and trafficking in tribal communities. Tribal AMBER Alert Partners working in law enforcement and official child protections roles may also sign up to access our secure Partners Portal on the website for nationwide partner contact information, a resource library and discussion boards. If you work in tribal law enforcement, AMBER Alert coordination or are part of a Child Abduction Response Team (CART), email askamber@fvtc.edu to inquire about joining the AMBER Advocate Partners Portal. Training programs for tribal communities are developed and delivered by AIIC subject matter experts and delivered both onsite and online, and live webinars are offered throughout the year as well. Visit the website to learn more about AIIC training courses, such as Child Abduction in Indian Country Tabletop Exercises, Missing Child Investigations in Indian Country classroom and self-paced online training, and Community Response to Missing and Exploited Children in Indian Country.



In the fall of 2024, the AIIC team conducted an implementation meeting and two Child Abduction Tabletop Exercises (CATE) with the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony in Reno, Nevada.