Women of Nations’ response to COVID-19

Women of Nations (WON) recognizes the risk that COVID-19 currently poses to local and global health. We also understand the increased risk for the communities that WON serves. WON has a strong civic duty and seeks to contribute to a safer community. As a nonprofit with a mission of safety, hope, and healing, WON’s priority during this pandemic is the safety of our clients, staff, and the communities we serve. We are in ongoing conversations with our community partners about the Coronavirus, or COVID-19, and are monitoring recommendations from elected and public health officials.

The programs and services at Women of Nations - Eagles Nest Shelter are essential, and our doors will remain open during these difficult times to offer support and shelter to those experiencing domestic violence or sexual assault.

If you’re experiencing abuse, please call Women of Nations 24/7 crisis line at (651) 251-1609.

We are limiting what we will be accepting for donations at this time. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause, and we thank you for thinking of WON. We are focused on maintaining our essential services, and want to support our staff by focusing on only the most critical items.

Please consider making a gift to support our efforts to serve survivors during this unprecedented health crisis. 100% of your contribution will immediately support the clients we serve and our essential operations. To make a donation please visit: www.women-of-nations.org/donate

Thank you for your continued support. Please stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Women of Nations Staff
I started working with Women of Nations in 2016 as the Director of Development. I had been working in crisis management for a large corporation and had decided it was time to get back into the nonprofit sector. I had missed the meaningful mission of working to meet the needs of individuals.

Over the past four years, I have worked with staff and community members who show great empathy, care, and thoughtfulness as we have served people in need who have experienced trauma from domestic violence and sexual violence. The clients I have met and gotten to know showed so much resiliency and strength during a challenging time in their lives.

Even before I started, Women of Nations has worked towards offering more than a bed and a hot meal, which is important because giving the minimum to people who have suffered so much is an injustice to them and the people who work in these areas of need. I believe we are all capable of offering and achieving so much and I really appreciated that Women of Nations had that same ideology about both staff and clients.

In the past four years, we have grown in so many areas, such as our volunteer program, mental health services, housing services, and youth program. It is definitely hard to transition out of this organization, but it is time to move on. I look forward to seeing the advancements that Women of Nations brings to the domestic violence and sexual violence fields and will be supporting them as an advocate in my own community.

As I leave this role, which encompasses reporting and reflection, I would like to ask those who are in this line of work or who support organizations like Women of Nations to reflect on your successes. We have come a long way in the fight against domestic and sexual violence. From the resurgence of the Me Too movement to the much-needed updates in the Violence Against Women Act (please call your U.S. Senator and ask them to support the reauthorization bill) to the individual successes of a client attending their first therapy appointment or getting the support and services they deserve.

All of these and more should be recognized for the work and effort it took to make these a success. Sometimes it can be difficult to feel like we are making progress. Even though domestic violence and sexual assault and all of the trauma that manifests from those things have not ended, it does not mean our work is not worth the effort. It is absolutely worth the effort. Thank you all for all you do and contribute to this endeavor.

-Briana O’Brien

Photo: Briana O’Brien (Left) & Tynielle Ziegler (Right) at the 2020 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Womens March in Saint Paul, Minnesota
Easter at Women of Nations

We want to thank one of our amazing neighbors whom kindly donated Easter treats and goodies to make baskets for the children at the Eagles Nest Shelter! The kids really enjoyed waking up and seeing that the Easter Bunny stopped by!!

Rescheduled Event

Due to the uncertainty of Covid-19, Grand Slam 3 has been rescheduled to October 17, 2020 at Tartan high school.

We hope to see everyone there!

Stay tuned to our facebook page www.facebook.com/womenofnations1982 for more information.
The Moons of Renewal and Growth (Spring)

Each spring, the camp circle moved to higher ground. Men fixed and created weapons and resumed hunting. Women gathered early berries and roots and repaired the tipis. Children enjoyed the warm weather after the confines of winter.

Spring is known to be the time for renewal and growth. Spring is represented by the yellow in the four directions. Spring can be viewed as the place and season of new beginnings, of a new day and birth. Seeds are being planted, trees and plants are in full bloom. The animals are coming out of hibernation about to walk the earth as it begins to warm up. The same holds true to individuals on a deeper spiritual connection, hoping to plant new seeds (goals) and to grow in whatever aspects in life. Make sure the proper care and nurture is given in the spring time.

Magzksicaagli Wi - Moon When Ducks Come Back

April: Wihakakta cepapi Wi- Moon of Fattening
This moon was named for the female animals. During this time, those carrying babies were at their largest before giving birth.

May: Wojupiwi Wi- Moon of Planting
Warmer weather made its way onto the prairies in this moon phase, and the pleasant temperatures meant it was time to plant.

Source: http://aktalakota.stjo.org
How to Support Women of Nations Year Round

Facebook Fundraiser: You can easily raise awareness and encourage your network to support our cause. No fees are deducted for donations made on Facebook.

Gift Cards: Gift cards to Target, Walmart, grocery stores and gas stations are useful to help Women of Nations fill immediate needs for our residents and outreach clients year round.

Amazon Smile: Your online shopping can create real impact for Women of Nations. Designate Women of Nations as your charity of choice, and the AmazonSmile foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to us.

Upcoming Events

Grandslam 3

When: October 17, 2020
Where: Tartan High School
   828 Greenway Ave N., Oakdale, Minnesota
Time: 4Pm

Please stay tuned to our Facebook and other social media accounts for more information about our upcoming Grandslam 3 fundraiser on October 17, 2020. Big things are planned and we are excited to partner with Midwest All-Star Wrestling again for another amazing fundraiser!

www.women-of-nations.org
www.facebook.com/womenofnations1982
Crisis Line: 651-251-1609
Business Line: 651-251-1605