

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE (NIEJI) PROGRAM: The Native Elder Maltreatment Survey: How to get started

Step 1: Get tribal permission

- We cannot begin processing your survey until a tribal resolution is received.
- The tribal resolution allows for participation in the in the data collection with NIEJI Program and ACL.
- The resolution ensures that the data belongs to the tribe and makes certain the tribal council receives a copy of the data.
- NIEJI processes the data and is the prime contact for tribes, Alaska villages, and Hawaiian homesteads. The resolution allows NIEJI to process tribal and national aggregate data.
- A copy of the tribal resolution will be available on the NIEJI website.

Step 2: Count the number of elders

- Give our office an estimation of a number of elders participating, names of elders are not needed.
- We will mail you an appropriate number of surveys including extras for practice or training purposes. More surveys can be requested, please contact us.

Step 3: Interviewing elders

- Interviewing the elder is the most important part of data collection. It is important to put the elder at ease allowing them to be comfortable.
- Do not pry for answers, names, or incidents. It is not necessary to insist upon cooperation from the elder being interviewed.
- It should be stated clearly that the elder's participation is completely voluntary. Elders can decide to stop at any point and/or not answer certain questions. Elders do not have to answer every question.
- The interviewer's guide and consent forms are available on our website at nieji.org.

Step 4: Mail the signed resolution documents to:

- **National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative**
Center for Rural Health
University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences, Suite E231
1301 North Columbia Road, Stop 9037
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037

Step 5: Mail surveys to be processed

- Surveys will be scanned and process onsite at NIEJI office.
- Do not bend, fold, or have stains on surveys as it will delay processing.
- Original surveys will be stored in a locked cabinet and destroyed after three years.

Step 6: Data returned to your tribal agency

- You will receive a copy of your tribal assessment report and how to results can be utilized.
- Your tribal results along with national results will be mailed to you.

For more information and resources please contact us at:

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE

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Website: <https://www.nieji.org/>

Email: info@nieji.org

Telephone: (855) 834-1572

Fax: (701) 777-6779