

SERVICE IMPACT & ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT

Merry Wills, VAWA Administrator, Nebraska Crime Commission

Michelle Miller, Sexual Violence Program Coordinator/Training Innovation
Leader, Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual & Domestic Violence

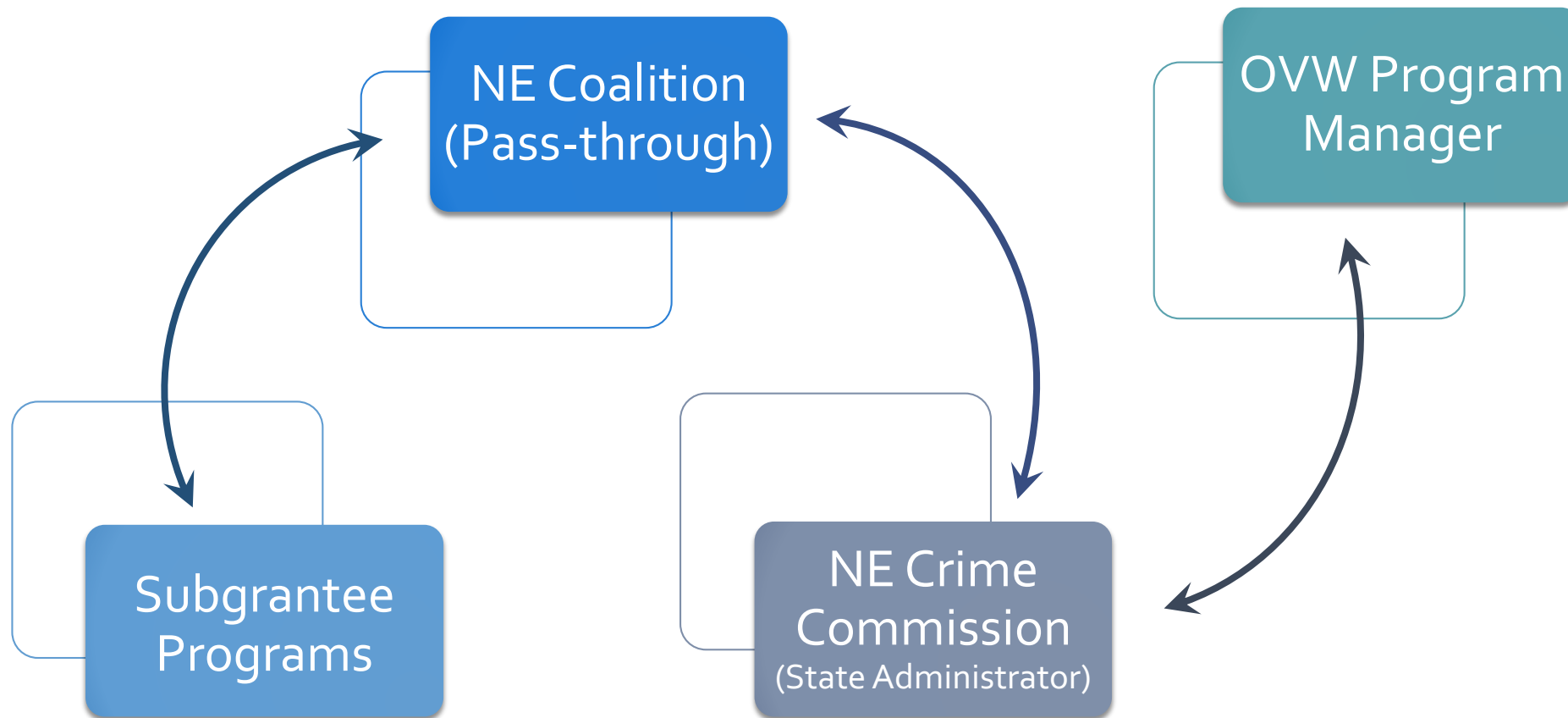
Relationship & Partnership

- Program – Coalition – VAWA Administrator – OVW Program Manager
- Investment
- Defining Roles
- Negotiation
- Communication
- Common Vision

Defining Roles

Nebraska Crime Commission	Nebraska Coalition
<p>Point of contact: Merry Wills, Federal Aid Administrator merry.wills@nebraska.gov</p> <p><u>Responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serve as point-of-contact for fiscal concerns• Submit federal SASP grant application and pass program funds through the Coalition• Address any financial concerns or issues directly with the program• Collect, review, and approve program budgets and narratives• Collect quarterly cash reports and supplemental documentation directly from the programs• Review and approve quarterly financial reports and documentation• Notify the Coalition when quarterly payments can be released to programs• Collect all annual reports from the Coalition and submit to OVW• Conduct financial monitors of programs	<p>Point of contact: Michelle Miller, Sexual Violence Program Coordinator michellem@nebraskacoalition.org</p> <p><u>Responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serve as point-of-contact for programmatic concerns• Allocate and distribute SASP dollars among participating programs• Prepare, distribute, collect, and retain subgrantee Grant Agreements and Special Conditions• Collect and review program's quarterly Progress Reports• Issue quarterly payment to programs with Crime Commission approval• Collect and review annual report information from programs• Compile programs' annual reports and submit to the Crime Commission• Conduct program monitoring related to service provision

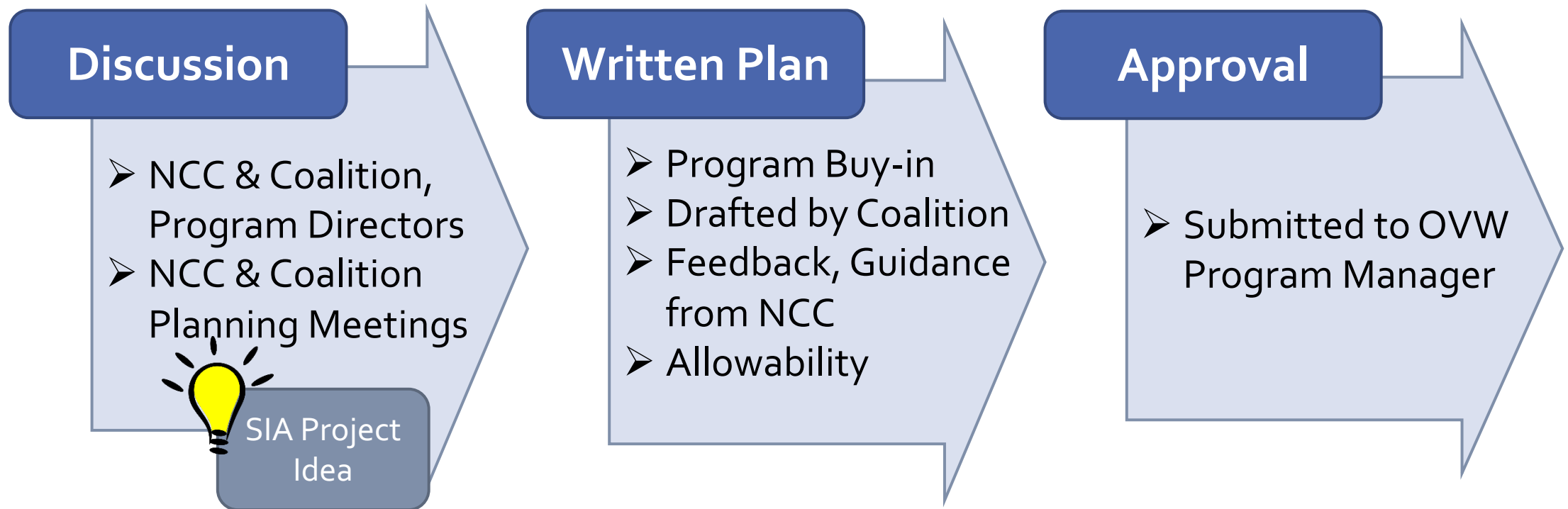
SIA Project - Flow of Communication



Challenges

- Left over funds
- Rural areas with low numbers
- Sexual Assault Demonstration Initiative (SADI) results

Planning Process



SIA Project Purpose

- Assist subgrantee program to evaluate accessibility and effectiveness of their services – internal improvement
- Gain survivor insight into outreach efforts, service relevance, and service accessibility

SIA Project Goals

1. Obtain information for each program that will help them assess:
 - a. Whether the services they offer are valued and helpful
 - b. How they can improve and/or expand their services to better meet the needs of survivors from underserved communities
 - c. Help them improve outreach to survivors in general and specifically to survivors from underserved communities
2. Pilot an evaluation process that may be used by other programs to assess and strengthen their services

Program Selection Process

Compiled information from:

- SASP Progress Reports
- TA contacts
- Director's Days
- Site Visits/Peer Reviews

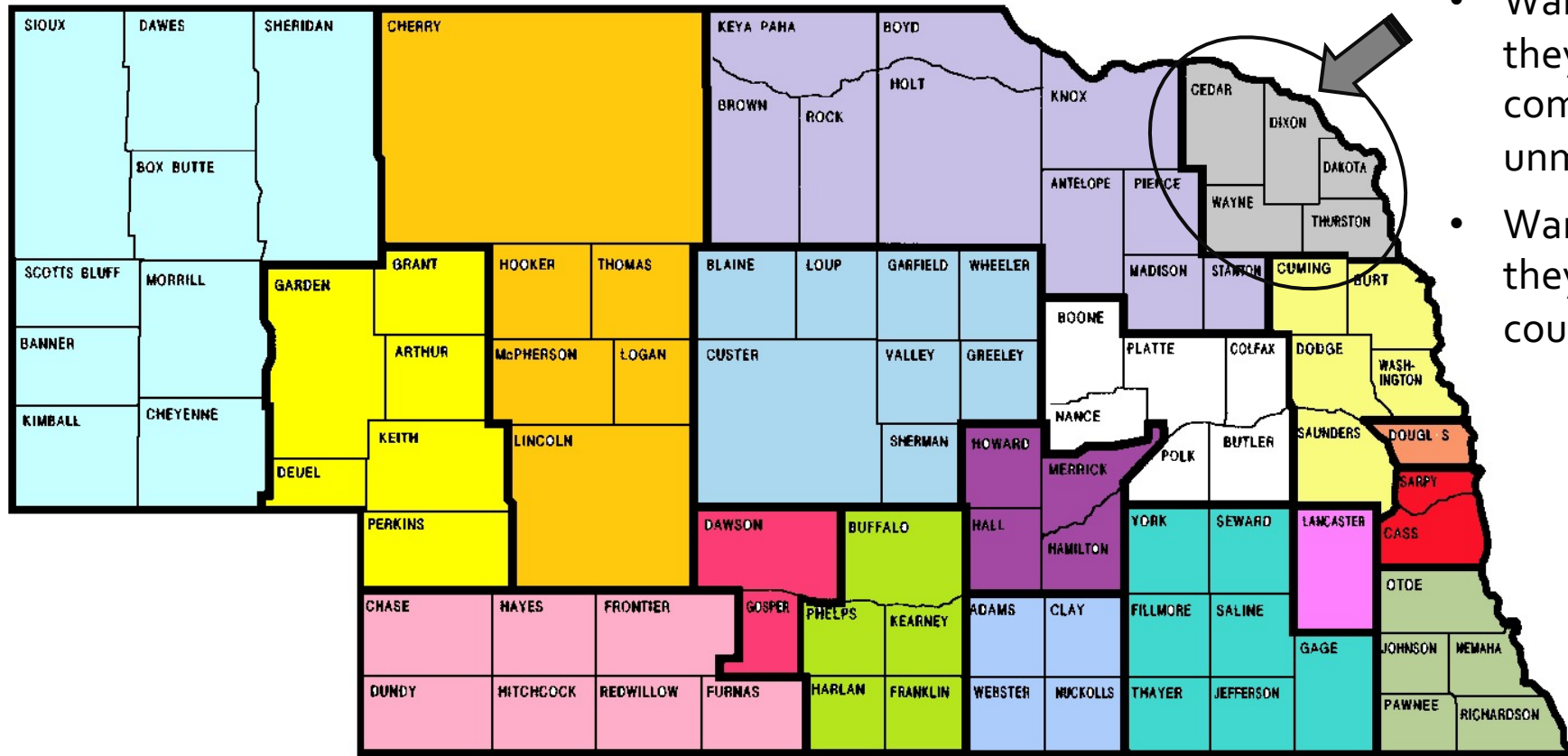
Eligibility Criteria:

- Need assistance developing or improving SA services
- Need assistance reaching underserved communities in their service area
- Willingness and capacity to implement change
- Self-identified interest & need

3 Programs Selected:

- Haven House
- Project Response
- Rape/Domestic Abuse Program (RDAP)

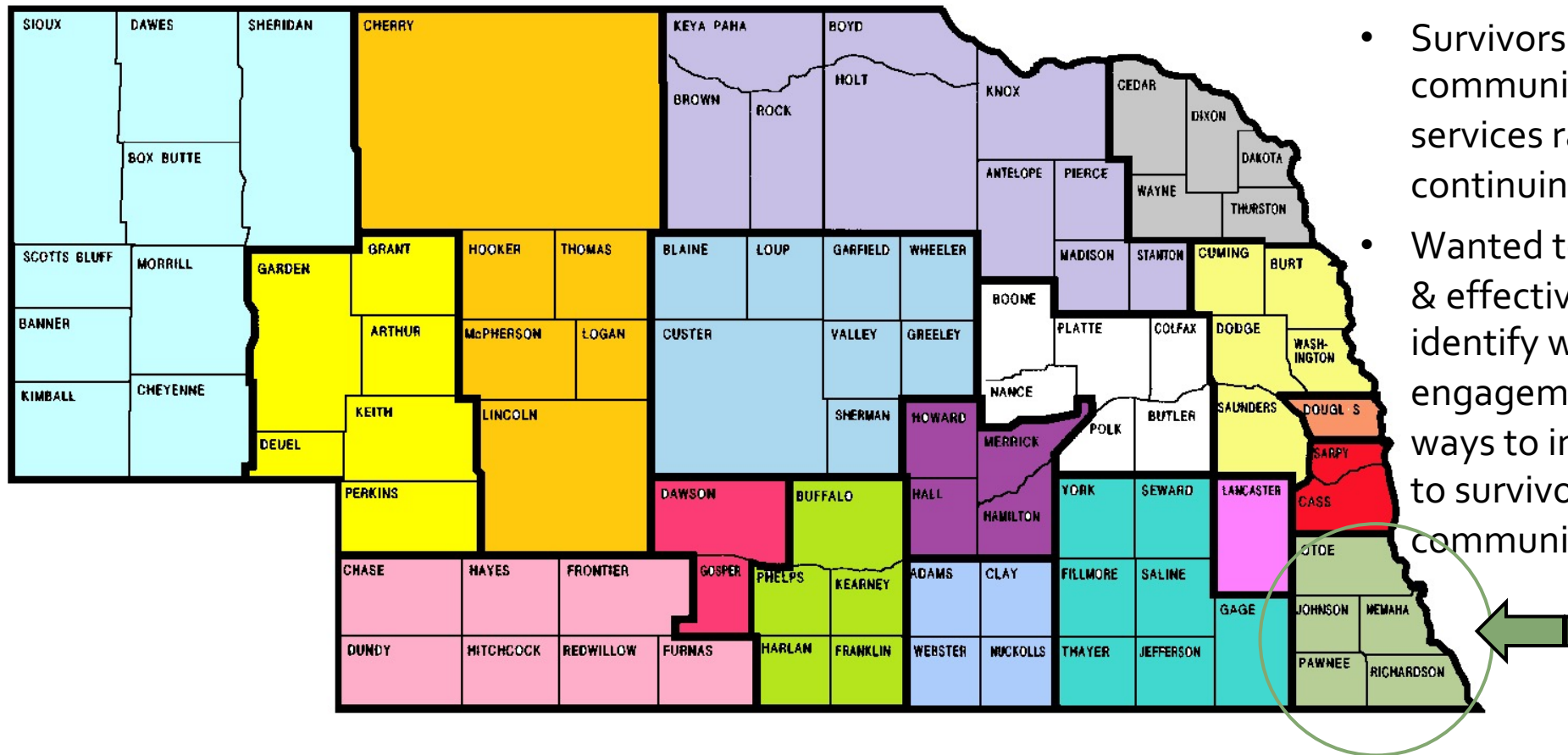
Haven House



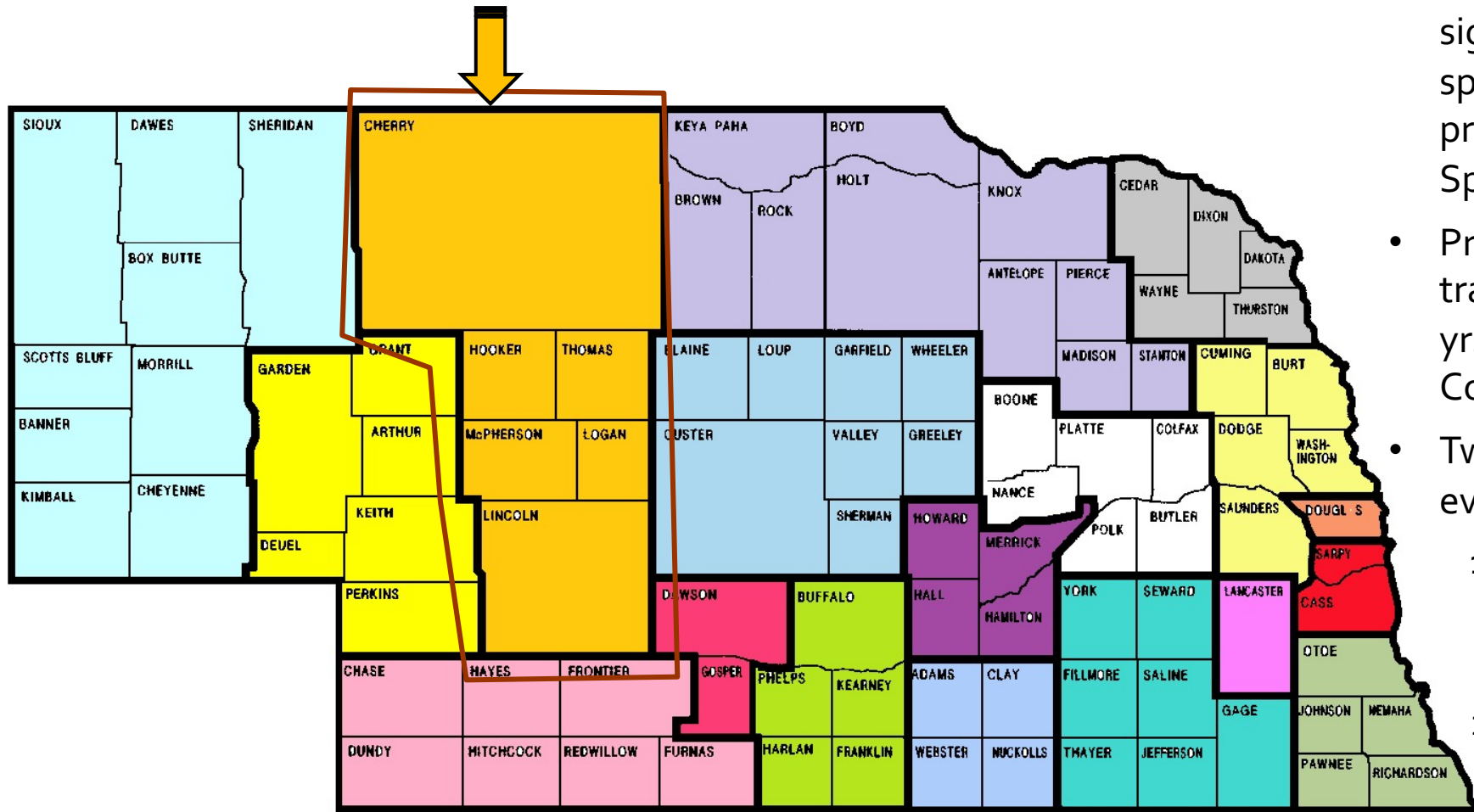
- Borders Winnebago & Omaha Reservations
- Large immigrant & Spanish-speaking communities
- Wanted to know how well they are serving these communities & if there are unmet needs
- Wanted to know how well they were serving outlying counties

Project Response

- Program had served very few survivors from the community (bulk of those served by the program were incarcerated)
- Survivors from the community who sought services rarely returned for continuing services
- Wanted to assess relevance & effectiveness of services; identify ways to improve engagement; and identify ways to improve outreach to survivors in the community



RDAP



- Cherry County is extremely rural and borders on Rosebud Reservation*
- Service area includes significant Spanish-speaking population but program serves few Spanish-speaking survivors
- Program had conducted trauma healing group for 3 yrs., mostly in Lincoln County
- Two areas of interest for evaluation:
 1. Evaluate accessibility & impact of Trauma Healing Group
 2. Identify how to better serve Spanish-speaking survivors

Details

- Coalition and Program Partnership
- Review of Service Data
- Confidential Focus Groups

Expenses Charged to SASP

- Contractor time - Focus Group Forms/Materials
- Participant Stipend using gift cards – Time 2 hours
- Childcare
- Transportation (for facilitators and for participants)
- Food for participants
- Contractor time - transcribed focus groups and compiled information

Expenses Charged to Other Sources

- Facilitator Time (Coalition staff), including participant screening
- Translation of Materials into Spanish

Other Funding

- OVW Coalition Program Grant
- State funding (DHHS)

Results – HTI Report

- Report credit and approval
- Rural communities

https://www.nebraskacoalition.org/get_informed/sexual_assault.html

Findings – Barriers to seeking help . . .

- Attributes of “small-town” environments (i.e., issues of confidentiality, fears of repercussion and social connections enjoyed by perpetrators).
- Survivors interpreting their victimization experiences as not relevant to the scope or mission of their local DVSA program.
- A perceived lack of a relationship between DVSA programs and segments of the Latinx community.

Recommendations

- Make a concerted effort to highlight that sexual violence is relevant to the mission of the DVSA programs.
- Increase efforts to facilitated privacy and anonymity for those seeking help from DVSA programs.
- Engage I efforts to better understand perceptions of barriers to Helpseeking held by Latinx survivors of sexual assault.

What we have done with the information

- Program impact – SASP funded projects, focused outreach and using different approaches, implementing service delivery around protecting privacy (rural area), accessing prevention funds to focus more
- Other programs not under this project that are implementing changes – SASA to enCourage rebranding, website development, moving from “Crisis” to ongoing approach
- Statewide impact – planning statewide messaging and outreach, statewide support group, statewide support group for advocates who are survivors (SASP funded).

Q & A

- Merry Wills
merry.wills@Nebraska.gov
- Michelle Miller
michellem@nebraskacoalition.org