

DRAFT Research plan for input

Prepared for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Task Force

The following high-level overview of the research we may conduct to inform the Missing and Murdered Women's Task Force (MMIW TF). It is based on the contract between Wilder Research and the MN Department of Public Safety (DPS). We are seeking input from the MMIW TF members at the 9/19/2019 meeting, which will be used to refine and finalize this plan.

The research questions that will guide each of the research activities described below are:

- What are the root causes of the high number, and overrepresentation, of Indigenous women and girls (and LGBTQ+ and men/boys) among those who experience violence?
- What are the key touchpoints in the system related to prevention, emergency response, victim search, criminal investigation, adjudication, and victim services and reparations? How do these touchpoints positively or negatively impact the outcomes for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls?
- What federal, state, tribal, and local laws and policies support or hinder the prevention, investigation, adjudication, and reparations for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls?
- What law enforcement, state agency, and advocacy practices support or hinder the prevention, investigation, adjudication, and reparations for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls?
- What are solutions that could potentially help to address this problem in Minnesota? What solutions have been tried and proven in other places? What are the good ideas from within Minnesota to consider?

Compile background information (Fall 2019)

We will conduct a review of reports and documents that address the research questions to document our baseline of knowledge and to identify key gaps in the knowledge about MMIW in Minnesota. We will start with key documents provided by DPS and will conduct a thorough search using some of the following terms: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, violence, crime, Native American/American Indian/Alaska Native, law, policy, Indian child welfare/protection, health, human services... Wilder will also work with DPS to learn from other states and nations that are doing similar work.

We welcome the Task Force members to send us links to relevant reports.

Key informant interviews or focus groups (Winter 2020)

We have budgeted to complete 50-60 key informant interviews or we could also conduct one or more focus groups in place of 10-15 interviews. The types of individuals we hope to interview include:

- Victims (8-10)
- Advocates (5-6)
- Nonprofit and government services providers (5-6)
- Tribal services providers (4-5)*
- Tribal leadership (9-11)*
- Tribal and non-tribal law enforcement (7-8)
- Judges, prosecutors (7-8)
- National experts (5-8)

We are hoping Task Force members can help us to identify individuals who fit these groups and who might be helpful in answering one or more of the research questions above.

Compile and analyze existing data (Winter 2020)

Wilder Research will work with DPS and other state agencies to identify available data that can help to address the research questions, as well as to identify gaps in existing data. Wilder Research will provide consultation to DPS and other agencies to compile, analyze, and present these data to the MMIW TF.

We welcome the Task Force's input on what data sources we should investigate and use, and what types of data you want to see.

Support DPS to complete tribal consultations (Spring-Summer 2020)

As a part of the MMIW TF process, DPS will conduct tribal consultations with each of the 11 American Indian tribes that share geography with Minnesota. Wilder Research will assist DPS in developing the protocol for these tribal consultations, for collecting the feedback from the tribes, and for documenting and analyzing this information.

What questions does the Task Force think are most pressing to ask the tribes during this consultation process?

Final Task Force report to the Minnesota Legislature (Summer-Fall 2020)

Wilder Research will work with DPS to compile and summarize the results of all of the previously described research activities. These summaries will be provided to the MMIW TF during the course of your work together to help inform your discussion and recommendations. Wilder Research will also take notes at every Task Force meeting and will document the discussion and any questions or concerns; next steps for Task Force members, DPS, and Wilder; and recommendations to include in the report to the Minnesota Legislature.

Throughout the process, we welcome Task Force members to provide feedback about the format or contents of the final report and to suggest key findings or recommendations that should be included in the report.

The Task Force will be given an opportunity to review and provide input on a detailed report outline in late summer 2020, and to review the final draft of the report and provide feedback before it is submitted to the Minnesota Legislature by December 15, 2020.

Wilder Research®

Information. Insight. Impact.

451 Lexington Parkway North
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104
651-280-2700
www.wilderresearch.org

For more information

Contact Nicole MartinRogers, PhD, at Wilder Research,
651-280-2682, nicole.martinrogers@wilder.org.

September 2019