



# **SPRING2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL**



## Montana Department of Justice Sexual Assault Kit Initiative



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FSD  
MSPOA  
MACOP  
MCAA  
MCADSV  
SAKI TASK FORCE  
SAKI TEAM  
LEA  
HOSPITALS



## co·op·er·a·tive

Marked by a willingness and ability to work with others

- Merriam-Webster

# NATIONAL SAK INITIATIVE

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Enhancing the criminal justice response to sexual assault and ensuring **justice** for survivors.

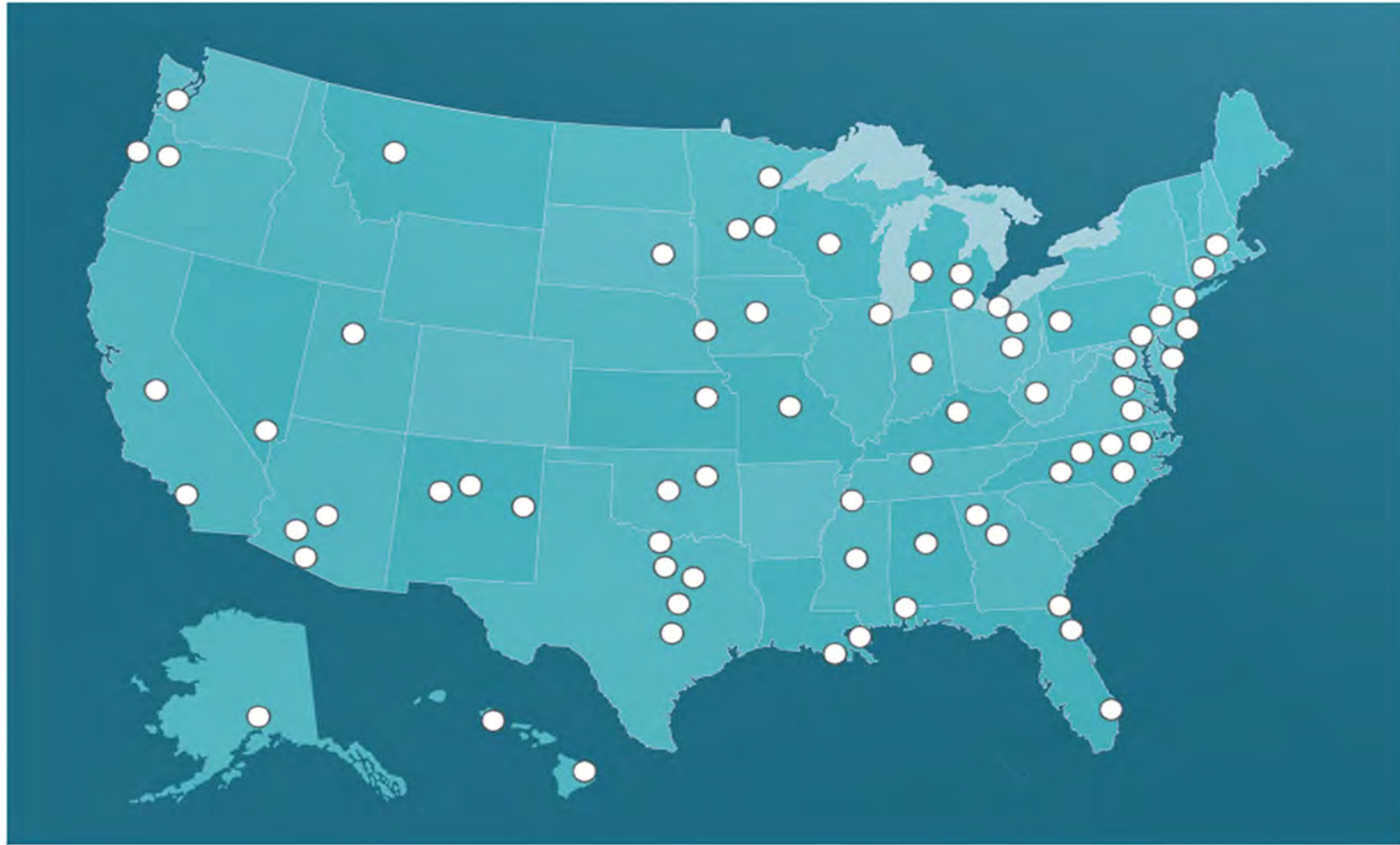
- Comprehensive Approach
- Bureau of Justice Assistance or BJA Evidence Based Model
- National and Statewide Partnerships
- SAKI TTA



*Vice President Joe Biden, U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch, New York County District Attorney Cyrus Vance, and actress and advocate Mariska Hargitay at the New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner, September 2015. The group tours the crime lab. Photo by David Lienemann*



<https://www.sakitta.org/sakisites/>



*From 2015 to Present \**

**146,278**

kits inventoried

**83,201**

kits sent for testing

**13,961**

CODIS hits

# NATIONAL SAKI PROGRAM GOALS

## Rape Kit Backlog

The root causes question is complex and critically important.

- Carrie Lopez, Former White House Advisor on Violence Against Women



- To reduce the number of unsubmitted sexual assault kits;
- To improve training to ensure victim-centered responses;
- To strengthen advocacy resources;
- To improve the understanding of the nature and extent of the sexual assault problem;
- To establish evidence tracking, case management, and victim notification protocols; and
- To establish protocols that address the **root causes** that originally caused these kits to remain shelved and unsubmitted.

## SAKI FUNDING

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### Financial Resources

Critical for [Comprehensive](#) Sexual Assault Evaluation and Reform

- diverse, rural, large, unique challenges

Build Leadership and External Support

- statewide

Tools to Improve Montana's Response to Sexual Assault





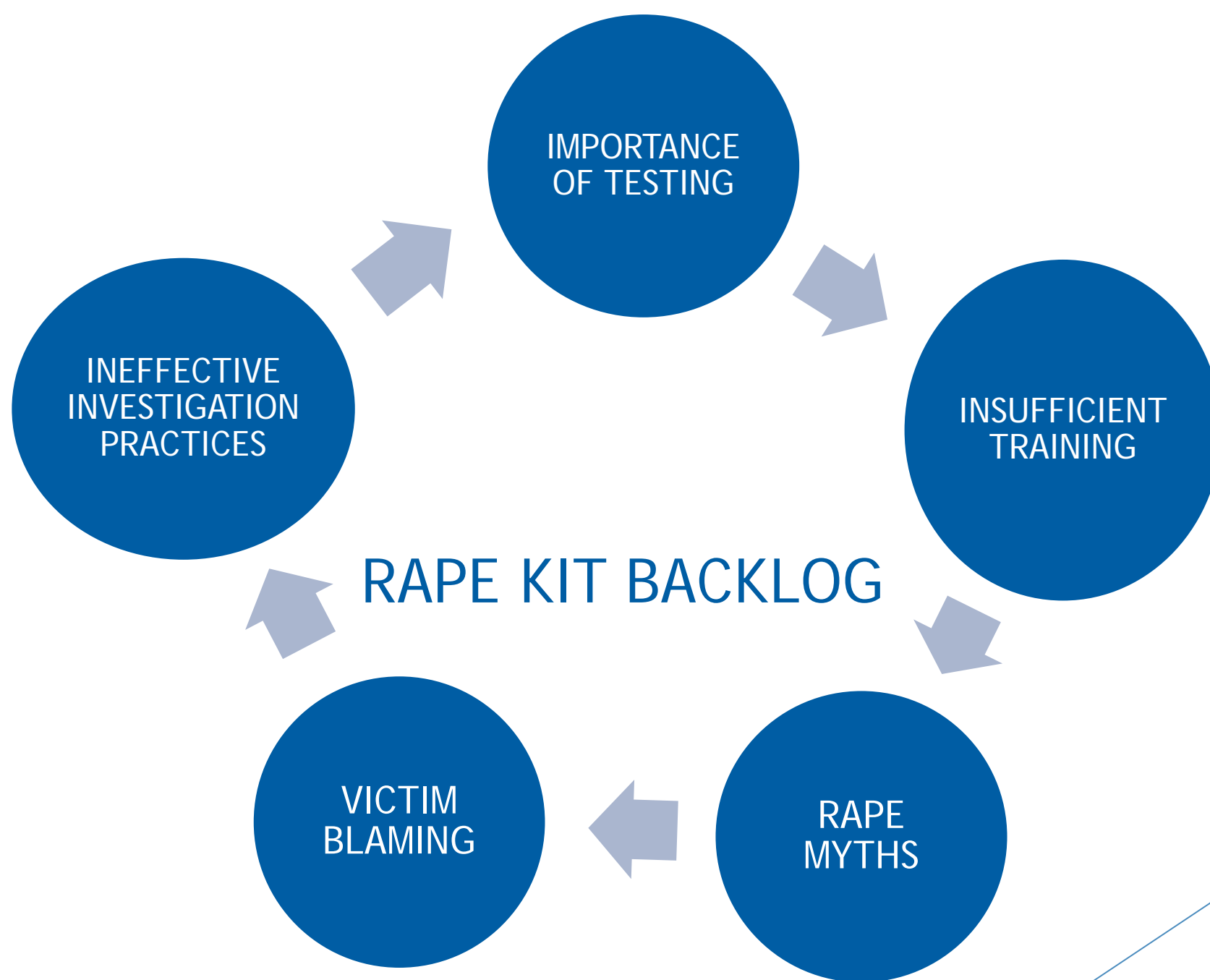
SAKI 2016

SAKI 2017



\$2,916,780





## IMPORTANCE OF TESTING

CODIS or COMBINED DNA INDEX  
IDENTIFY SUSPECTS  
INVESTIGATIVE LEADS  
CONNECTIONS  
MESSAGE TO SURVIVOR

## HANDLING SAKS

ARBITRARY PRACTICES  
LACK OF SAK FOLLOW UP  
CHAIN OF CUSTODY

## INSUFFICIENT TRAINING

TRAUMA-INFORMED  
INVESTIGATION  
RESPONDERS

## COORDINATED RESPONSE

TEAMWORK  
SURVIVOR-CENTERED  
SAFE REFERRAL  
SURVIVOR OPTIONS

## INEFFECTIVE INVESTIGATION PRACTICES

STRATEGIES  
EVIDENCE COLLECTION  
DIGITAL EVIDENCE  
SUSPECT INVESTIGATION



**RAPE KIT BACKLOG**

**TRAINING AND OUTREACH**

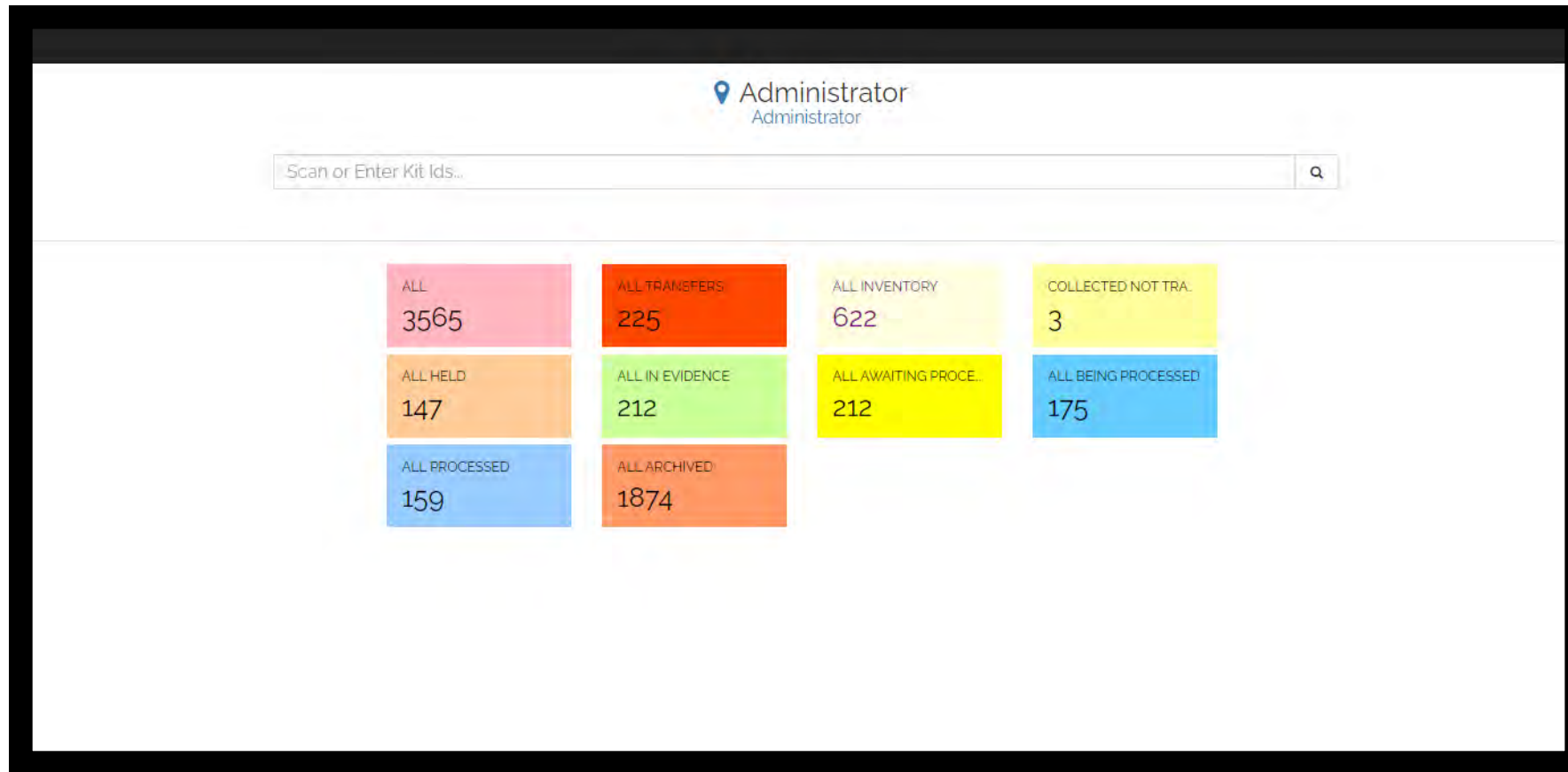
**BEYOND THE KIT**

# RAPE KIT BACKLOG

- ▶ STATEWIDE INVENTORY
- ▶ TEST
- ▶ TECHNICAL REVIEW
- ▶ CODIS HIT
- ▶ CASE REVIEW
- ▶ SURVIVOR NOTIFICATION
- ▶ WARM HAND OFF TO LOCAL JURISDICTION



# SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT TRACKING SYSTEM



PURSUANT TO 46-15-405, MCA, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, HEALTHCARE FACILITIES, AND CRIME LABORATORIES ARE REQUIRED TO USE THE KIT TRACK SYSTEM.



# MOTIVATION

- CASE REVIEW AND FOLLOW UP
- MEET AND GREETINGS
- CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR SURVIVORS
- DEVELOP SAK POLICY
  - 46-15-404, MCA Testing
  - 46-15-405, MCA Tracking
  - 46-15-406, MCA Rights
- TARGET ISSUES WITH THE OVERALL RESPONSE
  - Recognizing trauma
  - Survivor-centered response
  - Improve Investigation strategies
  - Prosecution challenges



- REVIEWING COLD CASE SEXUAL ASSAULTS
- IDENTIFYING POSITIVE RESPONSE ACTIONS, CHALLENGES, MISTAKES, AND NEXT STEPS.

# TOGETHER

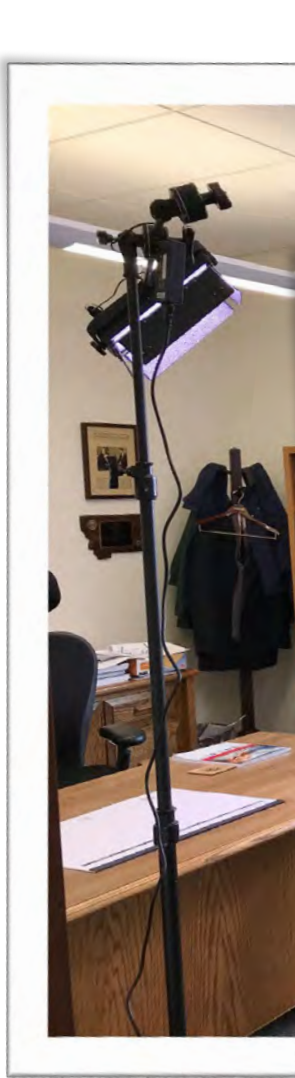




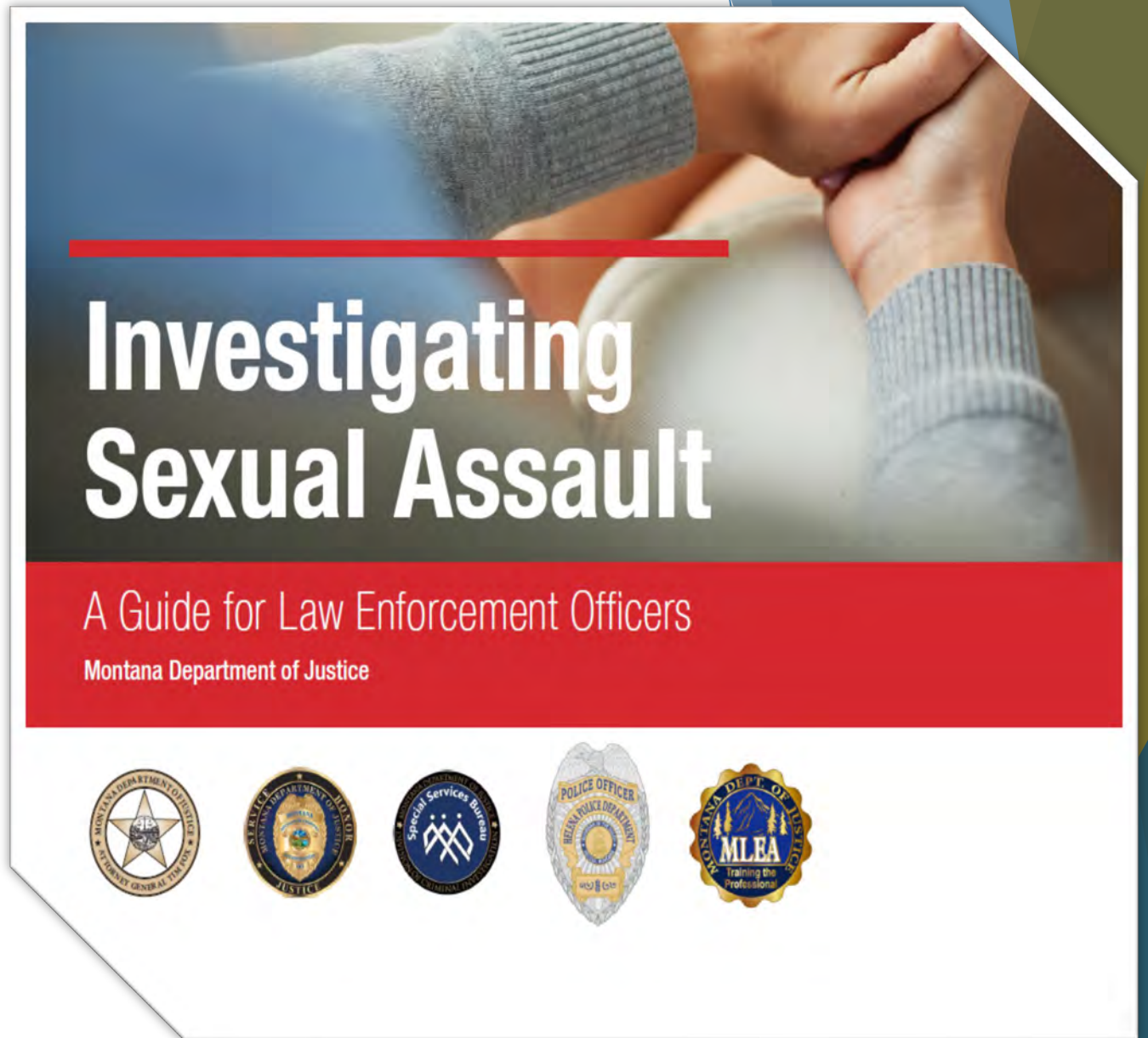


# TRAINING AND OUTREACH






- ▶ MLEA OFFICER BASIC TRAINING
- ▶ INVESTIGATING SEXUAL ASSAULT - A GUIDE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
- ▶ SAKI 2-DAY FIELD TRAINING
  - ▶ Sidney, Helena, Glasgow, Glendive, Havre, Great Falls, Billings x 2, Lewistown, Bozeman x 2, Colstrip, Hamilton, Missoula.
  - ▶ POST and CLE approved










**NEW!**

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**



**DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

Free Online Training, Self-paced Courses  
Best Practices for Responding to and Investigating Sexual Assault  
Start learning at:  
<https://dojmt.gov/enforcement/specialservices/saki/responders/online-courses/>



## ► E-LEARNING COURSES

- 26 SELF-PACED, INTERACTIVE ONLINE COURSES
- 11 INFOGRAPHICS
- OVER 30 INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARTNERS
- 23 COURSES = 10 POST CREDITS





## FREE VIRTUAL 90-MINUTE KIT TRACK TRAINING SERIES



### MONTANA SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE KIT TRACKING SYSTEM

TRAINING OFFERED THE  
FIRST THURSDAY AT 2 PM  
AND

THIRD WEDNESDAY AT 10 AM  
EACH MONTH.



KitTrack – State of Montana

## KIT TRACK TRAINING AGENDA

Scan or Enter Kit Ids...

### 1. REVIEW

46-15-404;  
45-15-405;  
46-15-406;  
46-15-412, MCA.

2.  
SHARE  
AVAILABLE  
RESOURCES AND  
NEW, UPDATED  
FORMS

3.  
LEARN  
THE MEANING OF  
TERMS, SYMBOLS,  
AND USER  
FRIENDLY TIPS

4.  
PRACTICE  
THE KIT TRACK  
SYSTEM  
TOGETHER

5.  
IMPLEMENT  
AS A  
STAKEHOLDER  
AND Q&A

COLLECTION KIT



# MOTIVATION

1) NEED

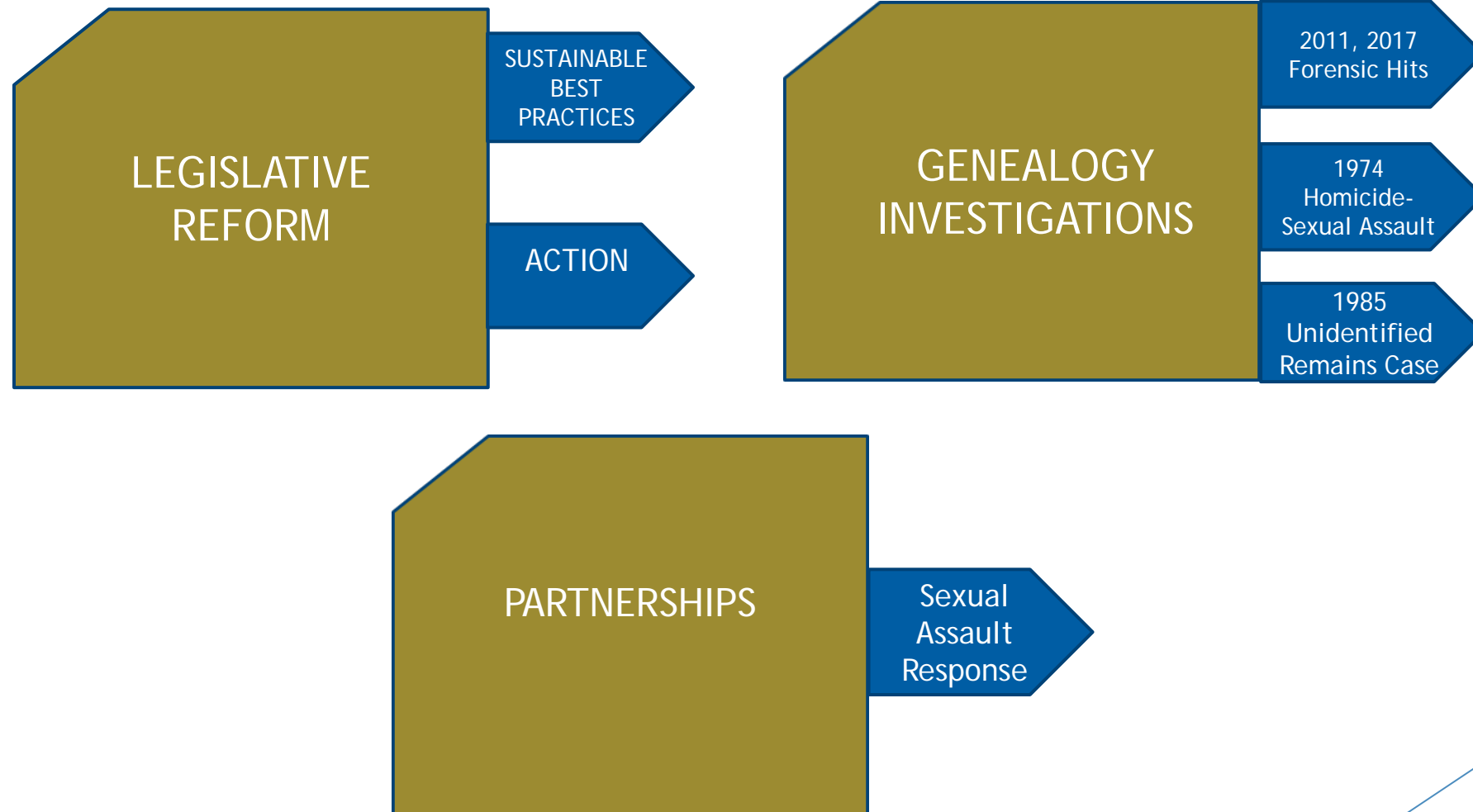
2) CHANGE

3) FEEDBACK

4) THE WHY



# BEYOND THE KIT





BEYOND  
THE KIT

STATEWIDE  
COMPREHENSIVE  
APPROACH

TRAINING  
AND  
OUTREACH

LISTEN

RAPE KIT  
BACKLOG  
COLLABORATION

LEAD  
&  
ADVOCATE



# WHAT'S NEXT?



- ▶ INVENTORY AND TEST UNSUBMITTED AND PARTIALLY TESTED SAKS
- ▶ HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF BACKLOG DATA
- ▶ TRAININGS FOR SANES, ADVOCATES, TRIBAL SARTS, PROSECUTORS

# Sexual Assault Awareness Month



*Building Safe  
Online Spaces Together*

**April 2022**

National Sexual Violence  
Resource Center  
[nsvrc.org](https://nsvrc.org)



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