





# Life Cycle of the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Grants

The National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) includes several key components to ensuring jurisdictions develop and implement sustainable policies and practices aimed at preventing an accumulation of unsubmitted sexual assault kits (SAKs), and establishing timely, victim-centered responses to sexually motivated crime. This guide will help agencies understand the evolution of establishing a successful program from kit inventories through sustainability planning.

<h2>Inventory</h2> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Select a SAKI Site Coordinator and designate a champion for the inventory process</li> <li>◆ Establish a multidisciplinary team to address factors (e.g., policies and procedures) that led to unsubmitted SAKs</li> <li>◆ Select an inventory approach, including deciding whether you will use a private laboratory, and conduct an inventory of unsubmitted SAKs</li> <li>◆ Implement a system to track SAKs' progress from inventory to adjudication</li> </ul>
<h2>Victim Advocacy</h2> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Determine the resources needed for victim advocacy, such as training and personnel</li> <li>◆ Develop and implement protocols for victim notification and related issues</li> <li>◆ Identify community- and system-based advocates to enhance victim support services</li> <li>◆ Offer training on trauma-informed, victim-centered practices to best support sexual assault survivors</li> </ul>
<h2>Investigation</h2> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Determine resources needed for investigation, such as training and personnel</li> <li>◆ Review and modify policies that support cold case sexual assault investigations; create policies if they do not exist</li> <li>◆ Design a staffing plan to support activities such as case review, Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) prioritization, and other non-DNA investigative strategies</li> <li>◆ Create a sustainable sexual assault investigation training program and case review plan</li> </ul>
<h2>Prosecution</h2> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Determine resources needed for prosecution, such as training and personnel</li> <li>◆ Provide training that develops litigation skills to proactively maintain a victim-centered and offender-focused prosecution</li> <li>◆ Ensure proper staffing levels to accommodate regular and ongoing case reviews</li> <li>◆ Recognize that prosecutorial "success" for such complex cases needs to be gauged by metrics beyond convictions</li> </ul>
<h2>Sustainability</h2> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Conduct a thorough review of all policies, procedures, and documentation related to sexual assault response</li> <li>◆ Identify sustainability needs from thorough review, such as updates to current policies and documentation of staff activities</li> <li>◆ Assess legislation, funding, policies, and protocols to ensure they support jurisdictions to sustain current SAKI activities</li> <li>◆ Identify which parts of the SAKI site program should be continued and prioritize efforts for sustainability</li> </ul>