

**WE WILL BEGIN SHORTLY.
WHILE YOU WAIT...**

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RURAL ROUTES TO CHANGE WEBINAR DISCUSSION
Leveraging Key Features of Rural Life to Benefit CCR Efforts

With Rose Thelen, Praxis Technical Assistance Partner with Rural program staff:
Francine Garland Stark,
Kate McQuillan, and Sandra Pilgrim Lewis

Praxis International – Rural Technical Assistance on Violence Against Women

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Praxis International Rural Routes to Change Webinar

Leveraging Key Features of Rural Life to Benefit CCR Efforts
Wednesday, December 17, 2014
Rose Thelen, Praxis Technical Assistance Partner with

Rural program panel:
Francine Garland Stark, Kate McQuillan, Sandra Pilgrim Lewis

WELCOME!

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**WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT RURAL ADVOCACY:
(A FEW 2013 RURAL ASSESSMENT FINDINGS)**

- “Rural” means many different things...references diverse geographies, populations, and cultures that are both shared and distinct, and include sovereign Tribal governments.
- Advocates are the leaders of meaningful, sustained responses to violence against women in rural communities.
- When sufficiently supported, advocates recognize and develop community partners within their local agencies and systems.

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**WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT RURAL ADVOCACY:
(A FEW 2013 RURAL ASSESSMENT FINDINGS)**

- Cultural traditions and assumptions vary tremendously and shape how rural communities respond to violence against women.
- Rural communities are creative at “making do” and managing scarce resources.
- “Everybody knows everybody”; relationships are highly valued and slowly built.

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RURAL DISCUSSION PANELISTS

- **Francine Garland Stark**, Executive Director of the Hope and Justice Project, Presque Isle, ME
- **Kate McQuillan**, Advocate and Systems Coordinator, Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (DSVS), Red Lodge, MT
- **Sandra Pilgrim Lewis**, Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board and Praxis Advocacy Learning Center Faculty

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STRENGTHS ADVOCACY IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

- What features of rural life make it easier to create systems change?
 - Examples...

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CHALLENGES TO ADVOCACY IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

- What makes systems change difficult?
 - Examples...

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QUESTIONS?

- Rose Thelen, Praxis Rural CCR Specialist,
(320) 558-4510 rosethelen@frontiernet.net

Rural panel:

- Francine Garland Stark
- Kate McQuillan
- Sandra Pilgrim-Lewis

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