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**Collector:** Email Invitation 1 (Email)  
**Started:** Saturday, October 20, 2018 10:44:44 AM  
**Last Modified:** Saturday, October 20, 2018 10:46:53 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:09  
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Page 1: 2018 Candidate Survey

**Q1** What is your name? Which office are you running for and which district do you hope to represent?

Sara Hannan House District 33

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**Q2** What is your vision for Alaska when it comes to reducing sexual assault and domestic violence? What steps are you prepared to take to get there?

Alaska continues to be the most dangerous place in the nation for women in their relationships. My vision and hope is to change this so Alaska becomes the least violent place in the nation. We must acknowledge the roles of intergenerational trauma, economic imbalance and insecurity. We need to talk about cultural norms that praise aggression and a society with high rates of alcohol abuse, in contributing to this horrific outcome.

I will advocate funding levels that support the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault cases. I will work to make sure that we that we address these problems and fund programs to research and understand these complex issues. We must support survivors with legal assistance, shelter and transitional housing and counseling. And we must support and improve prevention programs.

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**Q3** Are you familiar with local programs that provide domestic violence and sexual assault services to victims across Alaska? Have you recently visited your local domestic violence/sexual assault shelter or victim services program? What is your plan to support these programs?

I am familiar with the local shelter and assistance programs at AWARE in Juneau. I have not visited our program recently, but I am a regular donor of goods and money. I will always personally support programs and advocate for a higher level of funding to meet the needs in our communities.

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**Q4** What responsibilities do you believe the Legislature and our elected officials hold in advancing efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault? Would you be willing to maintain or increase the current level of funding for prevention and victims services?

The Legislature needs to support efforts to make our laws consistent and adequate to address the variety of sex crimes in Alaska. I will work to increase the funding of prevention programs and services that support victims. We must work to do more than protect victims in the immediate aftermath of domestic violence or sexual assault. Our efforts must work to prevent and transform Alaska so that as a woman or child Alaska is not a dangerous place to live.

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**Q5** Alaska's 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey reports that 1 in 10 Alaskan students had experienced sexual violence (being forced by anyone to do sexual acts) during the past year. Do you feel that sexual assault, sexual abuse, and dating violence prevention education should take place in our schools and in what way would you suggest enhancing efforts to educate Alaska's youth on these important subjects? Who do you think shares this responsibility?

Prevention education absolutely has to be "taught" at schools. We can not isolate this into a curriculum component delivered in one classroom. A variety of elements including consent, intergenerational trauma, and emotional health, must be infused into the rules of society that we use with children throughout their lives. We must work with families, schools, tribes, medical and mental health professionals, law enforcement and recovery programs because we all share in the responsibility to work harder to change Alaska's rates of domestic violence and sexual assault.

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