

Welcoming and Protocol

These are things to cover prior to visitors entering the space; you can use the example or find your own words.

- 1.** Indicate the coat rack, place for shoes, and space for bags/purses.
- 2.** Offer a smudge; if they are not familiar with smudging, please go through the process
refer to your volunteer orientation
- 3.** Let visitors know water is available to them after they leave the space
- 4.** If the visitor needs to leave the space at any time, they may do so and re-enter. If you notice they are having difficulty, a Keeper, Elder, or Health Support Person is available.
- 5.** Go over protocol for the space
 - A.** No food/drinks
 - B.** No outdoor footwear
 - C.** No electronic devices
 - D.** No pictures/videos
 - E.** No touching the vamps or picking them up

This is a sacred space, remind visitors to be aware and respect others that are in the space.

- 6.** Indicate the tobacco box on the left, visitors will hold tobacco in their left hand (closest to their heart) and carry throughout. Then they will place their tobacco in the box on the right when they exit the space.
- 7.** Visitors will move through the space in a clockwise direction.
- 8.** Be aware of your footing, do not step on the vamps.
- 9.** Explain the donations and sale of items, all money raised will go back to Walking With Our Sisters and all future installations.
- 10.** If you remember, offer to visitors to share their experience on video. These are posted to social media sites for others that may not be able to visit.

Example:

Welcome/Aanii/Boozhoo (*use whichever feels comfortable*) Thank you for coming.

I have some things to go over before you enter the space. We have smudge if you want to cleanse before you go into the space or for when you come out.

If they are not familiar with smudging, go over the process

We have water for when you come out, if you need a drink. You may experience mixed emotions while inside the space. If you need to come out, please do and we can offer you a smudge and drink of water and you can re-enter. We have an Elder available as well, if you need to speak with someone.

While in the space, please observe there is no food/drink; no cell phones; no picture or video taking; no outdoor footwear; and no picking up or touching of the vamps.

There is tobacco in the box on the left, you will take a pinch and carry this with you throughout your time in the space and then deposit/drop in the box on the right. Please be aware that the tobacco does not fall out of your hand.

If you need to go around someone, please be aware of not stepping on the vamps. We have a guest book for you to sign as well. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask.

Also, please be aware of others in the space. You are now entering a sacred space that is like a ceremony. If you talk, please keep to a whisper so others can enjoy their experience. Take your time, there is no rush.