

Healing with Culture. Reclaiming Indigenous Health. www.americanindiancancer.org



### MISSION

The American Indian Cancer Foundation (AICAF) works to eliminate the cancer burdens of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people through improved access to prevention, early detection, treatment, and survivor support.

## VISION

Through hard work, culturally appropriate communitybased programs and policy change that affords Native people access to the best prevention and treatment strategies, we see a day where American Indian communities are free of the burdens of cancer.

We believe Native communities have the wisdom to find the solutions to cancer inequities, but are often seeking the organizational capacity, expert input, and resources to do so.



We strive to be a partner trusted by tribal and urban community members, leaders, health care providers, and others working toward effective and sustainable cancer solutions.

# **OUR IMPACT**

We are committed to providing cancer patients, community members, tribal leaders, and healthcare providers with the knowledge, tools, and resources they need to make informed decisions about cancer prevention and care. By educating and empowering these individuals, we can collectively work towards a cancer-free future for our people and future generations.





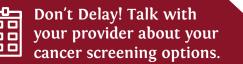




## **OUR PROGRAMS**

See back of page for details regarding our programs.





# #GetScreened

# Cancer Equity



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#### **OUR PROGRAMS**



#### **Prevention & Policy**

AICAF's Prevention & Policy Program seeks to engage, educate, and empower AI/AN communities in implementing healthy lifestyle practices that help reduce cancer burdens. We work with tribes and AI/AN organizations to support these practices through tribal resolutions and policies.

We utilize culturally appropriate resources to engage community members and stakeholders to create Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) change in communities, and we also offer training and technical assistance to AI/AN communities and organizations.

#### **Research and Evaluation**

AICAF's Research Program works with communities to identify research questions, methods, and funding opportunities that align with community needs and priorities. Our team supports the collection and use of population-specific data, aiming to find culturally relevant health solutions that are both effective and resonate within our unique communities. We prioritize appropriate dissemination of results, so all our communities have access to the information that is most relevant and useful to their efforts to improve their health and wellbeing.



The Evaluation Program supports the work of all AICAF teams and programs, providing insight on how to improve our efforts and better serve tribal communities. It establishes and monitors

program outputs, outcomes, benchmarks, and success stories. The evaluation team accomplishes this through the use of logic models, evaluation plans, and reports that are shared with our communities.



#### **Cancer Equity**

AICAF's Cancer Equity Program aims to reduce the cancer burdens on Native people by increasing cancer screening and early detection rates across Indian Country. Program staff focuses their efforts on raising awareness of many common cancers faced by Indigenous people through cancer awareness campaigns that promote screening, culturally tailored resources, cancer coalition, training, and media tools, community education and outreach activities, and collaboration with clinics to help build capacity and improve tribal health systems.

While our mission is to eliminate all types of illness in our communities, AICAF prioritizes the cancers that are most prevalent among AI/AN people. The team centers most projects around these topics: breast, cervical, colorectal, lung, and oral cancers, and HPV immunization.

#### **Traditional Tobacco**

Tobacco work is embedded into all of AICAF's programs and projects. AICAF's work is guided by our cultures and teachings, which include our sacred traditional tobacco. We acknowledge and honor that traditional tobacco is a gift from Creator, and many communities use it in a traditional way.

Mainstream evidence-based commercial tobacco control interventions often do not produce the same results for Indigenous people. Comprehensive strategies rooted in knowledge of customs, cultural traditions, and ways of knowing are proving to be promising practices for elevating the health of American Indian people. AICAF works with advocates across Indian Country to restore traditional



tobacco practices, to reduce commercial tobacco abuse like cigarette smoking, and to prevent secondhand smoke exposure.

# Join us in making a difference today!

Donate now to support our work in eliminating cancer burdens of American Indian and Alaska Native people through improved access to prevention, early detection, treatment, and survivor support.

#### CONTACT

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