

**American Indian Cancer Foundation Mission:**  
*To eliminate the cancer burdens on American Indian families through education, improved access to prevention, screening, treatment and survivor support.*

**American Indian Cancer  
Foundation NEWS**

Vol (2)-1, Spring 2016



## Spring 2016 Newsletter

The American Indian Cancer Foundation celebrates five years of success!



Greetings friends of the American Indian Cancer Foundation!

We have reached a very exciting milestone at the American Indian Cancer Foundation, we are celebrating our fifth

### In This Issue

AICAF turns 5

Colorectal cancer awareness

World Indigenous Cancer Conference

Delta Dental partnership

Cancer prevention, smoothie recipe

Sacred traditional tobacco resource now available

New HPV vaccine article

STAY CONNECTED



Events

birthday! We appreciate the extensive support from you and others to make our work possible. This newsletter includes a snapshot of some of our efforts that are currently underway.

In the past five years we have increased the visibility of cancer burdens and inequities experienced by American Indians across the country. We engage partners at many trainings, presentations, conference booths, webinars, on our website, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and now Instagram. We have developed and shared quality resources on a variety of cancer prevention and screening issues. Hundreds of health care providers have participated in one or more of our trainings and the patient education resources have reached thousands across several states and health systems. We listen to the cancer priorities of tribal communities and work with academic and governmental partners to identify and share improved cancer data and to measure the success of community cancer solutions. I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the brilliant and committed AICAF employees over the past five years and am honored to lead this organization.

A recent highlight for me was a trip to the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations where I witnessed the love, strength and determination of a tribal community coming together to support the work we do with a Polar Plunge fundraiser that raised \$25K. We deeply appreciate the efforts of everyone involved. We look forward to continued partnerships for many more years of continued success.

With respect and gratitude,

Kris Rhodes (Ojibwe, Bad River and Fond du Lac),  
Executive Director

Cancer awareness

## Join us in reducing colorectal cancer in our communities

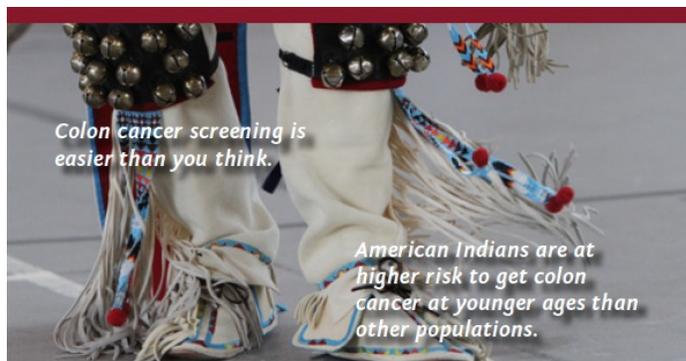


Image from Brochure: Click to view full resource.

**March is colorectal cancer awareness month.** Colorectal cancer is the second most common cancer in American

**MUSIC**  
FOR LIFE, LOVE &  
**HOPE**

MONDAY, MARCH 14 | 9PM-11PM  
HARD ROCK CAFE | PHOENIX, ARIZONA

— Featuring Indigenous Artists —  
**CASPER**  
& THE MIGHTY 602 BAND  
**KELLY JACKSON**  
— Silent Auction —  
Indigenous artists of Beyond Buckskin Boutique

Benefit concert for the American Indian Cancer Foundation

Click to visit our Music for Life, Love & Hope Facebook event page. For more information email [communications@aicaf.org](mailto:communications@aicaf.org).

**POWOW FOR HOPE**  
MAY 7TH  
2016

American Indian Cancer Foundation's 5th Annual Powwow for Hope™  
**Celebrating 5 years of Dancing for Life, Love & Hope**  
PowwowforHope.org | Base Camp Facility, 201 Bloomington Rd., Minneapolis, MN 55111  
We imagine a world without cancer.

## 5/7: 5th Annual Powwow for Hope

*Celebrating 5 years of Dancing for Life, Love & Hope*

AICAF's annual Powwow for Hope will be held on May 7, 2016 at the Basecamp facility in Minneapolis, MN. Powwow for Hope is a community fundraising event that also provides educational opportunities for those who have questions or concerns about cancer risks for themselves or their families.

Calling all teams! Powwow for Hope team registration is now open:

[PowwowforHope.CauseVox.com](http://PowwowforHope.CauseVox.com)

Official website: [PowwowforHope.org](http://PowwowforHope.org)

Email: [powwow@aicaf.org](mailto:powwow@aicaf.org)

Indians after lung cancer, and colorectal cancer is 53% higher in Northern Plains American Indians than in non-Hispanic whites. Early screening is the key to surviving colon cancer yet only 1 in 3 of people ages 50-75 in Indian Health Service areas have been screened for colon cancer compared to 1 in 2 of the overall US population.

Learn how you can make a difference. You can recognize colorectal cancer awareness month in the following ways:

**Wear Blue.** Wear blue to honor colorectal cancer warriors and survivors throughout the month of March.

**Learn.** Find resources on colorectal cancer in American Indians at [aicaf.org/colon](http://aicaf.org/colon).

**Share.** Encourage your friends and family to get screened and to adopt healthy habits.

**Get Screened.** If you are 45 or older, talk to your health care provider to get the best advice and information on colorectal cancer screenings.

**Join our community.** Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

**Donate.** Any amount helps the American Indian Cancer Foundation continue to raise colorectal cancer awareness, increase early detection and build a network for American Indians and Alaskan Natives.

World Indigenous Cancer Conference

## AICAF will be at the World Indigenous Cancer Conference in Australia

The 2016 [World Indigenous Cancer Conference](#) will take place in Brisbane, Australia and is hosted in partnership with the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the goal of the conference is to encourage collaboration between Indigenous communities in an effort to reduce Indigenous cancer disparities. The American Indian Cancer Foundation is pleased to have Joy Rivera, screening navigator, present on her work. Joy will speak on AICAF's role in expanding cancer awareness



Joy Rivera, Community Health Worker, with an AICAF colon cancer sign for clinic partners in the foundation's Clinical Cancer Screening Network.

## Delta Dental partnership

The Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation recently providing funding to AICAF for the new American Indian Oral Cancer Prevention Project. This 2-year project will include a needs assessment and the development of resources to increase oral cancer screening and tobacco cessation advice for American Indian patients at tribal and urban dental clinics in Minnesota. We are excited to partner with tribal communities to address the health disparities in oral and pharyngeal cancer faced by American Indians.

For more information contact Peggy O'Halloran at [pohalloran@aicaf.org](mailto:pohalloran@aicaf.org).

## SHOP AICAF



"4 Medicines" Greeting Card

Let a loved one know you are thinking of them with a greeting card. Our assortment of six blank cards with envelopes includes: two "4 Medicines" cards, two maroon and two pink "Life, Love & Hope" cards.

SHOP AICAF





entire community. This graphic promotes strategies that tribal communities can use to encourage healthy living through the use of sacred tobacco.

If you would like copies to display in your community, please contact Melanie Plucinski at [mplucinski@aicaf.org](mailto:mplucinski@aicaf.org).

A similar resource on Healthy Native Food Systems will also be released soon.

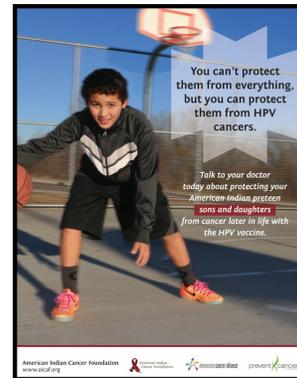
## Health experts urge Native families to consider HPV vaccine for preteens

**While American Indian youth report high vaccination rates, the HPV vaccine rate is low when compared to other vaccines. Experts say ages 11 and 12 are the best times to vaccinate.**

By Mallory Black / Native Health News Alliance

SAN DIEGO - It's a question that seems to be on many parents' minds: How safe is the human papillomavirus, or HPV, vaccine?

[Read more](#)



Cancer kills more American Indians than any other disease.  
More than heart disease. More than diabetes.

The American Indian Cancer Foundation (AICAF) is hard at work to reverse this devastating trend. AICAF is committed to ending cancer in Indian Country. To do so requires expertise, partnerships and resources. We invite you to become part of the solution.

With you, we can raise awareness, increase early detection and build a network to join together in this #1 health priority for American Indian people.

*Your donation supports our efforts to change the cancer story across Indian Country!*

[GIVE NOW](#)

Would you like to contribute?

If you have news or resources from the field that you would like to see in our quarterly newsletter, please email [communications@aicaf.org](mailto:communications@aicaf.org).

[Forward to a Friend](#)

STAY  
CONNECTED

