



Stay in

the circle of life...

Greetings

from your friends and partners at Native People for Cancer Control. As a new feature of our monthly newsletter, we will highlight other American Indian and Alaska Native research projects within UW's Center for Clinical and Epidemiological Research as well as continue to share information about ongoing NPCC outreach, education, training and research projects.



Pictured from left to right: Brenda Manuelito, Steve Charles, Debra Sprague, Sweetwater Nannauck, Johnny Mao, and Francine Swift.

Not pictured: Dedra Buchwald, Ardith Doorenbos, and Jon Tomhave.

If you would like to receive our monthly e-news or if you would like to contribute any news for further issues, please contact:

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(206) 543-5342*

Year 4 Highlights

Happy Springtime from the Emerald City!

NPCC is coming to the end of our 4th Year as a Regional Community Network Program funded by the National Cancer Institute. As Program Director of Native People for Cancer Control, I continue to feel honored and privileged to work with a dedicated team of staff members, community partners, advisors, university researchers and volunteers who are coming together to reduce cancer health disparities across our eight-state region.

Since May 1st of last year, our Center has been very busy creating new health literacy and health communication tools that tap into our native beauty, culture and strength. We have developed a one-day training workshop for those individuals who want to teach youth how to plan, design and create **Native Comic Books** to share "our own" stories about health and wellness. In addition, we have launched a **Center for Native Digital Storytelling** and have created a participant manual and a hands-on tutorial that is specifically tailored for native audiences. Finally, we have developed a **Clinical Trials Education** workshop for American Indians and Alaska Natives and just recently adapted it into an on-line curriculum. We have continually worked to engage our tribal community members by creating culturally, visually, and auditory materials that decenter the focus on written and text-based health education materials.

Over the past year NPCC staff have traveled to every state in our region to conduct training workshops, attend cancer summits, meet new partners and/or reconnect with old. In the past year, we have also said goodbye to three members of our NPCC staff (Ryan, Jessica, and HollyAnna) who graduated and/or moved back to their local communities to work and we saw the addition of two new ones (Jon and Francine). During Year 4, all of our research and pilot investigators have completed their data collection and analysis and are focusing on publishing their results on HPV, Tobacco Reduction, and Cancer Numeracy and Risk, to name a few.

This past week we brought together approximately 80 partners from across the Pacific Northwest, Northern Plains and Dakotas to inaugurate an umbrella organization at UW CCER called Partnerships for Native Health in order for all of us to better share expertise and create new research, education and community outreach networks. Highlights of this year's annual meeting will be in the May e-newsletter so stay tuned and I will continue to enjoy the yellow daffodils and purple tulips of the Pacific Northwest.

May the new springtime bring fruitful growth and renewal!

Roubideaux appointed director of IHS

On March 23, Yvette Roubideaux, member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota, made history as the first Native woman to be nominated as the director of the Indian Health Service.

Nominated by President Barack Obama, Roubideaux received her medical degree at Harvard Medical School and her Master of Public Health degree from Harvard School of Public Health. In becoming a physician for the Indian Health Service, she went on to treat patients while serving tribes in Arizona as a medical officer and clinical director with the San Carlos Indian Reservation and Gila River Indian Community.

Roubideaux serves as the current co-director of the Coordinating Center for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians Competitive Demonstration Projects, a program implementing diabetes prevention and cardiovascular disease prevention activities in 66 American Indian and Alaska Native communities, and as the director of two programs at The University of Arizona College of Medicine.

Information provided by indianz.com and uanews.org



Just Arrived: ACS Breast Cancer Video

Filmed in South Dakota, with an all-Native American cast, the American Cancer Society is offering the video on DVD free of charge to tribal community health clinics, colleges and organizations who wish to promote cancer screening awareness. The DVD contains several versions of the video in different lengths – from a 12 minute vignette to shorter public service announcements.

“Native women need to hear the message from other Native women,” said Roberta Cahill, a Yankton Sioux member who works for the American Cancer Society. “This is a message of hope, of living a healthy lifestyle, and especially the importance of getting regular screenings.”

In the video, Native American women share their stories of breast cancer survival and encourage other women to get screened. The Society involved Native Americans from start to finish in the filming process in order to ensure that the video campaign would be culturally relevant, while at the same time, reaching out to general audiences.

“Most of it is actually storytelling, which is highly valued in the Native population,” said Cahill. “Beautiful nature

backdrops add to the visual impact, a Native American spiritual song is used, and parts of the video are in the Lakota language.”

According to the American Cancer Society, minorities face many obstacles to receiving equal access to cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment services. Many lack health insurance, live in rural areas, have low incomes, and experience language barriers. Often educational materials are catered for mainstream audiences and do not resonate with ethnic communities. By providing culturally appropriate health education materials such as the new video series, the ACS is working to eliminate these health disparities.

ACS is giving out 100 FREE copies of the DVD to health clinics and tribal communities, schools, colleges, and health care providers so that the film can be shown to Native American women to raise awareness about the importance of breast cancer screening. Reserve a copy or learn more at www.cancer.org or 1.800-ACS-2345. Preview the film on YouTube at www.youtube.com/amercancersociety.

Information provided by American Cancer Society.

NERC investigators reach out to Native researchers

Two of the main goals of the Native Elder Research Center (NERC) are to increase the amount of research being conducted in Native elder health and train American Indian and Alaska Native investigators to conduct quality research in their home communities. During the 2-year program, the Native Investigators are required to complete a peer-reviewed paper about American Indian or Alaska Native health issues using previously collected data, conduct a small primary data collection project, and author a grant to secure potential funding for future research. The current cohort of investigators is 16 months into the 2-year program.

On April 2 – 3, 2009, NERC faculty and investigators met in Honolulu, Hawaii to discuss research projects being conducted in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. What made this meeting special was the highlight on work being done by indigenous and other researchers with Native Hawaiian populations. Three researchers from the University of Hawaii presented projects working in Native Hawaiian communities. Dr. Earl Hishinuma, Professor and Associate Chair of Research at the Department of Psychiatry, talked about the Asian/Pacific Islander Youth Violence Prevention Center. Dr. `Iwalani Else, Assistant Professor at the Department of Psychiatry, discussed the National Center on Indigenous Hawaiian Behavioral Health. Dr. Marjorie Mau, Professor and Chair at the Department of Native Hawaiian Health, presented a program to train Native Hawaiian investigators to conduct health research. The meeting allowed the communication of ideas between programs to encourage research among two distinct indigenous populations that share similar health disparities.



NERC faculty and investigators meet for discussion.



Young NERC scientists and researchers at work.



NERC investigators collaborate with AN/AI researchers.



Telehealth Services for Native Communities Case Conferences for Providers

Stay in the circle of life . . .

Continuing Education
Opportunities
for
Health Care Providers
Grand Rounds:

Fred Hutchinson
Cancer Research
center
Tues 8:00am-9:00am

UW Medicine
Thurs 8:00am-9:00am

UW Lab Medicine
Weds 3:30pm- 4:30pm

UW Cardiology
3rd Fri each Month
7:30am-8:30am

UW Psychiatry
Every other Thurs
Noon-1:30pm

Children's Hospital
Pediatric Medicine
Thurs 8:00am-9:00am

Children's Pediatric
Nursing
1st Thurs each Month
Noon-1:00pm

Harborview EMS
1st Thurs each Month
9:00am-Noon

Thursday Noon-1:00 p.m. PST (11- Noon AK time)

April 16 - via Video Teleconference
Pain Management: Anjana Kundu, MD
Director, Complementary & Integrative Medicine, Seattle Children's Hospital

May 7- via Connect Pro
Dermatologic Infections in Primary Care
Roy Colven, MD & Jing Feng, MD
Director, Dermatology Residency Program
University of Washington School of Medicine

May 21 - via Video Teleconference
Pain Management: Anjana Kundu, MD
Director, Complementary & Integrative Medicine, Seattle Children's Hospital

June 4 - via Connect Pro
Eczema and Psoriasis
Roy Colven, MD & Jing Feng, MD
Director, Dermatology Residency Program
University of Washington School of Medicine

June 18 - via Video Teleconference
Pain Management: Anjana Kundu, MD
Director, Complementary & Integrative Medicine, Seattle Children's Hospital

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Cancer support groups

Telehealth cancer education and support group for cancer survivors

April 16 and May 21 from 5-6pm PST 4-5pm AK time

For more information contact: [Laura Revels](#), (907) 729-3961 - direct line

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