



# 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: Front Row L-R: Francine Swift, Dedra Buchwald, and Brenda Manuelito. Back Row L-R: Jon Tomhave, Ardith Doorenbos, Debra Sprague, Sweetwater Nannauck, and Johnny Mao. Not pictured: Steve Charles and Ryan Morigeau.*

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

Steve Charles at  
[stevec3@u.washington.edu](mailto:stevec3@u.washington.edu) or call  
(206) 543-5342

**We wish you the best of  
holidays and many blessings  
in 2009!**

## NPCC Community Grants Update

**Native People for Cancer Control** has awarded seven community grants since May 1, 2008. The following three grant projects have already been completed:

**Klamath Tribal Health and Family Services** received funds for their Klamath Tribal Youth Camp, which took place August 11-15 and was featured in our September newsletter. Eighty-four children and youths aged 6 to 17 participated in various sports activities and learned about the importance of physical activity and healthy lifestyles in preventing cancer and other chronic diseases.

**Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium** received monies to help fund a Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training September 22-26 for 38 counselors and professionals working in tribal health facilities. Participants learned about the counseling method of motivational interviewing, the pharmacology and biology of nicotine dependence, treating tobacco users with substance abuse and mental health conditions, and intake assessment of patients and treatment planning.

**Cancer Lifeline** received a grant to help fund a Western Washington Tribal Community Health Representative's Resource Training Conference September 22-23 for 28 community health representatives. Conference attendees learned about Native patient navigator program models, cancer programs and resources, alternative therapies, and how to access Medicaid and other benefits for their clients.

Projects currently being carried out by four additional **NPCC community grantees** include the following:

**The Skokomish Tribe's Skokomish Indian Nation Community Cancer Control Program** will provide cervical and breast cancer awareness education for tribal health care providers, women of the community, and cancer survivors.

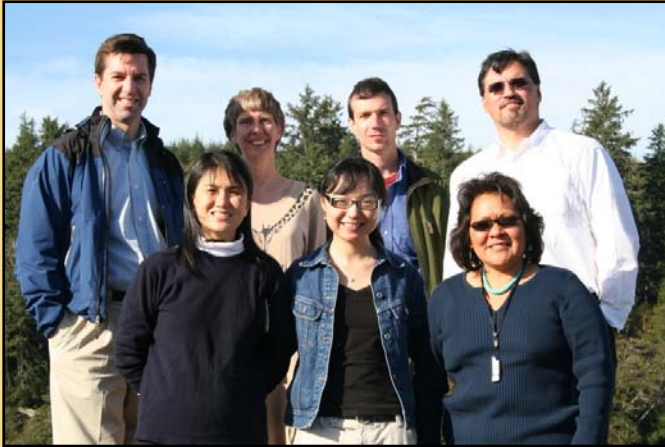
**The Center for Native Health Partnerships' Crow Men's Health Project** will complete a video on prostate and colorectal cancer with the goal of increasing awareness and screening rates.

**Custer Health's Standing Rock Reservation Cancer Screening and Education Project** will provide training on standard of practice cancer screening tests to medical providers.

**Family Planning of Clallam County's Honoring Women's Health Project** will provide cancer education and screenings during Mobile Day Clinics on Clallam and Jefferson County American Indian Reservations.

*NPCC will continue to accept proposals for grant requests up to \$1000 until May 1, 2009. For information and an application, go to <http://depts.washington.edu/uwccer/npcc-grants.html>. You may also e-mail Debra Sprague at [dsprague@u.washington.edu](mailto:dsprague@u.washington.edu).*

## UW Partnerships Reach Out to Native Communities



Faculty and staff from the UW Partnerships for Native Health visit the Quinault Indian Reservation in October 2008. (Front row left to right): Shin-Ping Tu, Jing Feng, Brenda Manuelito. (Back row left to right): John Scott, Ardith Doorenbos, Yancy Seimens, Jay LaPlante.

University of Washington faculty and staff members of the UW Partnerships for Native Health program made several site visits to tribal communities in the latter part of 2008. The purposes of the visits were to meet with tribal health clinic staffs, health programs, and tribal council members to discuss tribal health priorities, to share information about programs, and to introduce UW health researchers who want to build relationships with tribal communities.

The overall goal of Partnerships for Native Health is to extend the reach of the various schools of the UW's health research community into tribal clinics and health programs to improve the health of Native people. This work is partially funded through the NIH Clinical and Translational Sciences Awards at UW's Institute of Translational Health Sciences.

Some of these site visits were made to

- Sophie Trettevick Indian Health Center (Makah), Neah Bay, WA;
- Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center (Chehalis), Oakville, WA;

- Roger Saux Health Center (Quinault), Taholah, WA;
- Ft. Peck Health and Wellness Program (Assiniboine/Sioux), and Ft. Peck Community College, Poplar, MT;
- Blackfeet Community College (Blackfeet), Browning, MT;
- the NATIVE Project/NATIVE Health Clinic, Spokane, WA.

Information was shared about projects and programs related to colorectal cancer screening, Hepatitis-C provider case consultation and training, chronic pain management, digital storytelling, rheumatoid arthritis, nurse practitioner residency training, kidney disease and organ donation, methamphetamine addiction treatment, teledermatology consultation, telehealth cancer network, health clinic data sharing tools, translating health research, UW health pipeline programs, and more.

Partnerships for Native Health has other site visits planned for the first quarter of 2009.

### January Is National Cervical Cancer Screening Month

Worldwide, cervical cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women. While the pap smear is an effective screening test, confirmation of the diagnosis of cervical cancer or pre-cancer requires a biopsy of the cervix. Every year more than 11,000 women in the United States are diagnosed with invasive cervical cancer, and nearly 4,000 die of cervical cancer.

## Institute of Translational Health Sciences Focuses on Tribal Partnerships

Partnerships for Native Health is engaged in creating health research partnerships between the University of Washington and tribal communities, clinics, and health programs. This work is funded through the NIH-funded Institute of Translational Health Sciences, a multi- and inter-disciplinary "collaboratory" to advance translational research. Translational research means taking medical discoveries from the laboratory into the clinic and out into the community.

The goal of the Institute of Translational Health Sciences is to make a positive impact on human health locally and globally. To achieve this goal requires collaboration between many groups: academia, industry, nonprofit agencies, government, and most importantly, the community. This can only be accomplished in a bi-directional manner, meaning that the community must be heard in order to develop the best possible tools and to conduct successful research. Partnerships for Native Health is leading the way for Institute of Translational Health Sciences in tribal communities.

As an important first step, Partnerships for Native Health conducts site visits and meetings to learn about tribal health concerns and priorities and to share information about researchers and their interests. In many cases, researchers are in attendance during these meetings. Site visits serve as a beginning in creating long-lasting and trusting relationships. Tribal communities and leaders are ready to engage in research because they know it will help improve the health of their people. But they insist, rightly so, that the research is conducted ethically, according to their own research codes or protocols, and with the community involved during the process.

One of the Institute of Translational Health Sciences projects being carried out by Partnerships for Native Health, in partnership with biomedical informatics specialists at UW, is to pilot test an electronic data sharing tool, called Locally-Controlled Data QUEST, with the electronic medical records systems at tribal health clinics. The goal of LC Data Quest is to help tribal clinics



*Faculty and staff from the UW Partnerships for Native Health meet on the Quinault Indian Reservation with clinic staff at the Roger Saux Health Center in Taholah, WA.*

more easily access their own health information in order to engage in research or to assess and address quality and workflow improvement needs. Also, with the assistance of the UW Native American Law Center, Partnerships for Native Health is engaged in the development of translational toolkits for tribes, including template research codes, memoranda of understanding, tribal resolutions, and consent forms. These materials will be available through both the Institute of Translational Health Sciences and Partnerships for Native Health websites.

To learn more, please contact Jay LaPlante at (206) 616-5957 or [jay11@u.washington.edu](mailto:jay11@u.washington.edu).



*Jay LaPlante, Tribal Liaison,  
Institute of Translational Health Sciences*



# 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

Cara Towle  
ctowle@u.washington.edu

1730 Minor Avenue  
Suite 1760  
Seattle, WA 98101

206.543.3830 fax  
www.uwccer.org

## Thursday Noon-1:00 p.m. PST (11—Noon AK time) Video TeleConference

January 8  
Dermatology  
Roy Colvin, MD

Director, Dermatology Residency Program  
University of Washington School of Medicine

January 15  
Hepatitis C  
John Scott, MD

Infectious Diseases Hepatitis & Liver Clinic, Harborview Medical Center

January 22  
Pain Management  
Anjana Kundu, MD

Director, Complementary & Integrative Medicine, Seattle Children's Hospital

January 29  
Hepatitis C  
John Scott, MD

Infectious Diseases Hepatitis & Liver Clinic, Harborview Medical Center

### Starting in February

A telehealth cancer education and support group for support group facilitators

For more information contact: [Laura Revels](mailto:Laura.Revels@u.washington.edu), (907) 729-3961 - direct line

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