



Stay in the circle...

Greetings to you

from Native People for Cancer Control. As an ongoing feature of our monthly activities and news, we would like to highlight a NPCC staff, student, community partner, or research advisory board member and a NPCC outreach,



training, or research activity in each issue.

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

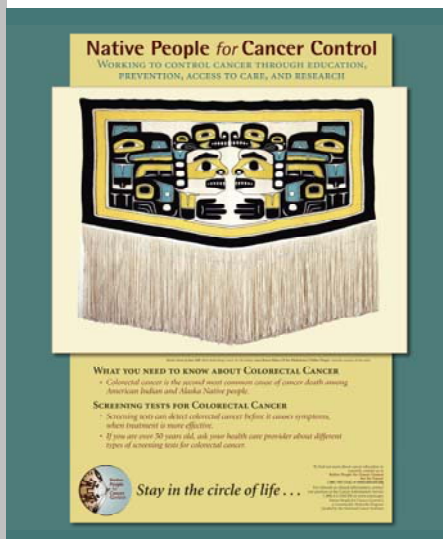
Steve Charles at stevec3@u.washington.edu or call 206-543-9731

Meet Debra Sprague

Like many of us at Native People for Cancer Control, I was drawn to our program because cancer has affected my life personally. In 1996 my mother died of pancreatic cancer. I had been teaching literature and writing at North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, since 1986, but my mother's death made me realize I wanted to make some kind of contribution to the field of cancer research. I began taking math and science classes but continued teaching until my youngest child graduated from high school. Then I returned to the University of Washington, where I had earned my Ph.D. in English, to complete a B.S. in cellular and molecular biology. While finishing that degree, I worked part-time in a biochemistry lab studying protein interactions and helped edit



manuscripts in a genome sciences lab. In August of 2006 I joined Native People for Cancer Control and have been editing and helping with the various research projects carried out by NPCC. I am also involved with our community grants program and am a member of our Native Art for Cancer team. I have greatly enjoyed talking to many of you by phone and e-mail and meeting you in person at last year's annual conference. I look forward to seeing many of you again at our third conference coming up in April!



In observance of colorectal cancer awareness month, we are offering our "What You Should Know About Colorectal Cancer" poster, which features artwork by Anna Brown Ehlers (Tlingit). The title of her Chilkat Blanket is *Brown Twins of Starr Hill*. To anyone who is interested, contact us at 206-543-5342 or email

stevec3@u.washington.edu for a free copy of this poster.



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Family Planning of Clallam County (FPCC) Honoring Women's Health Program (HWHP)

Family Planning of Clallam County's **Honoring Women's Health Program (HWHP)** seeks to improve the health and well-being of medically underserved, low-income, rural, Latina, American Indian, and/or sexual minority women on the Olympic Peninsula. Culturally appropriate breast health education and access to screening mammography are provided, thus reducing mortality associated with late diagnosis of breast cancer. Services are provided to five Northwest Tribes, including the Makah at Neah Bay, Quileute at LaPush, Hoh at Hoh River, Quinault at Queets, and the Lower Elwha S'Klallam Tribe west of Port Angeles.

HWHP Luncheons & Health Fairs bring together community organizations and health care providers to offer culturally respectful information to women. A nutritious lunch with a keynote speaker and raffle prizes are offered. These ongoing health fairs have been well attended, and significant trust building has been achieved. Spanish-language breast health education and promotion of mammography

for Latinas is also held regularly.

Honoring Women's Health Program Mobile Day Clinics are provided without charge to women and are accomplished by transporting medical and education staff, clinic supplies, and education materials to rural sites. Mobile Day Clinics female staff offer care in a respectful manner in a setting that is comfortable and private. The Mobile Day Clinics facilitate early detection of breast cancer by linking resources on-site. Mobile Day Clinics provide a nutritious lunch and transportation if needed, and gift bags. Health educators honor American Indian and Hispanic women and their culture and engage women one-on-one to present breast health education and to stress the importance of mammography. Mobile Day Clinic clients are recruited by Tribal Community Health Representatives, tribal members,

one-on-one meetings, letters, phone calls, and flyers. For a significant portion of the rural, low-income women served, the HWH Mobile Day Clinics are the only healthcare they will access all year. By bringing breast health services to women, the Honoring Women's Health Project is in a unique situation to erode access barriers in Northwestern Washington State.

Our next Honoring Women's Health Mobile Day Clinic is scheduled for April 10, 2008. This will provide much needed services to members of the Makah Tribe in Neah Bay, WA.



Tribal members preparing lunch at the Elwha Mobile Day Clinic



*Stay in
the circle...*

National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service

invites you to attend the upcoming presentation as part of their Quarterly Educational Webinar Series.

The Latest Information on Diet and Cancer Risk

March 26, 2008

12:00 – 1:30 pm PT

Johanna Lampe, PhD, will provide an update on the WCRF/AICR 2007 Report on Food, Nutrition, Physical Activity, and the Prevention of Cancer. In November 2007, the World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) International, in collaboration with the American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR), published a report on food, nutrition, physical activity, body composition, and the risk of cancer throughout the life-course. This is a 10-year follow-up to their previous report of 1997. Although some findings are similar between the reports, there have been several changes to the recommendations over the past 10 years.

At the end of the presentation, you will have a better understanding of:

- The relationship between diet and cancer risk
- The new recommendations provided in the 2007 Report on Food, Nutrition, Physical Activity, and the Prevention of Cancer
- The scientific evidence that led to the development of the new recommendations

Webinar is free, March 14, 2008 at jtudor@fhcrc.org.

Call-in information and instructions will be e-mailed to registered participants on **March 24, 2008**.

For more Information: Heidi Harbach 206-667-7245 hharbach@fhcrc.org
Sue Rutledge 206-667-2994 srutledg@fhcrc.org



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Pilot Study Updates

In Year 2, Native People for Cancer Control was awarded two pilot research grants, both funded by NCI, and the two new investigators have been making steady progress.



Rosemary Gibbons

New Investigator Rosemary Gibbons' project, entitled "An Innovative and Interactive Supplemental Tobacco Curriculum for Native Youth," has been designed as a school-based education and awareness initiative for Indian youth and focuses on reducing risk factors such as tobacco use. A curriculum for an afterschool video production class for 7th grade students has been completed, and a classroom at Toppenish Middle School has been designated for the

video project. Beginning this spring, Ms. Gibbons will teach basic video production skills in conjunction with a cardiovascular disease prevention curriculum, and the Native American parents club at Toppenish will volunteer their time to help the students meet their goals. The student-developed videos for the class will be screened at the third annual Yakama Film Festival in November 2009.



Rose James, PhD

New investigator Dr. Rose James is investigating why older American Indian and Alaska Native women do not use free mammogram services through tribal-run Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Programs. Her project, entitled "Assessment of Attitudes Towards Mammography Among Older AI/AN Women," is in the process of completing focus groups with three tribal programs to explore the needs, concerns, knowledge of risk, beliefs and attitudes of AI/AN women at least 50 years of age. Dr. James has already completed a survey of staff representing tribal Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Programs, and this information is undergoing preliminary analysis.