Arizona

Native American Community Development Program

Purpose
The goal of the Native American Program is to improve the development and accessibility of primary health care for Native Americans throughout Arizona through community development activities, technical assistance, data sharing, and identification of resources.

The Bureau of Health Systems Development and Oral Health Native American Community Development Program will serve as a resource to network with the resources available at the state and federal levels to enhance the capacities of Indian Primary Health Care Systems. The BHSDOH commits to involve tribal health care providers in BHSDOH driven efforts and to provide technical assistance to tribe driven efforts that represent their needs and views, all of which ultimately promotes high quality primary care for Native Americans.

Need
- Arizona American Indians total approximately 290,000 or 5% of the total state population and is the second largest state concentration of Native Americans in the Nation.
- There are 21 federally recognized tribes in Arizona. 63% of the Native American Population resides in rural areas and the remaining 37% live in urban areas.

Activities
- Identify underserved Native American communities statewide and determine their needs and “community readiness” to prioritize and tailor interventions based on need.
- Disseminate information, provide training, and technical assistance to targeted Native American communities to assist them including the 330 funding process.
- Collaborate with community leaders to assess primary care needs and to develop strategies for program design, implementation and evaluation.
- Provide and update annually, a resource directory documenting the sources of federal, state, and private assistance available for the development and delivery of primary care services.

Highlights:
- 12 of the 15 counties in Arizona have reservation lands within them.
- Maricopa County has the highest American Indian population with over 90% of them being Urban Indians.
- The 21 tribal nations comprise 27% of the total land area of the state.

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