

NATIONAL NATIVE HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

HIV/AIDS ACTIVITY SHEET

American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians

What you can do to recognize National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day?

The National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day challenges Native people to create a greater awareness of HIV/AIDS in our communities. Think creatively how you can affect change in your community.

Protect Yourself

- Get tested for HIV! It's important to know your status in order to protect yourself and those you care about.
- Talk privately with your health care provider about your HIV risks.
- Learn about HIV risks associated with unprotected sex, drugs, and alcohol.
- Wear a condom when having sex and use clean syringes when injecting!
- Talk to your partner about HIV.

Educate Others & Fight Stigma

- Contact your local HIV/AIDS service organization or state/local/tribal health • department for HIV/AIDS prevention information.
- Organize a meeting with friends, neighbors, or other concerned community members to discuss drug and health issues in your community – together, people can make things happen!
- Post fact sheets about HIV/AIDS on bulletin boards, in local newspapers and web sites.
- Pass out HIV/AIDS information at health fairs, pow wows, meetings and events. Put up HIV/AIDS education and motivational posters.
- Don't allow your friends to spread misinformation about HIV/AIDS or use derogatory language; fight it with the truth and compassion.

Mobilize your Community

- Hold an educational session in a local community center or school. Talk openly and honestly about HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, while being sensitive to the people who are present.
- Talk to your community or spiritual leaders to gain their support for HIV/AIDS prevention and ask them to consider talking about HIV throughout the community.
- Hold a town hall meeting to discuss your community's risk for HIV.
- Host a luncheon with community members, or sub-groups, to discuss HIV, STDs and other issues affecting the health and well-being of your community. It's a great way to get ideas, guidance, and support.
- Partner with your local AIDS service organization to hold an awareness day event that is Native specific. Examples of some past events include: health fairs, pow wows, sunrise ceremonies, memorials, honorings, art contests, sports tournaments, and motorcycle rides.
- Write an editorial or article for the local newspaper on the state of HIV and HIV stigma in your community.



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Support Prevention Efforts

- Volunteer at a local HIV/AIDS organization.
- Host a fundraising effort for a local AIDS service organization or program.
- Donate food, equipment, and materials to a local HIV program or agency.
- Encourage local health department, clinics, and service organizations to offer HIV testing.
- Tour a prevention facility as part of an organized group or activity.
- Wear a red ribbon for the day and tell everybody that it represent HIV awareness.

Be a Friend

- Help someone living with HIV/AIDS by being a friend.
- Volunteer to prepare meals, clean house, or do some repairs for a friend living with HIV/AIDS who may not be able to perform these tasks.
- Encourage a friend to get tested for HIV.
- Share your experiences getting in HIV test with a friend

In Your Tribe

- Call for a Tribal, Village or Island Resolution or Proclamation to commemorate National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. Acknowledge Resolution #SAC-06-002 that passed through the National Congress of American Indians 2006 Annual Session.

How can you get help to organize an Awareness Day activity?

Contact any of the following agencies for help with brainstorming and organizing events for your community, or to order materials to support your events.

Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center

730 Polk Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94109
(415) 292-3420

<http://www.apiwellness.org>

Commitment to Action for 7th-Generation Awareness & Education (CA7AE): HIV/AIDS Prevention Program

357 Aylesworth Hall, SE
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1790
(800) 642-0273

<http://www.happ.colostate.edu>

Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board (GPTCHB)

1770 Rand Road, Bldg #2
Rapid City, SD 57702
(605) 721-1922

<http://aatchb.org>

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA)

2214 North Central Avenue, Suite 100
Phoenix, AZ 85004
(602) 258-ITCA (4822)

<http://www.itcaonline.com>

National Native American AIDS Prevention Center (NNAAPC)

720 S. Colorado Blvd., Suite 650-S
Denver, CO 80246
(720) 382-2244

<http://www.nnaapc.org>

