



ARIZONA ADVISORY
COUNCIL ON INDIAN
HEALTH CARE

January 2024 Newsletter

Mission statement: *The mission of the AACIHC is to advocate for increasing access to high quality health care programs for all American Indians in Arizona.*



At-a-Glance

Upcoming Conferences

- Tribal Health Summit - Navigating Pandemics Together - **March 12-14, 2024** at the **Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix, Arizona**

Agency Updates

- AHEAD Indigenous Healthcare Career Advancement Training Support
- AHEC Resource: Indian Health Service Scholarship Programs

- COVID-19 Health Disparities Team Attends the Navajo Health Education Program Annual Meeting
- Sign-Up for Agency News Updates and Our Newsletter!

Upcoming Conferences:

Tribal Health Literacy Summit: Navigating Pandemics Together

The Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care and its COVID-19 Health Disparities Grant Team is pleased to announce the "Tribal Health Literacy Summit: Navigating Pandemics Together."

The three-day conference will be held from March 12-14, 2024, at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix, Arizona.

This event will bring together tribal leaders, healthcare professionals, policymakers, educators, and community advocates to address the challenges posed by pandemics and promote health literacy in Indian Country.

It is designed to tackle critical issues related to health literacy, chronic disease management, social determinants of health, health screening, prevention, and the foundations of health literacy within tribal communities.

In addition, there will be discussions on topics such as long COVID, food access, post-COVID mental health, and more. The primary goal is to equip tribal community members with the knowledge, information, and advocacy skills needed to address health disparities, especially in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.



Register here!

AACIHC Agency Updates

AHEAD Indigenous Healthcare Career Advancement Training Support



The American Indian Health-AHEC in collaboration with the University of Arizona's Office for Rural Health is administering the Advancing Health Equity, Addressing Disparities (AHEAD AZ) program to enhance the American Indian healthcare workforce and the communities they serve. If you are interested in pursuing additional certification or training that will elevate your professional career as well as impact the community you serve, please complete the application in the link.

[AHEAD Healthcare Career Advancement Application](#)

Indigenous Healthcare Career Advancement Training: A certification or training opportunity to support your career advancement as well as have a positive impact on the community. (Examples include: SANE Training, wound care, nursing advancement, clinical training, CHR certification, modality training, textbook materials, examination fees, etc.) Training/certification that will further your healthcare expertise and improve your community's resources.

If you are interested in submitting an application or would like to learn more about the AIH-AHEC's AHEAD program, please contact Tashina Machain, Youth Program Coordinator, tashina.machain@aacihc.az.gov or Jeff Axtell, Director, Jeffrey.axtell@aacihc.az.gov.

AHEC Resource: Indian Health Service Scholarship Programs

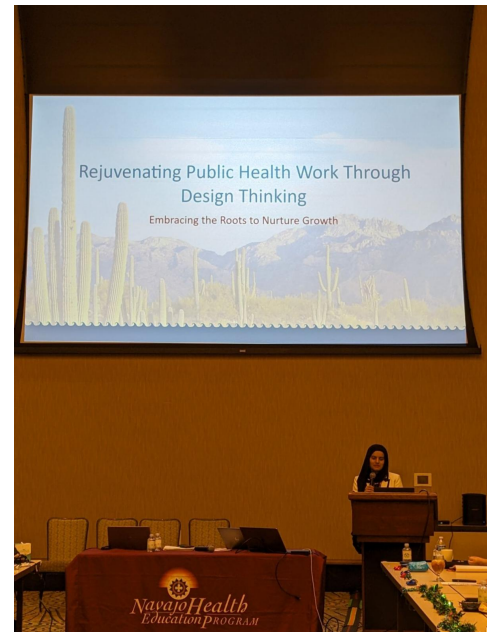
[Indian Health Service Scholarship Programs](#) – February 28. The IHS provides scholarships for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) undergraduate and graduate-level students enrolled in specific health professions degree programs.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) offers three scholarships for American Indian and Alaska Native students in order to educate and train health professionals to staff Indian health programs. They strive to develop the next generation of leaders, as well as help make the pursuit of a meaningful career in Indian health attainable for American Indian and Alaska Native students.

[Learn More](#)

COVID-19 Health Disparities Team Attends the Navajo Health Education Program Annual Meeting

In Mid-December, Summer Hassan, Grants Manager, and Darien Fuller, Epidemiologist, attended and presented at the Navajo Health Education Program annual meeting. Summer facilitated a workshop on Design Thinking in Public Health. The goal was to initiate conversations to prevent burnout in public health workers. Topics ranged from addressing unhoused tribal members to applying design thinking in NHEP staff's work. Darien presented on vaccine hesitancy and how it is impacted by health literacy in Tribal communities. Discussions were had about communication methods to vaccine-hesitant people and the unique circumstances that impact Tribal communities. We hope to continue our partnership with the Navajo Health Education Program!



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AACIHC's Office Location



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The AACIHC, utilizing its knowledge of Indian healthcare issues and tribal sovereignty, serves as a resource for Tribal governments and the State of Arizona, and supports prevention, training, education, and policy development as the keys to meeting the unique health care needs of the Arizona Indian population.

AZ Advisory Council on Indian Health Care
602-542-5725

**Visit the AACIHC
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