The National Diabetes Education Program

AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE Community Partnership Guide: Supplement and Activity Plans









The National Diabetes Education Program: A Diabetes Community Partnership Guide





The American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) Community Partnership Guide Supplement was developed by the National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) and the Association of American Indian Physicians to augment the comprehensive Community Partnership Guide with additional ideas and activities relevant to AIAN communities. The Community Partnership Guide is available on NDEP's Web site at: HYPERLINK http://ndep.nih.gov • http://ndep.nih.gov or by calling the NDEP at (800) 438-5383.

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Dear Diabetes Advocate,

On behalf of the National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) American Indian/Alaska Native Workgroup, I would like to thank you for helping us in our fight against diabetes in American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities. The NDEP AIAN Workgroup membership includes AIAN health professionals and community leaders who advise the NDEP on the development of culturally appropriate diabetes education materials and campaigns for AIAN communities. The NDEP American Indian campaigns have promoted a message of hope for diabetes prevention and treatment during the past 5 years, with our "Control Your Diabetes for Future Generations" campaign and our "Move It! And Reduce Your Risk of Diabetes" campaign for youth.

Recent research studies have shown that individuals with diabetes can reduce their risk of developing the complications of diabetes by lowering their blood glucose levels through healthy eating, exercise, taking their medications, and monitoring their blood glucose levels. More recently, the Diabetes Prevention Program research study showed that it is possible to prevent diabetes by healthy lifestyle changes. In addition to our "Move It!" campaign, we are releasing new materials this year to help educate AIANs of all ages that they can prevent diabetes. Making sure that every AIAN hears these messages of hope is our primary goal.

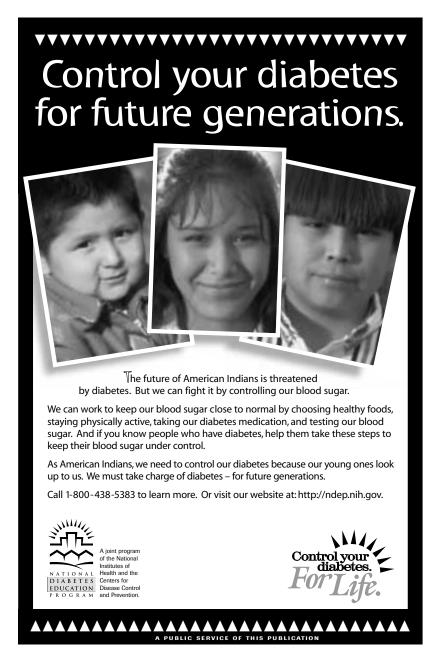
This American Indian Supplement to the NDEP Community Partnership Guide was developed to encourage you to create activities in your communities that help provide education about diabetes prevention and treatment. It is intended to provide additional ideas relevant to AIAN communities, and examples are included of specific activities that have been proposed. Since diabetes is a condition that affects individuals, families, and communities, your efforts to provide diabetes education in your community are extremely important. We hope you will find this guide to be useful, and we are grateful for your efforts in helping us all work towards a healthier future for AIAN communities.

Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., M.P.H.

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Chair, NDEP American Indian and Alaska Native Workgroup

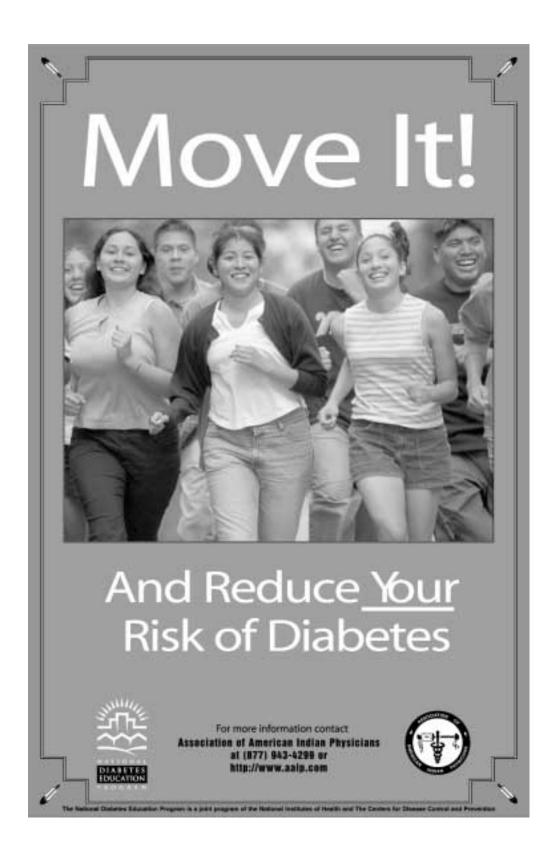
66 Control your diabetes for FUTURE GENERATIONS,



The first wave of NDEP public awareness campaign and activities was launched in 1999 to focus on people with type 2 diabetes, because 90 to 95 percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives with diabetes have type 2. Type 2 diabetes typically develops during the adult years, with the average age of onset occurring in the middle years of life. However, type 2 diabetes is becoming increasingly common in youth.



NDEP's new campaign "You Have the Power to Prevent Diabetes" translates some of the encouraging findings from the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) study. This research trial found that lifestyle changes in diet and exercise and losing a little weight can prevent or delay the disease. To find out more about the DPP, visit the DPP website at www.bsc.gwu.edu/dpp/aboutdpp.htmlvdoc.





Move It!

NDEP's campaign to help increase physical activity among youth.

Diabetes is one of the most serious health challenges facing American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States today. Although diabetes is a serious problem for American Indian elders, youth need to know that they also are at risk. To address this growing issue, NDEP developed Move It! campaign packets for schools and organizations that work with youth to encourage more physical activity. These packets included posters, diabetes fact sheets, tips and ideas for youth to increase regular physical activity. Since the campaign's launch in 2002, over 2,500 schools that serve American Indian students have received these packets.

Here are a few examples that show how schools have used these materials:

- Used the posters as a talking point to begin discussion of diabetes in the community
- Displayed posters in hallways, near the entrance to the building or the cafeteria, in health, science or Physical Education classrooms, in the school infirmary, or in counselors' offices.
- Used the materials to promote health-related events such as a school health fair, a Diabetes Awareness Day, or even a school-wide fitness activity, such as a basketball tournament.
- Copied materials and distribute to parents.
- Began a walking club with staff and students after school.
- Began a staff weight loss program.
- Sponsored a wellness committee with students and teachers to organize campus-wide diabetes prevention or physical fitness activities.
- Provided diabetes screening to students and counseling for individuals who test at high risk for diabetes.
- Had community or tribal health educators come into the school and talk with students about diabetes and diabetes prevention.

Diabetes affects individuals, families, and communities.



Photo by Derek.R. Jennings Photography © 2001

Facts

- 110,814 or 14.9% of American Indians and Alaska Natives aged 20 years or older and receiving care from IHS have diabetes. (CDC)
- At the regional level, diabetes is least common among Alaska Natives (8.2%) and most common among American Indians in the southeastern United States (27.8%) and southern Arizona (27.8%). (CDC)
- On average, American Indians and Alaska Natives are 2.3 times more likely to have diabetes as non-Hispanic whites of similar age. (CDC)
- American Indians with impaired glucose tolerance have a higher incidence of diabetes than those whose glucose tolerance test results are in the normal range (Knowler WC, Saad MF, et. al 1993)
- About 20% of AI/AN adults have high blood pressure and over a quarter of AI/ANs living in 3 geographic regions have high blood cholesterol, both health problems lead to diabetes complications. (AHA)
- Diabetes among American Indian youth (ages 15-19) has increased 106% between 1990 and 2001. (IHS)

A series of focus groups was conducted by the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP), in which tribal leaders, Indian health professionals, and American Indian community members expressed a strong preference for diabetes education materials relevant to their specific tribe or culture. In response, the Community Partnership Supplement was developed to provide examples of activities, ideas, and tips to help your community take action toward controlling diabetes.

¹ Roubideaux Y, Moore K, Avery C, Muneta B, Knight M, Buchwald P. Diabetes Education Materials: Recommendations of Tribal Leaders, Indian Health Professionals, and American Indian Community Members. The Diabetes Educator 2000;26:2

What is the National Diabetes Education Program?

The National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) is a partnership between the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and more than 200 organizations across the country, encompassing African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian American/Pacific Islander, and Hispanic/Latino populations. The goal of the National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) is to reduce illness and deaths associated with diabetes and its complications.

Who is the NDEP trying to reach?

NDEP is trying to reach all ethnic minority populations including American Indians and Alaska Natives with type 2 diabetes and those at risk for developing this disease.

More than 500 distinct American Indian and Alaska Native communities reside in the United States. Diabetes and pre-diabetes is common in many tribes, and the associated health consequences can be severe. American Indians and Alaska Natives with uncontrolled diabetes are at far greater risk of developing complications such as heart disease, kidney disease, blindness, dental disease, and nerve damage. Unfortunately, many AIANs may not know that controlling their blood glucose levels can help prevent such complications.

How is the NDEP reaching American Indian and Alaska Native communities?

NDEP reaches communities by creating culturally appropriate print and radio PSAs, posters, and school and tribal-based interventions and activities.

Good News about Diabetes



Even though over half of the elder American Indian population has diabetes and the risk of developing diabetes increases as you get older, the GOOD NEWS is that diabetes is controllable. Better control of blood glucose can reduce the risk of complications.

Diabetes can be controlled with:

- Healthy eating
- Regular physical activity
- Blood glucose monitoring
- Medication
- Regular feet, eyes, and dental exams (at least once a year, twice a year for teeth)

If you don't have diabetes but are at risk for it, you can PREVENT DIABETES by taking small steps toward a healthier lifestyle.

What can you do to prevent diabetes?

- Exercise regularly
- Eat less fat and calories
- Lose weight

The Diabetes Prevention Program research study, which included 177 American Indians and Alaska Natives, found that small lifestyle changes in eating and physical activity, along with a modest weight loss can decrease a person's risk for diabetes by 58%!

Planning a Diabetes Activity for Your

COMMUNITY

The NDEP developed the Community Partnership Guide* to provide individuals, organizations, diabetes health educators and other health professionals with ideas, tools, and tips to help communities take action toward controlling diabetes. The Guide provides specific instructions on how to plan, promote, and evaluate diabetes activities.

How do you go about starting a successful diabetes education activity?

The Guide can help you:

- Select and work with partners to help with the activity (pages 17–20)
- Outline the planning meeting (page 21)
- See what your diabetes activity plan might look like (page 22)
- Ask questions about the problems and possible solutions for diabetes control from the community's perspective (page 25)
- Choose an activity, and complete an event planner's checklist, and sample timeline (pages 26–30)
- Publicize your event (pages 32–33)
- Use NDEP campaign PSAs (page 103, print ads in back of guide)
- Identify calendar opportunities to tie your event to national dates with a health focus or cultural significance, e.g., October is Family Health Month, November is American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month and National Diabetes Month (page 37)
- Customize camera-ready campaign ads (back of partnership guide),
- Visit the NDEP Web sites: http://ndep.nih.gov, and http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/ndep
- Evaluate your efforts (page 92)

The Guide also provides lists of resources:

- State Diabetes Prevention and Control Programs, www.cdc.gov/diabetes/ states/index.htm (page 125)
- Local diabetes experts (page 15)
- American Indian organizations (page 136)

*the Community Partnership Guide is available from NDEP by calling 1-800-438-5383 or by downloading an order form from the NDEP website, http://ndep.nih.gov/diabetes/pubs/catalog.htm#PubsPatCont.



Healthy Eating and Cardiovascular Health Sample Activity Plan

Community: Southeast Alaska

Audience: Alaska Native families

Profile: Alaskan village with a population of 700, majority native, located on a large

island in Southeast Alaska, transportation by boat or plane. Diabetes and heart disease are prevalent and Alaska Native youth are at high risk for diabetes.

Goal: To improve diabetes management through healthy lifestyle changes, such as

"Getting Physical."

Objective: To assist families with meal planning, and encourage a healthier diet to control

diabetes. To increase participants' knowledge about diabetes and its

effect on the cardiovascular system.

Objective: To encourage participants to exercise regularly to strengthen the heart

muscle and control blood sugar. They will choose foods that meet dietary

guidelines by eating a balanced diet.

Activity: 1. Schedule home visits with families to demonstrate meal planning using

guidelines provided by the ADA. Assist family members in developing weight

management plans.

2. Collaborate with the community center to develop low-impact aerobics

and chair aerobics, geared to physical ability.

3. Expand community center activities to include meal planning/cooking demon-

strations and various physical activities throughout the year.

4. Resources and materials will be available through AAIP-NDEP, State

Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, CDC, ADA, and so forth.

Organizer: Health Clinic and Community Health Practitioner

Delivery: Community center, home visits, airplane drops, mail service, PSAs

Partners: Media sources, local planning committee, AAIP-NDEP, Diabetes Prevention

and Control Program

Physical Activity Sample Activity Plan

Community: Reservation in Washington State

Audience: Pregnant women

Profile: Young adult females at high risk for diabetes.

Goal: To raise awareness about diabetes.

Objective: To increase knowledge about diabetes and its risk factors.

Objective: To encourage physical activity through a regular walking program.

Activity: Develop a weekly physical activity workshop at the community center that

will provide stretching, floor exercise, and walking. The workshop will be

comprised of two parts:

a) weekly educational seminar

b) physical activity

Organizer: Tribal community health educator

Delivery: Local community center

Partners: Community health nurse, dietitian, and volunteer certified exercise

specialist, local tribal health clinic, tribal office personnel, local grocer,

laundromat, church

Fitness Week Program

Sample Activity Plan

Community: Community College-Central California

Audience: American Indian college students

Profile: College community and surrounding area that includes a population

of diverse American Indian tribes. Participants include young families and/or

students.

Goal: To raise awareness among young adults in the college community about diabetes

as a serious and common disease.

Objective: To encourage the college community to participate in a physical fitness activity.

Objective: To introduce appetizing prepared dishes which will encourage participants to eat

healthy foods low in calories and fat.

Activity: Plan a Fitness Week Program that will include a basketball tournament, other

sport/fitness activities and nutritious food demonstrations. Air NDEP public

service announcements on local college TV/radio station.

Organizers: American Indian Students' Association, student(s) recently diagnosed with

diabetes, college students, young adults and their families.

Delivery: Local recreation center

Partners: Nutrition educator, recreation coordinator, TV/radio stations, newspapers edi-

tors, local grocery store or farmer's market, AAIP, NDEP, State Diabetes Control

Program, CDC.

Nutrition Fair and After School Sample Activity Plan

Community: American Indian community-Northern Arizona

Audience: American Indian students, ages 12–14

Profile: Students from communities with many persons with diabetes.

Goal: Early prevention of diabetes.

Objective: To improve the participants' knowledge of diabetes as a serious but

controllable disease.

Objective: To increase physical activity and encourage healthy eating choices through

planned youth activities.

Activity:

1. Organize an after-school sports program (basketball, softball, race walking). Include guest athletes, a tournament, prizes, and a special ceremony.

2. Conduct a month-long nutrition fair. Students will develop a slogan that emphasizes healthy eating. Incorporate nutrition and fitness into class-room lesson plans (science, art, biology, physical education, drama, etc.), role playing, displays, posters, and a special assembly program. Older youth (ages 12–14) will mentor younger children (ages 6–8) who may enjoy creating a play and dressing up as different vegetables to dramatize the classroom lesson, or engage in another creative activity.

Organizer: School Board Member, Tribal Council Leader, and Community Health

Representative, School Staff.

Delivery: School assembly programs, classrooms, church, parks and recreation.

Partners: Radio and television stations, church members, tribal leaders, grocery

store, and school staff, AAIP, NDEP, Arizona Diabetes Prevention and

Control Program.

Garden Project

Sample Activity Plan

Community: A rural community in Oklahoma

Audience: Elders and youth

Profile: Close family units, moderate income, and high incidence of diabetes.

Goal: To promote traditional lifestyle and intergenerational activities while

raising awareness about diabetes control.

Objective: To enhance cultural awareness and physical activity through elders'

teaching of traditional songs and dances.

Objective: To increase knowledge and improve glucose control through intergenerational

support.

Activity: Garden Project. Activities to include weeding a neighborhood lot, preparing

the soil, planting seeds, maintaining the garden, harvesting, and planning a harvest celebration. In addition, weekly gourd dances will be organized at the

community center.

Organizer: Community-based work group with Tribal council support and State Rural

Development Councils.

Delivery: Tribal community lot/community center

Partners: Local radio station, Tribal council, Land Manager, local high school,

elders program, bingo enterprise, local university (agriculture department or

extension service), and local health center, AAIP-NDEP, CDC, NIH.

Diabetes Education Exhibit

Sample Activity Plan

Community: Reservation-South Dakota

Audience: Tribal members and their families attending pow-wow and rodeo.

Profile: Tribal members with high rates of diabetes, high blood pressure, and obesity.

Goal: To demonstrate the benefits of exercise/nutrition and early intervention.

Objective: Introduce the benefits of healthy eating, with food portions demonstrated.

To offer a variety of exercise plans that will fit each person's ability level for physical activity. To provide special attention to helping each person

become more physically fit.

Activity: Develop an exhibit. Have a display table at a pow-wow showing children

engaged in physical fitness activities and nutrition education activities. Health screening (testing) will be available for participants to check blood sugar*, cholesterol, and blood pressure. (Include a special booth for screening and speaking to the healthcare person.) The screening will be available to all attending pow-wow and rodeo. NDEP brochures and educational materials will be distributed. Fresh fruit/vegetables, water, and juice will be

available throughout the pow-wow.

Organizer: IHS Diabetes Educator, School Athletic Program Coordinator, Community

Health Representatives, and tribal employees.

Delivery: Weekend Tribal Fair and Pow-wow.

Partners: Tribal Fair and Pow-wow Committee, IHS Health Department,

Tribal Newsletter, School, Tribal Diabetes Project, Rodeo Committee,

AAIP-NDEP.

^{*} Currently, community-based testing is not usually recommended by the National Diabetes Education Program. However, blood glucose testing/screening as described in these examples is appropriate in many American Indian and Alaska Native settings because of the high prevalence of diabetes in this population and the availability and involvement of Indian health programs that may provide follow up care for test results.

Community

Sample Activity Plan

Community: Urban American Indian Community-Northeastern United States.

Audience: American Indian Community, all ages.

Profile: Diverse tribal population of various ages in the urban American Indian commu-

nity at high risk for diabetes.

Goal: Promote the NDEP campaign, "Control Your Diabetes. For Life." Raise

awareness about diabetes and encourage healthy eating habits as a way

of controlling the disease.

Objective: To promote community awareness of diabetes and its effects.

Objective: To start a community garden and encourage participants to eat a variety of

healthy fresh fruits and vegetables.

Activity: 1. Youth will organize a Hand Game and invite community members and elders

to explain the community goal for controlling diabetes. Incorporate their ideas

and suggestions in plans for future activities.

2. Form a community garden group that will plant, take care of, and

harvest produce.

3. Celebrate with a harvest activity where some of the harvest is cooked and

eaten and part of the bounty is given to the elders.

Organizers: Students and local companies (the companies would donate seeds to the com-

munity), Urban Indian Center.

Delivery: An empty lot located near the urban center.

Partners: Radio stations, local companies, hardware stores, and the community members,

church, 4-H Club, Urban Indian Center, AAIP-NDEP.

Health workshops and Screening Sample Activity Plan

Community: Five reservations across the Florida peninsula, including rural and

urban areas.

Audience: Tribal members and American Indians with diabetes.

Profile: Tribal members, many diagnosed with diabetes for five or more years.

Goal: Promote diabetes prevention awareness initiatives through education

and access to healthcare.

Objective: To increase knowledge of diabetes and its risk factors.

Objective: To provide blood sugar*, blood pressure, and foot screening.

Activity: Plan and deliver workshops and health screenings at special areas within

the communities. Workshop includes: foot screening, diabetes education and risk factors, and the importance of foot care and screening. A healthy

lunch will be provided.

Organizer: Diabetes Educators from Indian Health Service, Public Health Nurses,

Health Service Providers from local clinics.

Delivery: Tribal library system branches.

Partners: Tribal leaders, librarians, tribal casinos' food service, Native Broadcasting

Department and sister stations, Florida DPCP, NDEP, American Diabetes

Association.

^{*} Currently, community-based testing is not usually recommended by the National Diabetes Education Program. However, blood glucose testing/screening as described in these examples is appropriate in many American Indian and Alaska Native settings because of the high prevalence of diabetes in this population and the availability and involvement of Indian health programs that may provide follow up care for test results.

Community PARTNERS

Seek out other organizations and community leaders to enhance your program with more resources, knowledge and support.

Who are some of these partners?

Radio/TV Stations Dietitians

Tribal Health Coordinators YWCA/YMCA

Diabetes Educators Libraries

Tribal Leaders Restaurant Chefs

Health Board Members Artists

Public Health Educators Diabetes Clinicians
American Indian Organizations Clinical Directors

Grocery Stores 4-H Clubs

Indian Education Program Directors Nutritionists

Community Health Representatives Tribal Council Members

(CHRs)

Indian Health Services

State Diabetes Prevention and Control Program

School Teachers, Coaches Health Education Directors

Newspapers Diabetes Case Managers

Churches Community Health Nurses

What can partners provide?

Artwork Medical information

Cultural knowledge Money

Donated space Paper supplies

Expert information on diabetes Program implementation

Food contributions Special talent

Free advertising Support services

Health care Transportation

Tell us what you are doing!

The National Diabetes Education Program wants to hear from you. Tell us how you helped increase the awareness of diabetes in your specific tribe or culture. We can share your experiences and successes with our partners and communities throughout the country. Your words of wisdom will provide a wealth of ideas on which other communities can build their diabetes awareness efforts.

What was your activit	ry?			
How did you do it?				
Who helped?				
What were the results	?			
Did local media cover	the event?			
Any next steps planne	ed?			
What else would you	like to see from the	NDEP?		
Name				
Organization				
Address				
City		State	Zip	
Phone	Fax		E-mail	
Can we refer other gro				
4770 Buford High	nission to: s Education Program hway, NE (MS K-10)), Atlanta, GA		

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Additional American Indian/Alaska Native

RESOURCES

National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP)

Phone: 1-800-438-5383 http://ndep.nih.gov/index.htm

http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/ndep/index.htm

http://www.diabetesatwork.org

http://www.betterdiabetescare.nih.gov

National Diabetes Information Clearinghouse

1 Diabetes Way

Bethesda, MD 20892-3600 **Phone:** (301) 654-3327 **Fax:** (301) 907-8906

E-mail: ndic@info.niddk.nih.gov http://ndep.nih.gov/materials/puborder/

resource.htm

Association of American Indian Physicians

1225 Sovereign Row, Suite 103 Oklahoma City, OK 73108 Phone: (405) 943-1211 Fax: (405) 943-1190 Toll free: 1-877-943-4299 E-mail: aaip@aaip.org http://www.aaip.org

American Diabetes Association

1701 North Beauregard Street Alexandria, VA 22311 **Phone:** (703) 549-1500 http://www.diabetes.org

Awakening the Spirit American Diabetes Association

1701 North Beauregard Street Alexandria, VA 22311

Phone: (703) 549-1500

http://www.diabetes.org/community/outreach/

nativeamericans/awakening.jsp

Indian Health Service National Diabetes Program

5300 Homestead Road NE Albuquerque, NM 87110 **Phone:** (505) 248-4182 **Fax:** (505) 248-4188

www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/diabetes/index.asp

National Indian Council on Aging

10501 Montgomery Blvd., NE Albuquerque, NM 87111 **Phone:** (505) 292-2001 **Fax:** (505) 292-1922 http://www.nicoa.org

National Indian Health Board

101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Suite 8-B09

Washington, DC 20001 **Phone:** (202) 742-4262 **Fax:** (202) 742-4285

http://www.nihb.org/

National Congress of American Indians

1301 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,

Suite 200

Washington, DC 20036 **Phone:** (202) 466-7767 **Fax:** (202) 466-7797

http://www.ncai.org/

Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee Indian Health Service (HQ)

The Reyes Building 801 Thompson Avenue, Ste. 400 Rockville, MD 20852-1627 http://www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/ Diabetes/tldc.asp

United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY)

UNITY - PO Box 800 Oklahoma City, OK 73101 **Phone:** (405) 236-2800 **Fax:** (405) 971-1071 http://www.unityinc.org/

References

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