

Native American Communities Making It Happen!



Alaska Natives

In 2001, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and the Alaska Native Health Board started a campaign to heighten awareness of the harmful effects of sugared soda consumption. The campaign included letters from board members to community grocery store managers, and issued a "symbolic" report card to schools with two "D"s for decay and diabetes. To learn more link to: http://www.turtletrack.org/Issues01/Co04212001/CO_04212001_Pop.htm

School board members in Larsen Bay, Alaska agreed to replace soda with water in the schools after two health aides who had attended diabetes training classes gave a presentation on the increasing rates of diabetes and tooth decay in children. This has had a great impact on the community and the school board members.

Fort Peck Students, Montana

Fort Peck, Montana, students boycotted school lunch for 3 weeks to get the soda machines replaced with bottles of water and to get a salad bar. The students were concerned with overweight, the availability of high fat and sugary foods and drinks in the schools. The students were successful in obtaining healthier foods and beverages served in the school. These student champions were featured speakers at the 2002 IHS Diabetes Conference, a national health conference attracting over 1000 Native Americans.

Kayenta Service Unit Health Advisory Board, Kayenta, AZ

Did you know...that children's weight problems are related to how many soft drinks they consume? The Advisory Board has sponsored a National Public Health Week on Healthy Life, and gives educational facts on soda pop on the internet. Find out more from Kayenta Service Unit website, <http://www.kayentahealth.com/popandkids.htm> "Pop Facts".

Lummi Tribe of Washington.

"Stop the Pop" was a tribal resolution successfully adopted in 2004 by the Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation, Washington. See Resolution #2004-149 below. The council also requested an educational campaign regarding the resolution before its implementation in May 2005. A community action team has started the educational campaign targeting schoolchildren and families. 2-pages. *(will need to create PDF and include here as a link to the document for the reader on the internet)*

Hopi Nation, Arizona

The Hopi Nation has replaced unhealthy drinks in vending machines with healthier choices, and is still making money on the sales.