



Sleep Safe

“Every Indian Child Goes to Sleep in a Home Protected with a Smoke Alarm”

Background:

The American Indian Head Start Programs Branch, Indian Health Service and the United States Fire Administration are collaborating on a joint effort to implement a special initiative entitled *Sleep Safe*. The *Sleep Safe* project goal is to reduce the rate of fire and burn injuries among American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children ages 0-5 enrolled in Tribal Head Start Centers participating in the Sleep Safe Program. This goal will be achieved by:

- Increasing the percent of operable smoke alarms in homes of AI/AN children participating in the Sleep Safe Program.
- Providing fire safety educational curricula to Head Start programs to increase awareness among American Indian and Alaska Native families and among childcare providers of children ages 0-5.
- Promoting community coalition development, community data collection, and community fire safety activism.

This notice solicits letters of interest from tribal head start programs that are interested in implementing a *Sleep Safe* project in their community. Each selected Head Start project site will receive:

- a *Sleep Safe* Fire Safety Curriculum Module
- 10-year smoke alarms provided to selected Head Start families.
- a two-day *Sleep Safe* project implementation training session for Head Start *Sleep Safe* Coordinators.
- Technical assistance on fire/burn prevention issues.

Due to limited funding available for this program, all letters of interest will be reviewed and selected on a competitive basis.

Sleep Safe

Each Letter of Interest must include the following information:

1. **Brief Description of the Tribe and Community to be served by This Fire Safety Project.** This includes information about Tribal population, location, and fire safety activities conducted in the Tribe or community.
2. **Brief Description of the Head Start to be served by this Fire Safety Project.** This includes a brief description of Head Start center staff, number of children under five years of age, number of Head Start Centers serving the Tribe or community, number of Head Start Centers to be served by the Sleep Safe Project, description of parent committee(s), previous fire safety/injury prevention activities/education, a list fire prevention partnerships developed, and other ongoing health projects.
3. **Smoke Alarm Need.** Each Head Start Center should indicate the number of smoke alarms that are needed for families served by the Head Start Center that will participate in the *Sleep Safe* Project. Identify staff (head start, fire dept., environmental health) that will install smoke alarms. We recommend installing at least one smoke detector per house (or one detector per each floor of the house)
4. **Burn Injury Data About Your Community.** This includes providing the number of burn /scald injuries from IHS/Tribal hospital and clinics, current smoke alarm usage survey results, and/or news articles on local fire/burn injuries.
5. ***Sleep Safe* Project Coordinator.** Each letter of interest should identify someone who will serve as the Project Coordinator. This could be the Head Start employee or a community partner such as the Environmental Health Officer, Injury Prevention Coordinator or fire department staff. The Coordinator must be someone with the time and skills required to coordinate the overall implementation of the *Sleep Safe* Program at the Head Start Center. Other Coordinator's responsibilities include: implement the Sleep Safe curriculum to staff, student, and parents; must coordinate with Head Start staff or community partners to install smoke alarms and conduct follow-up visits; administer the necessary progress reports to IHS project officer.

The Coordinator will be required to attend a two-day training workshop in Palm Springs, California, August 22-23, 2007. The coordinator will also be responsible for monitoring and reporting program progress to Sleep Safe Project staff.

6. **Environmental Health Staff Support.** Each letter of interest should indicate the support and assistance of the local IHS/Tribal Environmental Health or Injury Prevention staff. Injury Prevention is a major component of all IHS/Tribal Environmental Health programs. Environmental Health Officer/Injury Prevention Coordinator will assist the Sleep Safe Coordinators with implementation of the Sleep Safe program (assisting parent/staff training, program monitoring). It is strongly recommended that IHS/Tribal Environmental Health/Injury Prevention Coordinator attend the two-day training workshop in Palm Springs, California.

7. **Examples of Support.** This includes letters of support from the tribal chairperson, the Tribal health director, IHS/Tribal injury prevention/environmental health staff member, fire/EMS department staff, and/or IHS Area injury prevention specialist. Please specify organizations and individuals that can assist with specific tasks with the project (i.e. assist with the installation of *Sleep Safe* smoke alarms into the homes of Head Start Center families).

Deadline: Letters of Interest must be received at the office designated below by close of business **May 31, 2007**.

Address: Letters of Interest must be submitted to: **Indian Health Service, ATTN: Harold Cully, 5 Corporate Plaza, 3625 NW 56th Street, Room 204, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73112.**

Award Notification: Tribal Head Starts will be notified of their selection by **June 8, 2007**.

Program Components

***Sleep Safe Coordinators Training* Workshop:** This workshop is scheduled for August 22-23, 2007, in Palm Springs, California. Costs (airfare, per diem, lodging) associated with this training session will be covered by the Sleep Safe project. All Sleep Safe Project Coordinators and IHS/Tribal Environmental Health staff will be required to attend this training.

Smoke Detectors: Each participating Head Start will receive 10-year lithium battery photoelectric smoke alarms. The number of smoke alarms provided to each Head Start site will be based on the identified need for smoke alarms, as described in the Letter of Interest.

Timeline: The Sleep Safe Head Start sites will be encouraged to use the training lessons conducted in August to begin their activities during National Fire Prevention Week, October 7-13, 2007. Sleep Safe Program activities are expected to continue throughout the 2007-2008 school year. All smoke alarms provided by the Sleep Safe program should be installed by the end of the 2007-2008 school year.