

## OUR MISSION

**To assist American Indian and Alaska Native Women in achieving optimal health and well-being for themselves, their families and their communities.**

## OUR GOAL

***Community women leaders and health care professionals that are dedicated in the establishment of a national Indian women s health network that promotes advocacy, education, policy development, appropriate research and encouragement of healthy lifestyle behaviors with a cultural context.***

### 7 Goals

The National Indian Women s Health Resource Center (NIWHRC) is a national non-profit organization (501(c)(3) whose mission is To assist American Indian and Alaska Native women achieve optimal health and well being throughout their lives. The vision is American Indian and Alaska Native women living in balance within the sacred circle of life.

NIWHRC grew from the Indian Health Service s National Indian Women s Health Steering Committee. In 1993, the Director of Indian Health Service assembled a group of Indian women, recognized as leaders in the health field, to serve on a Steering Committee and to advise IHS on the health needs of Indian women.

These members represent the twelve IHS areas: tribal, urban and Indian Health Service operated programs. They are health providers, health planners, health administrators, and elected tribal leaders that have a common concern with the health status of Indian women. Their strong commitment is based on their roots in their communities.

\*The NIWHRC is: A national body supporting the efforts of the Tribal and Urban Indian programs, providing them with a focal point for resources and dissemination of women s health information.

The NIWHRC:

- Is committed to sharing information with Indian programs through the expertise of the board members.
- Promotes new women s health-related research.

#### **The NIWHRC Benefits:**

Benefits: Indian communities by addressing the needs for women s health specific information that is culturally relevant and sensitive, resulting in improved health programming for Indian women.

The NIWHRC:

Promotes the use of traditional healing in conjunction with western medicine.

Promotes women s health related research.

Provides IHS and other health agencies with input on policy formulation that effect Indian women.

