

Case Studies

The following projects were conducted within Alaska and serve as models for adaptation and use by other Native American and rural communities.

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (Four A's), Four A's Resource Library Expansion (Anchorage, AK) <http://www.alaskan aids.org>

Type of organization
Community

Scope

Establish a well-stocked and updated HIV/AIDS resource library that is accessible to clients, family members, staff, and the community through the purchase of up-to-date books, journals, and other publications.



Results

The Four A's Library Expansion Project allowed the resource library to catalogue existing library resources and purchase over 60 books, journals, and publications containing current information about HIV/AIDS. Accessibility to and organization of library resources were further enhanced by the purchase of new shelving and magazine files. The Four A's advertised the library's opening and expansion of the resource library to local schools, colleges, doctors' offices, and other agencies that partner with HIV/AIDS services. A complete list of resources is listed on the Four A's Web site.

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, "Community Drum: An Alaska Native/Rural Alaska AIDS Information Community Outreach Project" (Anchorage, AK) <http://www.communitydrum.org>

Type of organization

Community, Healthcare, Clinic

Scope

Improve education and information access to quality HIV/AIDS information and establish an online community for Alaska Native HIV/AIDS patients, affected family members, and the community.

The project includes:

- Informational Web site with message board and links to credible HIV/AIDS Web resources.
- Community support networks.
- Web-based CD for use by clients without Internet access.
- Database of area HIV/AIDS service providers and resource centers.

Results

Community Drum is the first HIV/AIDS Web site that is specifically written for the Alaska Native patient population and includes interviews, poems, and the cultural tradition of storytelling by Alaska Natives living with HIV/AIDS. The project was driven by what Alaska Native consumers indicated they wanted when looking for HIV/AIDS information: interviews, stories, and poems. The site uses traditional languages, graphics, and stories to facilitate patient, family, and community communications. Computers were purchased for client access and development of the Web site.



NLM Web Resources

American Indian Health Web Site

<http://americanindianhealth.nlm.nih.gov>

Gateway to health information for and about American Indians



Arctic Health Web Site

<http://www.arctichealth.org>

Information portal for Arctic region inhabitants, with a focus on Alaska



AIDSinfo Web Site

<http://aidsinfo.nih.gov>

Information on HIV/AIDS treatment, prevention, and research from the federal government



NLM AIDS Web Site

<http://aids.nlm.nih.gov>

Access to federal and nonfederal sites on AIDS research, diagnosis, treatment, control, and prevention

