



NACP INSIGHTS

December 2021

Mission

To alleviate the unequal burden of cancer among Native Americans of the Southwest through research, training, and community outreach programs in collaboration with the communities we serve.

The Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention (NACP) is a partnership of Native American communities, Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona Cancer Center, and the National Cancer Institute to address cancer health disparities in Native Americans.

Greetings!

Among the many observances for the month of December, one is “Handwashing Awareness Month.” In the past two years, we have gained a whole new appreciation for the connection between handwashing and the health of our communities. NACP sends best wishes for a healthy and safe holiday season for you, your communities, families, friends, and colleagues.

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Jani Ingram *Francine Gachupin* *Jason Wilder* *Margaret Briebl*

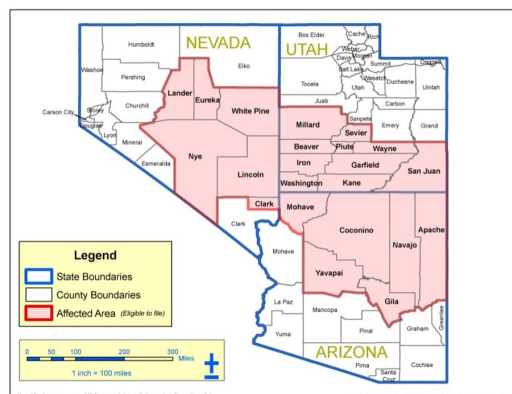
Jani Ingram

Francine Gachupin

Jason Wilder

Margaret Briebl

Time is running out for Downwinders to apply for funds



Radiation Exposure Compensation Act ends July 2022 - “Downwinders,” those who were exposed to downwind radiation from the Nevada Test Site during the Cold War, have a limited time to apply for funds from the federal government. Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) compensation ends July 2022. Those who think they or a family member may be eligible should submit their RECA claim by April 2022. Because the process takes time, it is advised to begin the submission process as soon as possible. North Country HealthCare’s RESEP program provides cancer medical screening exams to eligible Downwinders who resided in Coconino, Apache, Navajo, Yavapai, and Gila counties and Mohave county north of the Grand Canyon during the years of 1951-1958 for at least two years, or during the summer of 1962. RESEP staff can assist clients with filing RECA

claims. Eligible applicants may be able to receive \$50,000. To file a claim, applicants must provide documentation of: compensable cancer, residence in an eligible area during the specified time period, identification, which may include birth certificates, marriage licenses, etc., RECA claim form. If you have questions concerning the RECA submission process, you can contact Shannon Williams with North Country HealthCare (swilliams@nchcaz.org).

Fall 2021 Indigenous Cancer Prevention Webinars

The Indigenous Cancer Prevention Webinar Series, led by the University of Arizona Outreach Core, showcase cancer-related initiatives within Indian Country. Two webinars were held this fall. Dr. Sohail Khan provided an overview of the Cherokee Nation cancer registry, Cherokee healthcare system, and American Indian/Alaska Native cancer statistics for United States regions and Cherokee Nation. The presenters in the second webinar were Mr. Richard Mousseau, Ms. Kelley Le Beaux, and Ms. Gina Johnson, who are part of the Great Plains Tribal Leaders Health Board. They presented on select cancer-focused programs offered to assist in accessing cancer screenings, primary prevention, and health promotion. Each Indigenous Cancer Prevention webinar includes a pre- and post-test to access knowledge acquisition. An evaluation is used to receive feedback from participants. Approximately 200+ participants from 25 states have participated in the webinar series. Ten webinars have been held to date and can be accessed at: <https://nartc.fcm.arizona.edu/partnership-native-american-cancer-prevention-nacp>



From left to right:

Sohail Khan, Richard Mousseau, Kelley Le Beaux, Gina Johnson



December 2021 Northern Arizona University Graduates

NACP congratulates the NAU graduates on their accomplishments.



Rebekah Chattin

BS in Applied Indigenous Studies with minors in Indigenous Health Studies and Chemistry

Mentor: Dr. Priscilla Sanderson



Andres Rodriguez

BS in Biomedical Science with minors in Chemistry and Psychology

Mentor: Dr. Fernando Monroy



Krystina Begay

BS in Biomedical Science with minors in Chemistry and Psychology

Participated in NACP by completing the REC course

Native American Role Model - Dr. Carmella Kahn



Dr. Carmella Kahn

The NAU Research Education Core hosted Dr. Carmella Kahn (Diné) as part of their Native American Role Model Speaker Series on Friday, November 19. Dr. Kahn is an Assistant Professor at Diné College and the Co-Director for the Diné College Summer Research Enhancement Program. She is originally from Mariano Lake, NM and completed her Doctor of Public Health degree at the University of Arizona in 2018. Her current work is to support data collection and development of a Diné College course for the project, Diné Teachings and Public Health Students Informing Peers and Relatives about Vaccine Education (RAVE).

As an undergraduate, Dr. Kahn participated in the UA NACP Research Education Core and called it the “best resource” she had in her academic journey while at the University of Arizona. Her time in Dr. Margaret Briehl’s research lab was “the most amazing experience” where she learned laboratory techniques and what research entails. Her experience in the lab boosted her confidence in her classwork, and Dr. Kahn credits Dr. Briehl with helping define her passion for public health. Dr. Kahn encouraged students to take care of their physical and mental health while on their academic journeys and assured them that their belief in themselves will get them their degrees. You can view a recording of Dr. Carmella Kahn’s talk at the NACP REC YouTube page where recorded My Journey seminars and Native American Role Model Speaker Series are uploaded.

<https://youtu.be/oVWUKt4vND0>

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UA: <https://cancercenter.arizona.edu/researchers/collaborative-research/nacp>

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