



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!

This month brought an unexpected treat— Dr. Francine Gachupin was invited to present NACP’s work to First Lady Dr. Jill Biden when she visited the Tohono O’odham Nation on Tuesday, March 8th. Francine was a terrific ambassador for the partnership, highlighting the success of research projects, training and outreach efforts. In this issue, you can read more about the visit along with other recent updates.

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Jani Ingram

Francine Gachupin

Jason Wilder

Margaret Briehl

First Lady Dr. Jill Biden visits Tohono O’odham Nation and hears about NACP



Dr. Francine Gachupin



First Lady, Dr. Jill Biden

On March 8, 2022, Dr. Jill Biden visited San Xavier Health Center and met with Chairman Norris, CEO Geronimo and heard from Miguel Flores Jr., Northern Arizona University-University of Arizona (NAU-UA) Community Advisory Board (CAB) Chair, Ann Garcia, CAB member, Tara Chico-Jarillo, former NACP trainee and current Tohono O’odham (TO) Health Director, Dr. Joann Sweasy, University of Arizona Cancer Center (UACC) Director, Dr. Jenna Hatcher, UACC Community

Outreach and Engagement Director, and Dr. Francine Gachupin, MPI UA NACP. Dr. Biden heard about the ongoing American Indian cancer health disparities and how TO, UACC and NACP were working to address these. The First Lady was particularly interested in the training of students and in colorectal cancer screening efforts through President Biden’s moonshot efforts.

NACP Appreciation for our Advisory Committees

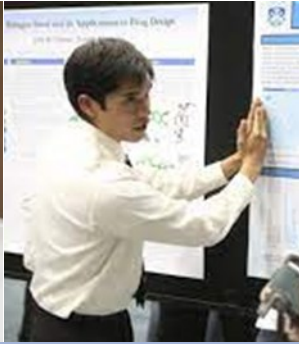
NACP had a call for research proposals for new projects to begin next year. We had seven research proposal submitted. On February 25, 2022, our Community Advisory Board reviewed the proposals for cultural suitability as well as how well the proposals addressed tribal community cancer concerns. On March 11, 2022, our Internal Advisory Committee reviewed the proposals for scientific merit as well as how the proposal addressed the mission of NACP to diminish cancer health disparities in tribal communities. The reviews and recommendations from both the Community Advisory Board and the Internal Advisory Committee will be provided to our Program Steering Committee for their April meeting to determine which projects will move forward for funding. NACP appreciates the insights, guidance, and energy both groups provided before and during the review discussions. NACP is blessed to have such dedicated advisors.



Congratulations to Jonathan Credo



Jonathan Credo



NACP celebrates another achievement in Jonathan Credo's academic journey with his successful defense of his dissertation research on February 18, 2022. Jonathan's dissertation titled "Utilizing Environmental Analytical Chemistry to Establish Culturally Appropriate Community Partnerships" focused on his work in collaborating with communities to investigate environmental contaminants of concern. Jonathan has recently returned to medical school to complete his medical training. He is supported by a F31 fellowship funded

by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to continue his training in environmental toxicology. Jonathan has been part of NACP for most of his academic career, and the Partnership is very proud of all he has accomplished.

Indigenous Cancer Prevention Webinar



Kellen Polingyumptewa

For the latest Indigenous Cancer Prevention webinar, the Outreach Core hosted Kellen Polingyumptewa (Hopi). He is the Program Coordinator for the Hopi Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, also known as the Hopi Women's Health Program. Kellen is no stranger to NACP as he was a Community Health Liaison working on the Hopi Reservation since 2011. On February 18, 2022, Mr. Polingyumptewa presented on his work and focused on the importance of promoting and educating cancer screenings for breast, cervical, and colorectal for American Indian women. He said his program also provides mobile screening services and transportation to the Hopi community. He encouraged women to take ownership of their health by adopting health lifestyle behaviors through education. While involved with NACP, Kellen developed materials on Hopi cultural competency. NACP is proud of Kellen and how his training and experience are promoting such important community outreach and engagement.

Kellen's webinar can be viewed at:

<https://wassajacenter.arizona.edu/partnership-native-american-cancer-prevention-nacp>.

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

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