

CDC/OSH and TTAC Tobacco-Related Disparities Call
April 2, 2009

I. Objectives

- a. Discuss OSH updates
- b. Discuss mission of the National Native Commercial Tobacco Abuse Prevention Network (NNCTAPN)
- c. Describe collaborative relationships in Oklahoma
- d. Discuss NCTOH Increasing Diversity/Eliminating Disparities Preliminary Program

II. Welcome & Introduction of Speakers

Carmen Ashley, Tobacco Technical Assistance Consortium

III. Overview – National Native Commercial Tobacco Abuse Prevention Network, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan

Lisa Kerfoot, Program Manager (please use the contact information below for additional information on this presentation).

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- a. Mission: To provide a forum for Tribes and Tribal Organizations to obtain and disseminate evidence-based and culturally appropriate information in order to identify and eliminate commercial tobacco abuse.
- b. Acronyms: American Indian (AI), Alaska Native (AN), and Tribal Support Centers (TSC)
- c. Partners and Tribal Advisory Board serve to inform the network and guide activities, assure cultural appropriateness of activities, and ensure that needs are met.
- d. Network Activities:
 - Engage and maintain membership of past and present TSC's and tribal communities – listserves, etc.

- Regular venues of communication and technical assistance
 - Convene regional conferences and trainings. Upcoming events in April and May are listed on the last page. Plan, implement, and evaluate commercial tobacco policies and evaluation. Conduct the AI/AN-Adult Tobacco Survey
 - Develop promising practices in Indian Country
- e. Demographics: More than 560 federally recognized tribes across the nation, highest smoking prevalence, regional and tribal differences exist.
 - f. Sovereignty /Sovereign Nation: acknowledging the right of a people to govern themselves – which each tribe possesses via three separate US Supreme Court opinions.
 - g. Important to promote issues at state and federal level, but also at the tribal community level to integrate and ensure message is being heard.
 - h. Traditional tobacco use: Tobacco is the most powerful and sacred of all medicines in many American Indian tribes. Tobacco is used ceremonially and has legend, history, and strong connection to the cultural traditions. In those tribal communities that may not use tobacco ceremonially, it is still respected.
 - i. No known risk of cancer or other health effects associated with traditional, sacred, or ceremonial use of tobacco. Traditional use of tobacco is a strength in the communities.
 - j. Priority Populations: Achievements made in lowering tobacco use rates in the U.S. have not significantly lowered rates in priority populations. Multiple reasons why populations are disproportionately affected by tobacco (ex. less likely to have access to health insurance or health care services).
 - k. AI/AN Prevalence: Highest prevalence rates when compared to all populations in the U.S. In 2007, 36.4% of AI and AN adults were smokers (National average 19.8%). Regional and tribal differences still occur and are important to recognize (e.g. Alaska/Northern Plains regions have highest prevalence).
 - l. AI and AN have many health disparities including higher likelihood of stroke, higher infant mortality and SIDs rates.
 - m. Data limitations: Inability to provide tribal-specific data (want to promote AI/AN survey tool), lack of differentiation between ceremonial use of tobacco and abuse of commercial tobacco, low samples and response rates among AI/respondents.
 - n. How the problem is being addressed: National Networks, Tribal Support Centers, tribally-driven tobacco programs, state-supported tobacco efforts, and funding to tribes from

organizations such as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Legacy Foundation.

- o. How to work together? Contact the National Network (capacity building, surveillance, developing relationships, contact information, resources), AI/AN National Network Trainings.
- p. Resources: Launching website in a few months which will include a media resource center, links to tribal tobacco programs, links to data and other information, repository for promising practices and tobacco control resources.
- q. Websites:
 - Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairman’s Health Board Northern Plains Tobacco Prevention Project: <http://www.aatchb.org/nptpp/index.html>
 - Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan: <http://www.itcmi.org>
 - Central Network Website: <http://www.tobaccopreventionnetworks.org>
 1. National Native Commercial Tobacco Abuse Prevention Network Website
 2. Media resource center
 3. Links to tribal tobacco programs
 4. Links to data information and resources
 5. Repository for promising practices and tobacco control resources<http://www.aatchb.org/nptpp/TobaccoPolicyToolkit/index.htm>
<http://www.aatchb.org/nptpp/SmokeFreeHomesToolkit/index.htm>

IV. Questions and Answers

Q – Is there a connection between the ceremonial use of tobacco and the prevalence rate of Native American youth?

A – No connection between prevalence rate and ceremonial use in the rates of youth smoking. No known studies, greater research/data collection needs to be collected about the Native American youth.

Q – What led to these programs being interested in partnering with you?

A – Funding through CDC, high rates of cancer and diabetes within the communities. Need to educate – best way is through media.

A – Directly related to level of capacity within the tribal communities to reach out to other programs. Also, sometimes there are people working ¼ Full Time Employee (FTE) on tobacco projects and then reach out to others for funding, etc.

Q – How do you engage tribal leadership?

A – Annual Report given every year to all the members of the tribes re: where the money goes. Also, gaming and tobacco tax money that goes back into the program.

A – Engaging tribal leadership involves policy work (policy toolkits by Aberdeen Tribe) and a policy manual (Western Tobacco Prevention Project, NW Portland area)

V. Collaboration in Oklahoma

- a. June Maher, Consultant, member Cherokee Nation; Sally Carter, Director of Statewide Initiatives, Oklahoma Department of Health Tobacco Use Prevention Service; Cynthia Tainpeah, Program Manager for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Program
- b. Current Partnerships: Some of the current partnerships (9 listed), representatives that come to every meeting, state representation, tribal representation.
- c. CDC Funded Tribal Support Centers:
 - Cherokee Nation, almost 300,000 tribe members, 14 county jurisdiction
 - Muscogee (Creek) Nation, large population (4th largest in nation) and variety of health services
- d. State Agencies: Strong partnerships with the agencies
 - Oklahoma State Department of Health – Quitline
 - Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust – funds 30 programs (many tribes and consortiums are included in funding)
- e. Common Goal Areas: Native Americans represent 13-17% of total Oklahoma population. Tribal Support Centers need to address what is happening in the states as a whole and help states address the native population – reduce the illness and death associated with commercial tobacco use for all Oklahomans.
- f. Current Joint Projects: Preparing for the 7th Generation Conference (April 12, 2009, over 200 people expected), AI Tobacco Cessation Resource Guide, Indian Health Service Field Guide Training, Commercial Tobacco Cessation Facilitator’s Training, Clean Indoor Air Study of Tribal Owned Casinos, Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline Tribal Specific Collateral Material Development, Helpline Testimonial TV commercials, Communities of Excellence Funded Grantees. Oklahoma (OK) Native American Tobacco Education Network and Tribal partners have trained Oklahoma’s helpline vendor and their staff on the sacred and ceremonial use of tobacco by OK tribes. Will work together with the OK Tobacco Helpline Secret Shopper Project to test for additional improvements.
- g. Shared Technical Assistance and Consultation:

- Serve on each other's committees (state/tribal)
 - Write grants together
 - Conduct studies together: Tribes have some control over some information that we use (e.g. tribes give approval)
 - Give presentations together
 - Successful partnership: Open and honest relationship, people call each other if there are questions or disagreements
- h. Reach out to new tribal partners and bring them to the table every year. Bring everyone together and work on the same issues.

VI. NCTOH 2009 Increasing Diversity/Eliminating Disparities Preliminary Program

- a. Jeannette Noltenius, National Coordinator, National Latino Tobacco Control Network and Bill Robinson, Executive Director, National African American Tobacco Prevention Network are serving as coordinators of the NCTOH Disparities Track (PowerPoint attached).

VII. General Announcements

- a. April 13-20, 2009: 7th Generation Conference
- b. May 12-13: Regional Information Exchange by the National African American Network, New Orleans– National African American Tobacco Prevention Network
- c. May 14-15: Latino Tobacco Summit in Seattle, WA – National Latino Network
- d. May 27 – American Indian Adult Tobacco Survey Training – Contact Lisa Kerfoot
- e. May 28-29: Power and Unity Conference Minnesota – National Latino Network
- f. May 30: Policy Meeting in Latino communities – National Latino Network
- g. May 6-7: Share the Care Cancer Conference in Wisconsin (Teresa Barber)

VIII. Closing

- a. Please email ttac@sph.emory.edu with any additional questions
- b. A Call Evaluation survey will be sent out by email after this call
- c. The next call will be scheduled for May 7, 2009, 3:00 (EDT)**