

AAHD

American Association on Health and Disability
110 N. Washington Street • Suite • 340-A Rockville, MD 20850

PUBLICATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND PROGRAMS PERTAINING TO AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE (AI/AN) PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

ADVOCACY

Title American Indian Choices: Culture and Context

Source Research and Training Center on Disability in Rural Communities, Montana

Format Model

Description When disability programs and services for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people are planned and developed, tribal needs are often forgotten or ignored. Although tribal members are eligible for the same services available to others, there are also services specifically tailored to tribal needs. Most tribes lag far behind in planning, creating, and accessing services for people with disabilities. This project demonstrated the Tribal Disability Actualization Model for American Indian tribes to use when considering disability issues and programs. This method respects tribal sovereignty and cultural diversity and is consistent with consumer-directed home- and community-based services. The project had three phases: 1) the Tribal Disability Actualization Model was used to consider issues of long-term care and personal care services, 2) selected tribes demonstrated this process to develop and implement policies and programs, and 3) the model was packaged and broadly disseminated. This model demonstrated methods each American Indian tribe or Alaska Native village could use to understand disability within its own unique social and cultural context.

Contact URL <http://rtc.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/Indian/AmlChoice.htm>

Contact Name

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Contact Dept.

Contact Agency American Indian Disability Technical Assistance Center
The University of Montana Rural Institute: A Center of Excellence
in Disabilities Education, Research and Services
52 Corbin Hall
Missoula, MT 59812-7056

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Title Native American Advocacy Project (NAAP)

Source

Format Advocacy project

Description NAAP is a statewide, non-profit, consumer and family membership organization for people living on and off the nine tribal nations in South Dakota. It is chartered both with the state of South Dakota and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. NAAP is committed to providing support to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people with all types of disabilities and their family members in system planning, decision-making, networking, advocacy, and service development for these populations. NAAP is also a cross disability organization, meaning that it is inclusive of persons with all types of disabilities, not limiting its efforts to only one or two disability groups but all persons with disabilities. NAAP provides prevention, education and training, advocacy, support, independent living skills and referrals.

Contact URL <http://www.sdnaap.org/>

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ARTHRITIS

Title “Arthritis – Still the Quiet, but Painful, Potentially Devastating Crippler” by Jeffrey Lisse, MD, Chief of Rheumatology, University of Arizona College of Medicine, Interim Director, University of Arizona Arthritis Center; and Gail Kershner Riggs, MA, CHES, Research Specialist, Principal, University of Arizona Arthritis Center, Tucson, Arizona

Source The IHS Primary Care Provider, November 2005 Volume 30 Number 11

Format Web journal article

Description This article gives some background information on the incidence of arthritis in American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people, as well as rheumatology clinical activities on

the reservations and the importance of identifying needs and creating partnerships. The University of Arizona Medical School in Tucson is dedicated to maintaining and expanding the clinical and educational outreach to the reservations. As well, the University of Arizona's Native American Research and Training Center identified the need for more preventative education about arthritis for AI/AN people and has developed patient education brochures about arthritis that are culturally specific to Arizona's AI/AN people.

Contact URL

<http://www.ihs.gov/PublicInfo/Publications/HealthProvider/issues/PROV1105.pdf>

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BARRIERS TO SERVICES

Title "People with Disabilities on Tribal Lands: Education, Health Care, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Independent Living"

Source National Council on Disability

Format Report

Description This report examines research on health, rehabilitation, independent living, and education issues that affect people with disabilities living in Indian Country and discusses perspectives of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people with disabilities, tribal leaders, and federal agency representatives identified as productive in meeting the needs of people with disabilities living in tribal lands. This report also discusses barriers and challenges to effective government-to-government relationships, provides statistics on AI/AN people Living in Indian Country Overall, People with Disabilities in these populations, and Types of Disabilities; Barriers to Provision of and Access to Appropriate Services for People with Disabilities in Indian Country; Funding for Health Programs; Assessing the Effectiveness of Strategies for Reducing Barriers to Provision of and Access to Appropriate Services; Independent Living and Transportation in Indian Country; Innovation in Removing Barriers; and a discussion of a series of interviews conducted with federal and regional officials on government-to-government improvements

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including Recommendations to Increase Effective Government-to-Government Working Relationships.

Contact URL http://www.ncd.gov/newsroom/publications/2003/tribal_lands.htm

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DISABILITIES

Title American Indian and Alaska Native Programs (AIANP)

Source University of Colorado at Denver

Format Research and information dissemination program

Description The mission of AIANP is to promote the health and well-being of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people by pursuing research, training, continuing education, technical assistance, and information dissemination. Programs include The Center for Native American Telehealth and Tele-education (CNATT), which uses telecommunication to address health-related needs of AI/AN communities; The Center on Native Elder Health Disparities (CNEHD), which focuses on Diabetes Care, Immunization, and Smoking Cessation; The Circles of Care initiative, which provides funding to plan and assess the feasibility of implementing a culturally appropriate mental health service model for AI/AN children with serious emotional/behavioral disturbances and their families; Project EXPORT, which plans and implements research on the health status and functioning of AI/AN people; The American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start Research Center (AIANHSRC), that develops national research on AI/AN Head Start and provides training to new AI/AN researchers; The National Center for American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Research (NCAIANMHR), which conducts research in the assessment, epidemiology, treatment, and prevention of mental illness; Native Elder Research Center (NERC)/Resource Center for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR), which focuses on AI/AN elder health by training AI/AN PhDs and MDs to conduct research; and The Special Diabetes Program for Indians Competitive Grant Program Coordinating Center, which funds two demonstration projects conducted at various sites across the U.S.

Contact URL <http://www.uchsc.edu/ai/index.htm>

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Title The Native American Research and Training Center (NARTC)

Source The University of Arizona Health Sciences Center

Format Training Center

Description NARTC serves as a national resource for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities and for people working with AI/AN people, especially those with chronic diseases or disabilities. The overall mission of NARTC is to conduct health related research and training projects that will help improve the quality of life for AI/AN people and promote active participation and partnership with AI/AN communities in all NARTC research and training programs.

Contact URL http://www.fcm.arizona.edu/research/nartc/NARTC_Publications.htm

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Title "Native American Students Receive Fellowships to Fight Against Diabetes, Substance Abuse and Beyond," April 21, 2006 by Vicki B. Gaubeca and Sandy Yang

Source The University of Arizona

Format News release

Description This news release discusses the work of four American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) students in the Master of Public Health Program in The University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health who have received a fellowship that aims to increase the number of underrepresented minority health professionals in the areas of substance abuse and diabetes among Hispanics and AI/AN people. The students, Kathryn Eagle, MD, Raysenia James, Adeline Tsosie and Angie Farnsworth were chosen to take part in the Center for Health Equality/Project EXPORT Fellowship Training Program, which will give these fellows a chance to participate in prevention and intervention programs in two communities, Southside Tucson and Hard Rock on the Navajo Nation in northeast Arizona. The fellowship will further the students' goals to help AI/AN people and other groups with health issues.

Contact URL <http://www.ahsc.arizona.edu/opa/news/apr06/export.htm>

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Title **Understanding Disabilities in American Indian and Alaska Native Communities: Toolkit Guide**, August 1, 2003

Source National Council on Disability

Format publication

Description This publication includes statistics on American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people with disabilities, as well as information on: health care for with disabilities, Medicaid, Sports & Recreation, Education, Special Education Programs, Independent Living, Native

American Independent Living Services (NAILS), Native American Advocacy Project (NAAP), Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Resources, Assistive Technology, Housing and Facilities, Transportation, and Advocating Change.

Contact URL http://www.ncd.gov/newsroom/publications/2003/native_toolkit.htm

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FITNESS

Title Health Promotion Programs (HPP)

Source University Outreach, College of Continuing Education
The University of Oklahoma

Format Health Promotion Program

Description HPP was established at the University of Oklahoma to meet the growing needs in health promotion and wellness for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people, as well as Native Hawaiian, and First Nations people. Annually, HPP conducts AI/AN wellness conferences which include Wellness & Native Men, Wellness & Native Women, Wellness & Spirituality, and Native Women & Men's Wellness Conferences. HPP also conducts an AI/AN Diabetes Prevention Conference, which offers the Native Fitness Training, an innovative health promotion program designed to train individuals to become community fitness leaders and instructors. Upon completing this three-day intensive training, participants are prepared to implement and instruct aerobic exercise classes in their AI/AN communities. A training manual has been developed through a collaboration of AI/AN and non- AI/AN health professionals. This training has been adapted to target those working with people with special needs due to disabilities and/or chronic disease.

Contact URL <http://hpp.ou.edu/>

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MENTAL HEALTH

Title "APA Committee Strives to Recruit Native Americans to Psychiatry" by Eve Bender

Source Psychiatric News November 5, 2004, Volume 39 Number 21, [American Psychiatric Association](#)

Format Article

Description This article describes the presentation given by Frank Brown, M.D., chair of the American Psychiatric Association's (APA) Committee of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Psychiatrists at the 2004 Indian Health Summit in Washington, D.C., in September 2004. The summit was held by the Indian Health Service (IHS). APA reaches out to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) college students, medical students, and psychiatry residents in the hopes of adding more diversity to the psychiatric workforce and focuses on the need for improved mental health services in AI/AN communities. Dr. Brown outlined the importance of educating AI/AN people about major mental illnesses and their impact on communities and the need to be aggressive about suicide prevention in this population. He emphasized the need to teach AI/AN people that depression is "common, treatable, and does not imply a weakness in character." Brown also discussed the importance of preventing early onset of alcohol and drug abuse in AI/AN people, who have been found to be as much as seven times more likely to have alcohol-related problems as those in the general population. Brown also addressed the need to recruit AI/AN people into the psychiatric work-force.

Contact URL <http://pn.psychiatryonline.org/cgi/content/full/39/21/2>

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Title First Nations Behavioral Health Association (FNBHA)

Source

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Format Advocacy organization

Description FNBHA provides an organization for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people to advocate for the mental well being of AI/AN people by increasing knowledge and awareness of issues impacting AI/AN mental health.

Contact URL <http://www.fnbha.org/index.php>

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MOBILITY DISABILITY

Title “Wheeling into the Future--Lack of Services Holding Down Disabled People on Reservation” by Pamela G. Dempsey

Source Independent Web edition, Monday, January 31, 2005

Format Web article

Description This article discusses the changes made to Julia Denetsosie's life since she was involved in an automobile accident and became a quadriplegic. Denetsosie, a single mom living in Kayenta, Arizona with three children, finds that because leaving her house has to be planned days in advance, her accessibility to places is limited and she does not leave her home often. While urban life offers multiple services to those with disabilities, the Navajo Nation does not, due to lack of funds, infrastructure and sometimes awareness. The article describes the efforts of the Toh' di'neesh zhee Support Group, which is trying to connect with other tribes and border-town groups to bring better services to their area. Lack of services, lack of transportation, and lack of support cause many people with disabilities to be isolated and depressed.

Contact URL <http://www.gallupindependent.com/2005/jan/013105wheeling.html>

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REHABILITATION

Title Consortium for Administrators of Native American Rehabilitation (CANAR)

Source

Format Consortium

Description CANAR facilitates collaboration and cooperation among administrators of rehabilitation projects serving American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people with disabilities by 1) providing a forum to enable administrators to study, deliberate, and act upon matters affecting rehabilitation with the ultimate goal of expanding quality rehabilitation services to AI/AN people with disabilities; 2) providing a resource for the formulation and expression of collective points of view of administrators on issues affecting rehabilitation on reservations, trust territories, Alaska Native villages, and across the country and to disseminate these views to service providers, related facilities, companies, and concerned citizens, 3) providing a means of communication with related organizations and governmental bodies on matters related to rehabilitation service provision, education and research; 4) conducting and supporting research demonstration which leads to an improvement of rehabilitation services for AI/AN people with disabilities on reservations, trust territories, Alaska Native villages, and across the country; 5) promoting and maintaining service outcomes that develop a professional identity for practitioners in rehabilitation whose career goals are rehabilitation service provision, education, and administration to AI/AN people with disabilities; and 6) conducting and supporting efforts to increase the number of AI/AN practitioners in Vocational Rehabilitation.

Contact URL www.canar.org/index.shtml

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Title **Rehabilitation and American Indians with Disabilities by Cathryn Marshall**

Source Women's International Leadership Institute

Format Handbook

Description The purpose of this book is to introduce administrators, practitioners, and community members to working with American Indian/American Native (AI/AN) people with disabilities, provide models of intervention and training in terms of rehabilitation practice, and to present cultural factors and ethical concerns which influence models of research. It was intended that the lessons learned and the needs identified would serve to inform those helping AI/AN people with disabilities of the best practices for intervention with this population.

Contact URL <http://www.wili.org/>

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SPINAL CORD INJURY

Title **"A Community-Based Intervention To Improve The Quality Of Life Of Navajo Patients Living With Spinal Cord Injuries In Indian Country"** by Ellen Lerner Rothman.

Source IHS Primary Care Provider, Dec 2004;29(12):273-276

Format Web Journal article

Description This article reviews the 2003 report by the National Council on Disability (NCD) which found that American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people have higher rates of physical and mental disability than the general population. Several features of reservation life, which include poverty, geographic isolation, limited employment opportunities, and exemption from much of the federal disability rights legislation contribute to the challenges faced by AI/AN people with disabilities. The article discusses the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act as they apply to tribes and reports on a community-based intervention project to improve the quality of life of Navajo patients with spinal cord injuries in the Kayenta Service Unit area of the Navajo Nation in Kayenta, Arizona.

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Contact URL

<http://www.ihs.gov/PublicInfo/Publications/HealthProvider/issues/PROV1204.pdf>

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SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Title **Accommodating Alcohol Abuse and Dependency in the Workplace: Helping American Indians and Alaska Natives with Alcohol-Related Disabilities, May 2006**

Source

American Indian Disability Technical Assistance Center (AIDTAC)

Format

AIDTAC Practice Guideline

Description

While the American Indian Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (AIRRTC) identified alcohol abuse or dependency as the specific disability most needing attention among American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people, one study finding is that the stereotype of “the drunk American Indian” is a myth. Other research findings show that alcohol abuse and dependency are problems for some AI/AN people in some places, most often during certain times and under certain circumstances. Unfortunately, however, the myth of “the drunk American Indian” prevails, thus affecting employment opportunities for many. Employers are sometimes faced with employees, AI/AN and non-AI/AN alike, who have struggled with alcohol abuse or dependency, or due to certain life circumstances develop an alcohol problem. For employers with AI/AN employees who are concerned that an employee may have a problem with alcohol, this practice guideline will offer some resources for helping employees. Included in the guideline are discussions of The Difference Between Alcohol Abuse and Dependence; Alcohol Abuse and Alcohol Dependence: Signs, Symptoms, and Effects; Recommended Supports and Other Considerations; Guidance on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Alcohol Abuse; EEOC’s Overview of Legal Obligations; and Accommodation Considerations for People with Alcoholism.

Contact URL <http://aidtac.ruralinstitute.umn.edu/AlcoholAbuse.htm>

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Title **Fact Sheet: Native American Indians**

Source The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of Health and Human Services

Format Fact sheet

Description This fact sheet provides statistics on American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people; stresses the need for mental health care for this population; discusses the availability of, access to and use of mental health services by AI/AN people; and explores the appropriateness and outcomes of mental health services.

Contact URL <http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/cre/fact4.sp>

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Title **In Their Own Voice: Native Americans Address Substance Abuse In UI Videos** by Sara Epstein

Source FYI: Faculty and Staff News February 8, 2002, Volume 39, No. 10 from the University of Iowa

Format Article

Description This article describes the 27-minute video titled "Sucker Punched", produced by the UI Video Center and the Prairielands Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) in which an Oglala Lakota who had been drinking heavily at a party was carrying a revolver that he believed to be unloaded. It wasn't, and when his friend asked to see the gun, the man accidentally shot his friend in the face and killed him. The Oglala Lakota credits this tragic episode, which ultimately led to his recovery from drug and alcohol dependence, to a higher spiritual power that "sucker punched" him off of his self-destructive path. "Sucker Punched" is one of two videos conceived by the Prairielands ATTC and produced at the Video Center that seek to address this issue publicly. "Nagi Kicopi: Calling Back the Spirit" is a 57-minute documentary that weaves oral histories showing how white men introduced alcohol to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people and focuses on the challenges of substance abuse that many AI/AN people face. The videos target health care professionals by showing them the negative impact substance abuse has on AI/AN communities.

Contact URL http://www.uiowa.edu/~fyi/issues/issues2001_v39/02082002/videos.html

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Title White Bison, Incorporated

Source

Format Non-profit Organization

Description White Bison, Incorporated, an American Indian non profit organization, offers sobriety, recovery, addictions prevention, and wellness/Wellbriety learning resources to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people nation wide. Many non-AI/AN people also use White Bison's resource products, attend its learning circles, and volunteer their services. White Bison is a facilitator of the Wellbriety Movement, which means to be sober and well and teaches that one must find sobriety from addictions to alcohol and other drugs and recover from the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol on individuals, families and whole communities. White

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Bison's mission is to assist in bringing 100 AI/AN communities into healing by 2010 and is being realized by means of Wellbriety resources, Wellbriety conferences, specialized community training events, Wellbriety coalitions, and grassroots Firestarters circles of recovery groups across the nation. White Bison participates in coalitions, networks and events to provide a voice for AI/AN people in recovery and healing.

Contact URL <http://www.whitebison.org/about/index.html>

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SUICIDE

Title American Indian Life Skills Development Curriculum by Teresa D. LaFromboise

Source

Format Curriculum

Description American Indian Life Skills Development Curriculum is a course for high school students and some middle school students that is designed to drastically reduce suicidal thinking and behavior. Created in collaboration with students and community members from the Zuni Pueblo and the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, this curriculum addresses key issues in American Indian/Alaska Native adolescents' lives and teaches such life skills as communication, problem solving, depression and stress management, anger regulation, and goal setting. The course is unique in its skills-based approach. After first increasing awareness and knowledge of suicide, it then teaches students specific methods to help a peer turn away from suicidal thinking and seek help from an appropriate help-giver. The skills-based approach of this curriculum follows well-established teaching methods to develop social skills. Teachers and peers inform students of the rationale and components of a particular skill, demonstrate the skill for them, and later provide feedback on individual skill performance.

Contact URL <http://www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress/books/0129.htm>

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Title Fact Sheet To Prevent Suicide In The American Indian Population

Source American Indian Health Council

Format Fact Sheet

Description This fact sheet describes the social characteristics of the American Indian/Alaska Native most inclined toward a completed suicide and lists ten preventive steps.

Contact URL <http://aihc1998.tripod.com/suicide.html>

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Contact Agency American Indian Health Council is a project of Community Partners
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Title The Indian Health Service Suicide Prevention Work Plan by Peter Stuart, MD, Chairperson, National Indian Health Service Suicide Prevention Committee (SPC), and Chief, Mental Health Services, Chinle Service Unit, Navajo Area Indian Health Services, Chinle, Arizona

Source The IHS Primary Care Provider, September 2005 Volume 30 Number 9

Format Web journal article

Description In 2003, the Indian Health Service (IHS), under the leadership of Dr. Charles Grim, chartered the IHS Suicide Prevention Committee (SPC) with identifying and defining steps needed to reduce the impact of suicide and suicide-related behaviors on American

Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities. Members of the committee were selected to represent affected AI/AN communities from a broad geographic distribution and from mixed settings. The committee met face-to-face and by phone and consulted with a variety of sources in developing what is now known as the IHS National Suicide Prevention Committee Work Plan. The plan follows, in many aspects, the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, which is a national initiative to reduce the impact of suicide and suicide-related behaviors. The goal of The IHS Suicide Prevention Committee Work Plan is to develop, advocate for, and coordinate a comprehensive cultural- and community-based approach to reduce suicidal behaviors and suicides in AI/AN communities.

Contact URL

<http://www.ihs.gov/PublicInfo/Publications/HealthProvider/issues/PROV0905.pdf>

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Title **Joint Statement from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the American Psychiatric Association for the Senate Indian Affairs Committee Hearing on Teen Suicide Among American Indian Youth, May 17, 2006**

Source The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) and the The American Psychiatric Association (APA)

Format Statement

Description This statement describes suicide as the second leading cause of death for 15 to 24 year old American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youths. Suicide is often the result of missed opportunities to treat problems such as depression, alcohol and substance abuse, child abuse, and domestic violence, all of which are prevalent in communities. The statement cites these barriers to care in AI/AN communities: AI/AN youth receive mental health services from multiple informal providers, which often impedes coordination and continuity of care; geographical remoteness of some AI/AN reservations; multi-generational poverty; and lack of access to specialty mental health services. The statement calls for increased suicide screening and treatment and more research on the safety and efficacy of antidepressant medications in

children and adolescents. Policy recommendations include increased access to mental health care in AI/AN communities, the creation and funding of suicide prevention programs that destigmatize mental illness, and the use of screening instruments to identify adolescents at risk for suicide. Officials encourage the Senate Indian Affairs Committee Hearing in this statement to continue to increase clinical and preventive mental health and substance abuse services to AI/AN people.

Contact URL <http://216.239.51.104/search?q=cache:29ITmrIh-ZMJ:www.aacap.org/galleries/LegislativeAction/SenIndianYShrg5-06.pdf+%22native+american%22+psychiatric&hl=en&ql=us&ct=clnk&cd=18>

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Title **Suicide in Rural Areas: Lost In Rural America--the Challenges, the Progress, the Hope--Tragedy in Indian Country, July/August 2005, Volume I Issue 2**

Source Advancing Suicide Prevention Journal

Format Journal Issue

Description This issue discusses: soaring suicide among American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people living in rural America; the fatal connection between firearms and completed suicide; challenges in accessing mental health care in rural America; the breakdown of the AI/AN family growing worse in part by a high prevalence of depression, anxiety, substance abuse, violence and suicide on isolated rural reservations nationwide; the tragedy at Standing Rock in December 2004 and January 2005 when five young people took their lives; statistics on the suicide rate for AI/AN youths compared to the national average; psychologist-farmer Mike

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Rosmann who works to prevent suicide in agricultural communities; how forced sale of the farm can place farmers at risk for suicide; the importance of considering cultural differences when determining how to prevent suicide; that sparse services and stigma are contributors to high suicide rates in rural America.

Contact URL http://www.advancingsp.org/ASP_July_August_2005.pdf

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