

Native VOICES Site Recruitment Letter



Dear Community Partner,

Teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are still a serious concern for our young people. Through Project Red Talon, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) is working with tribal and federal partners to address these issues.

What is Native VOICES?

Within Project Red Talon, the Native VOICES project is funded by a grant from the Indian Health Service. Over the past two years, project staff have worked closely with tribes, urban Indian health clinics, and a variety of tribal health partners to adapt and evaluate an STD/HIV/pregnancy prevention intervention (*Video Opportunities for Innovative Condom Education and Safer Sex - VOICES*) for Native teens and young adults.

The goal of the research project is to create a sexual health video and health curriculum that is culturally- and age-appropriate for Native teens and young adults. Native VOICES teaches young people about sexual health. There is information included to help young people understand more about STDs, how to protect themselves during sex, and how to make important decisions with their sexual partners.

Recruiting Sites: Why are we contacting you?

We want to test the Native VOICES program to see if it is effective among Native teens and young adults (15-24 years old). We are soliciting tribal and urban sites across Indian Country interested in participating in the study.

Recruiting Participants: What would our young people do?

Young people who choose to participate in the study will be assigned to either watch a sexual health video or will receive a packet of sexual health brochures. All participants will be asked - over the course of one year - to fill out three paper-based surveys. Survey questions will ask about young people's knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs about sexual health topics and using protection. Youth will also be asked very basic demographic information, like their age, gender, and race/ethnicity.

Other Important details:

- Each participating site must identify 2 Site Coordinators who will work with NPAIHB staff to recruit youth, administer the program and surveys, and follow-up with youth to ensure full participation
- Sites must have at least 75 youth (ages 15-24 years old) who are eligible to participate in the study
- Sites will receive approximately \$2,000 to cover printing, marketing, transportation, and facility costs in relationship to the study
- Each Site Coordinator will be receive \$1,000 for his/her efforts
- As a thank you, participants will receive incentives each time s/he completes a survey

How can we participate?

If you have any questions or would like to work together on this project by helping us recruit AI/AN teens and young adults from your tribe, community, school, or organization, please contact the Project Coordinator, Mattie Tomeo-Palmanteer at 503-416-3294, mtomeo-palmanteer@npaihb.org or the Project Director, Stephanie Craig Rushing, at 503-416-3290, scraig@npaihb.org. If your site is interested in participating, please read the attached memorandum of agreement to understand more fully what participation will entail. Then fill out the attached "Site Request to Participate" form and return it to Mattie.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Craig Rushing, PhD, MPH
Native VOICES Project Director
Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board