

## *The Northwest Tribal Navigator Story*

In 2005, the National Cancer Institute, with support from the American Cancer Society awarded grants to nine research institutions to establish the Patient Navigator Research Program (PNRP). These institutions are charged with developing innovative patient navigator interventions to reduce or eliminate cancer health disparities and test their efficacy and cost-effectiveness. As a selected site, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) expanded the Northwest Tribal Cancer Navigator Program (NTCNP), which has been in operation since 2003 at the Puyallup Tribal Health Authority and Yakama Indian Health Center.

The NTCNP is a community-based intervention addressing barriers to timely, quality cancer diagnosis and care for American Indians. The overall aim of the NTCNP is to reduce delays of cancer diagnosis and care. Special emphasis of the NTCNP will be describing the unique cultural approach to cancer navigation in four reservation communities: Grand Ronde, Shoshone-Bannock, Siletz, and Yakama.

## *To contact a Navigator:*



Grand Ronde Health  
& Wellness Center  
Grand Ronde, OR  
(800) 775-0095



Shoshone-Bannock Tribes  
Tribal Health  
& Human Services  
Fort Hall, ID  
(208) 238-5435 [x3942]



Siletz Community  
Health Center  
Siletz, OR  
(800) 648-0449



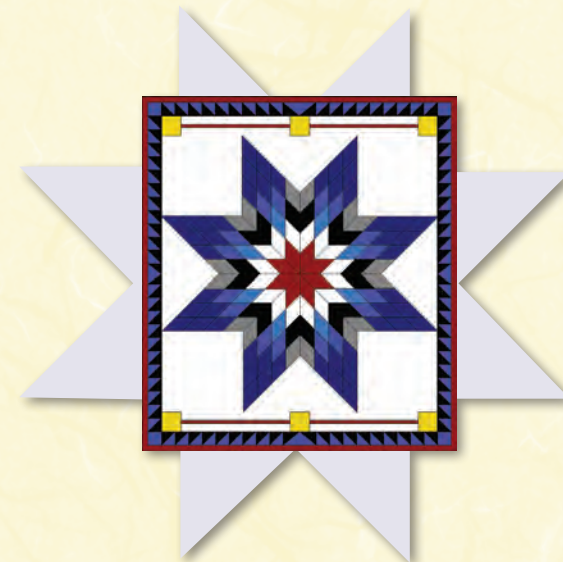
Yakama Indian  
Health Center  
Toppenish, WA  
(509) 865-2102

## *For questions about the program contact:*



Northwest Portland Area  
Indian Health Board  
Portland, OR  
(877) 664-0603  
[www.npaihb.org](http://www.npaihb.org)

*Funding for this program comes from:*



Northwest Tribal  
Cancer Navigator  
PROGRAM

*Coordinating cancer care  
and outreach screening  
through diagnosis,  
treatment and resolution*

## *What is a Navigator?*

A Navigator works with you to make sure you get a proper diagnosis and—if you need it—care for cancer. Some Navigators are nurses while others are community health workers. The Navigators have training in helping people with their health care.

Navigators are now breaking down barriers to care in some places. The Northwest Tribal Cancer Navigator Program (NTCNP) is conducting research to see if this service works for Northwest Indian people. We are also looking for ways to improve this service.

## *Who is the Navigator For?*

The Navigators are for all patients who have cancer. They also help people who have screening tests or symptoms that may mean they have cancer. Navigators work in the four selected community clinics:

*Grand Ronde Health & Wellness,  
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Tribal Health,  
Siletz Community Health,  
and Yakama Indian Health Center.*

## *Why Have a Navigator?*

Clients meet with the Navigator to help make decisions and solve problems in their cancer journeys.

### **Navigators can help patients with:**

- Understanding cancer information
- Managing medications
- Figuring out how to pay for procedures
- Finding transportation
- Making appointments
- Communicating with doctors
- Assisting with family needs

### **The Navigator Program cannot pay for cancer treatments or screenings.**

But, we will try and connect you with other organizations that can.



Northwest Tribal  
Cancer Navigator  
P R O G R A M

## *Learning About the Journey...*

When working with a Navigator, you will be asked to share information regarding your cancer journey with a researcher. It is not mandatory that you share your information. A Navigator will work with you whether you choose to share or not.

All information you provide will be held and used with the highest level of confidentiality. The information will be used to determine whether the Navigators help patients with their journey of diagnosed cancer or cancer screening.

## *How To Get Started?*

To talk to a Navigator, get in touch with one of our sponsored clinics and ask to speak with a Navigator. You can also visit your clinic during regular hours to make an appointment.

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