

Research with Urban Indian Communities

Urban Indian Health Institute, Seattle Indian Health Board

April 27, 2018



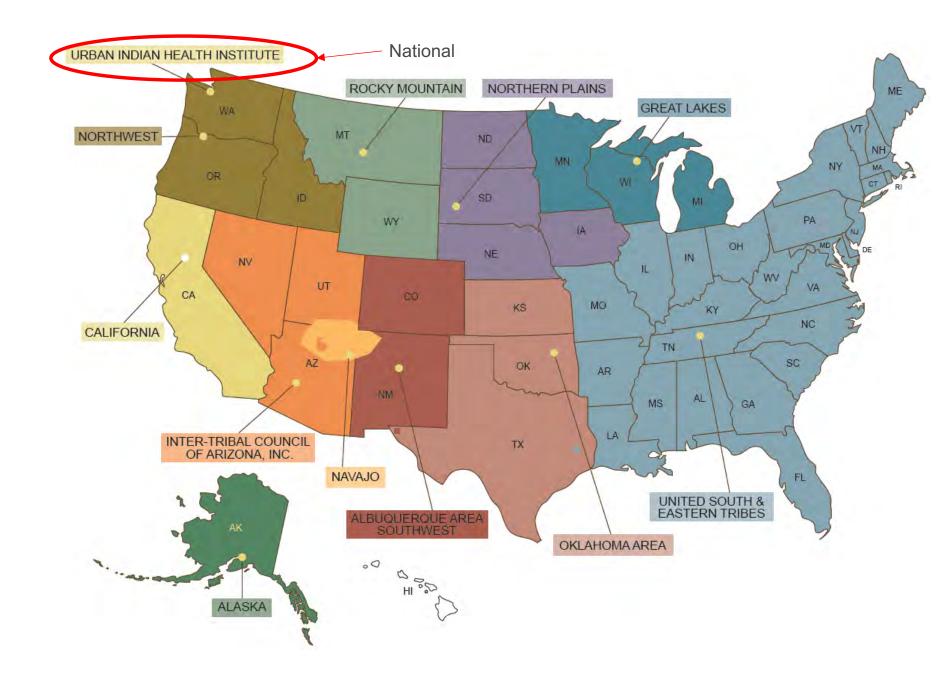
Abigail Echo-Hawk Director Rosalina James Dir Evaluation & Research



Urban Indian Health Institute

- Established in 2000 as a division of the Seattle Indian Health Board
- Mission to support the health and wellbeing of urban Indian communities through information, scientific inquiry, and technology
- Unique features
 - National scope
 - Integrated into a primary care clinic



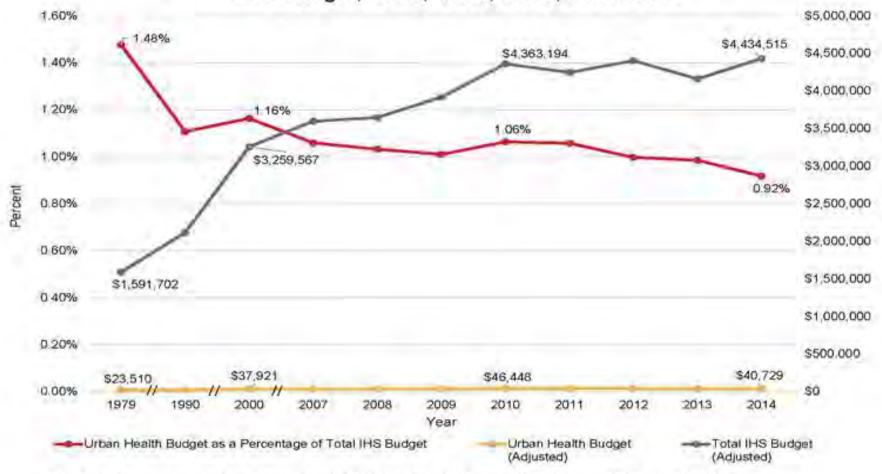


Urban Indian Demographics

- American Indians/Alaska Natives alone or in combination w/ other races
 - Approximate population Count: 1.5
 Million
- 78% of American Indian/Alaska Natives live off reservations
- 71% of Al/ANs live in urban areas



IHS Budget and Urban Indian Health Budget as a Percentage of the Total IHS Budget; 1979, 1990, 2000, 2007-2014



Note: Budget appropriations data have been adjusted to 2014 dollars using the Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI Inflation Calculator Sources:

Indian Health Service, History of Appropriations 1911-1982

Indian Health Service. Health Service Appropriation History; 1983-1999.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Indian Health Service: Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees, 2002, 2009-2015

History of Mistreatment - Mistrust

Abusive health systems – 1970's forced sterilization



Tribes confront painful legacy of Indian boarding schools Marsha King, Seattle Times, Feb 3, 2008

"I got to know that strap...Everybody knew what that strap was for, hanging inside the door."

- Genevieve Williams, Tulalip

"I used to stand in the window and cry."

-Fran James, Lummi





History of Mistreatment - Mistrust

Exploitation by biomedical research

- Bioprospecting, denigration of culture, forced assimilation
- Havasupai and Nuu-chah-nulth samples used for research that was unauthorized by the tribes
- Helicopter research take blood/info, never learn outcomes, no tangible benefit

History of Mistreatment - Mistrust

Mistrust of academic research due to historical and current trauma inflicted in the name of "knowledge for the greater good"

- Increasing involvement in/control over research process
- Time to act on health and social factors



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