

EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION WITH AMERICAN INDIANS & ALASKA NATIVES IN CALIFORNIA



UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

INLAND DESERT TRAINING &
RESOURCE CENTER
UC SAN DIEGO



PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

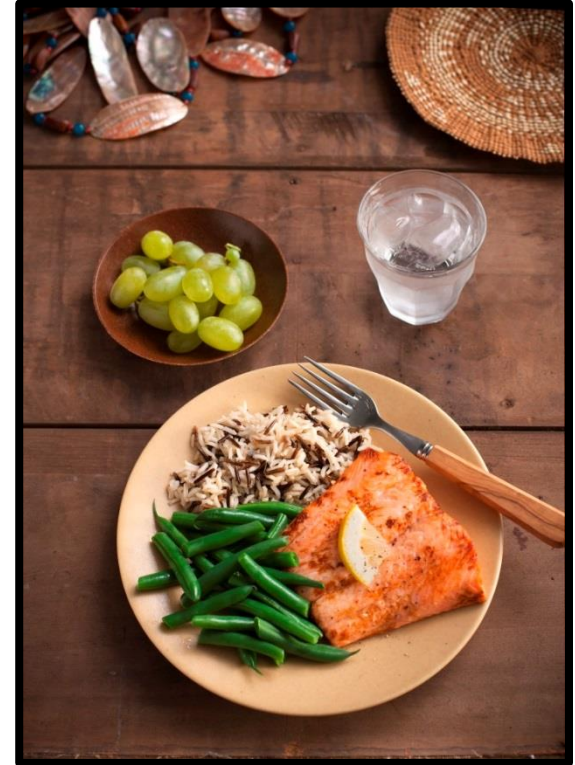
WELCOME!

FACILITATOR:
ELLE MARI


PANEL:
REBECCA GARROW
JACOB DUNLAP
CALVIN HEDRICK

OBJECTIVE

Learn how to effectively outreach to American Indian and Alaska Native audiences and build cultural awareness in partnering with tribal organizations.



OVERVIEW

- **Background of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIAN) in California**
 - Cultural strengths
 - Existing community assets
 - **Importance of Partnerships**
 - **Everything You Wanted to Know but Were Afraid to Ask**
 - **Collective Wisdom: Group Discussion**
- 

NEOPB AIAN CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

- Established FFY 2014
- Public Health Institute staff @ NEOP
- Culturally competent materials
- Focus groups, pilot testing
- **3 Subcontractors**
 - 5th Direction
 - Sacramento Native American Health Center
 - United Indian Health Services



CALIFORNIA INDIANS



CALIFORNIA

- 723,225 AIAN (1.9%)
- 109 Federally Recognized Tribes
- 45 Tribes seeking reinstatement or recognition
- Tribal population: ranges from 5 to over 4,000



California Indian Pre-contact Tribal Territories



California Indians Root Languages



CALIFORNIA AIAN HISTORY

- ??? – 1769 (Pre-Contact)
- 1769-1950's (Genocide, Assimilation, Relocation)
- 1950's – Present



CALIFORNIA AIAN HEALTH STATUS

- ??? – 1769 (Pre-Contact):
Indigenous foods & healthy lifestyles
- 1769-1950's :
Food Insecurity & Malnutrition
- 1950's – Present:
Food commodities, diabetes, revitalization



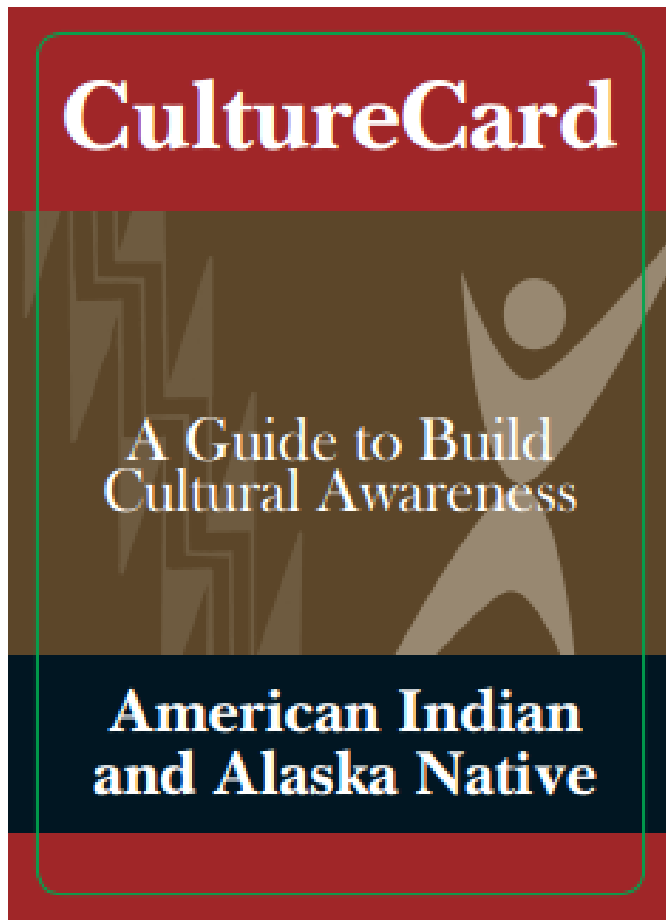
WHAT'S UP WITH AIAN?

- Aren't we supposed to say Native American?
- Hey, Alaska Natives – aren't they Indians, too?
- How about Indigenous groups from Mexico? Canada?



**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:
AMERICAN INDIANS & ALASKA NATIVES
(AIAN)**





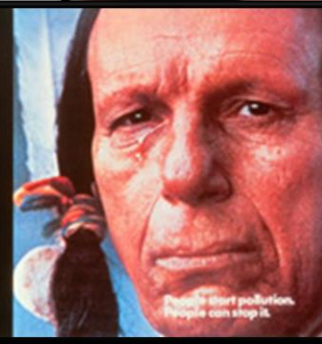
Available at:
www.samhsa.gov

“Some spiritual principles are universal across all tribes in California: Being honest. Having courage and integrity. Forgiving self and others. Loving.”

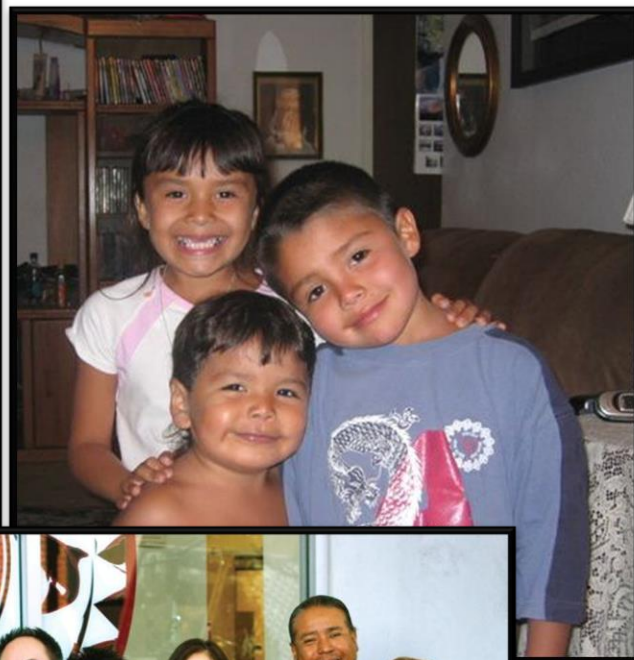
*Albert Titman Sr. (Miwok)
Behavioral Health Manager
Sacramento Native American Health Center*

MYTH: AIAN ARE SPIRITUAL AND LIVE IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

- Broad generalization
- Romantic stereotype



MYTH: YOU CAN IDENTIFY AIAN BY HOW THEY LOOK



MYTH: AIAN HAVE THE HIGHEST RATE OF ALCOHOLISM

- Control for socioeconomic status = no difference in rates
- AIAN have highest rate of complete abstinence from alcohol



MYTH: AIAN PEOPLE ALL GET “INDIAN MONEY” AND DON’T PAY TAXES.

- AIAN pay income and sales tax – just like the rest of us!



MYTH: THANKS TO CASINOS, AIAN ARE RICH!

- Of 560 Tribes across the nation, less than half operate gaming facilities
 - 75% reinvest \$ directly in to community
- Only 73 tribes distributed direct payments (“per capita”) to tribal members



STRENGTHS OF AIAN COMMUNITY

- Role of elders; family, community
- Indigenous and generational knowledge/wisdom
- Survival skills and resiliency in the face of multiple challenges



STRENGTHS OF AIAN COMMUNITY

- Community pride
- Retention & reclamation of traditional language and cultural practices
- Ability to “walk in two worlds” (mainstream & AIAN culture)

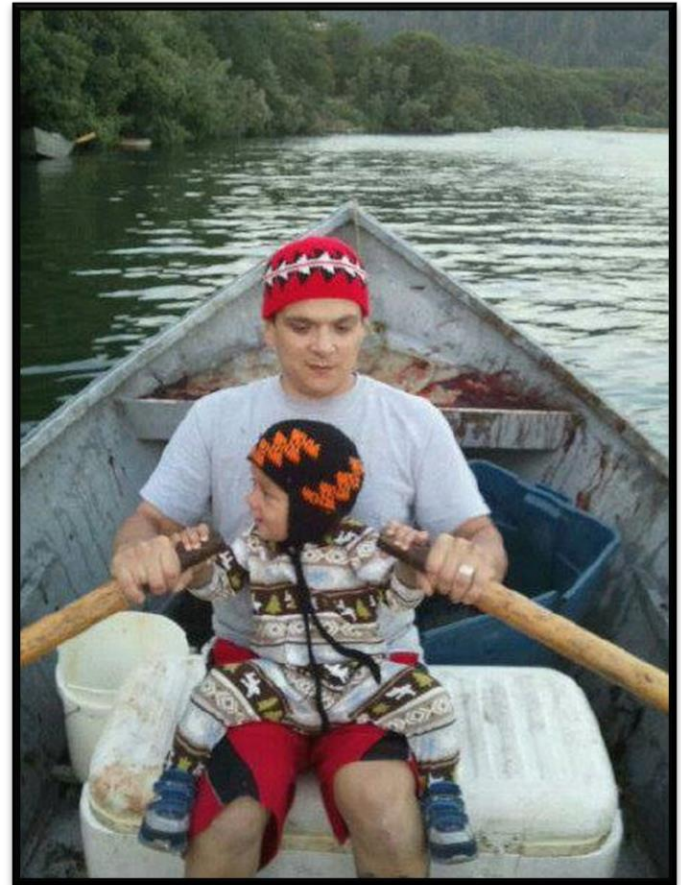


*Facebook Photo Caption:
Cap+North Face Jacket = Modern Indian*

WORKING WITH TRIBES AND AIAN

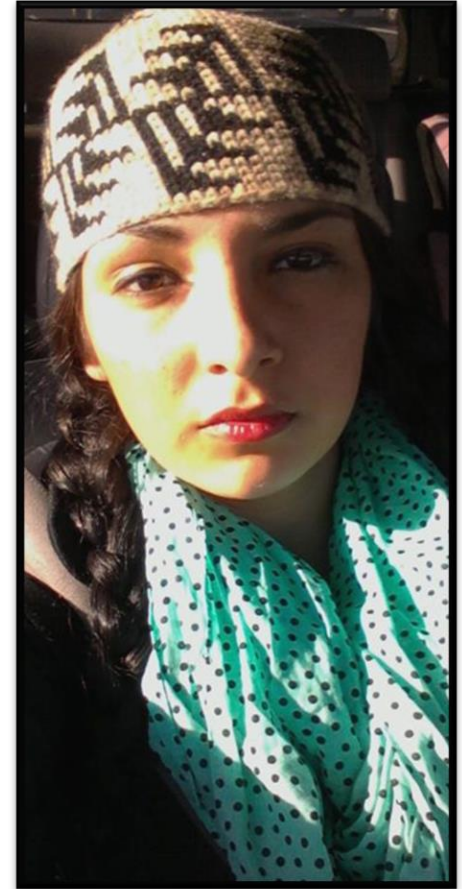
ETIQUETTE DO'S

- Learn how the tribe refers to itself/its people
- Be honest , clear, respectful
- Establish rapport with casual conversation, self-disclosure, allow humor
- Allow storytelling and sharing
- Admit limited knowledge of AIAN culture
- Accept food/beverages
- Respect confidentiality
- Avoid jargon



WORKING WITH TRIBES AND AIAN ETIQUETTE DON'TS

- Stereotype
- Interrupt; Ask intrusive questions
- Impose your personal values/beliefs
- Touch people/objects without permission
- Take pictures without permission
- Use any information or pictures gained by working with the community for presentations/research/etc. without **express written consent.**
- Tell stories of distant AIAN relatives in your genealogy as an attempt to establish rapport unless you have maintained a connection with that community



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS: WHERE TO START?

- Call, email, face-to-face
- Start with the Tribal Secretary
- Home field advantage
- Attend the meeting
- **Tribal Health Councils**
 - Board of Director Meetings
 - Health Program Councils

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS: CLEAR INTENTIONS

Be CLEAR in Your Intentions

- History of distrust
- Give honest answers; admit when you don't know
- Be familiar with eligibility requirements.
- When tailoring resources: know your audience
 - North America – California – Region – Tribal specific

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES FROM OUR PANEL

FOOD AND CULTURE



JACOB DUNLAP

MINNESOTA OJIBWE

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES FROM OUR PANEL

FOOD AND CULTURE

CALVIN HEDRICK

MOUNTAIN MAIDU



PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES FROM OUR PANEL

FOOD AND CULTURE

REBECCA GARROW

PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

AIAN CAMPAIGN MANAGER



PANEL Q&A

{ 5 Minutes }

**Everything you want to know
(but might be afraid to ask!)
about AIAN in California**

- Please submit questions via chat function or raise hand (both on side panel).

COLLECTIVE WISDOM: GROUP DISCUSSION

{ 5 Minutes }

We want to hear from you!

- Best Practices;
Lessons Learned;
Success Stories
- Take-away
thoughts/inspirations?

THANK YOU!

GET IN TOUCH:

ELLE MARI

SENIOR MANAGER, TRAINING &
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

INLAND DESERT TRC

UC SAN DIEGO

619-681-0655

EMARI@UCSD.EDU

REBECCA GARROW, MPH

PROGRAM MANAGER

PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

916-449-5453

REBECCA.GARROW@PHI.ORG