



NICOA

National Indian Council On Aging
Advocating for American Indian and Alaska Native Elders

Dear Tribal Leader,

The National Indian Council on Aging, Inc. (NICOA) is eager to include your Tribe, Nation, Band, or Pueblo in the development of an upcoming project called **Tribal Footprints.org** as a service to our people. 19 Tribal Nations have already committed to participating in this project and we would like you to join us!

NICOA is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization founded in 1976 by members of the National Tribal Chairmen's Association. Members included the late Wendell Chino (Mescalero Apache), the late Joe DeLaCruz, (Quinault), and other tribal leaders. These leaders saw the need for a national organization whose sole purpose is to advocate for improved comprehensive health, social services, and economic wellbeing for American Indian and Alaska Native Elders. You can view our website at: www.nicoa.org.

Our aim with this grant funded project is to find solutions that allow Elders to remain in their own homes and tribal communities as they age. TribalFootprints.org will provide Elder resources and information to assist them in navigating the services they might need to live comfortably at home.

We are in the process of building a database to provide critical information for all tribal Elders regarding their health and wellbeing. We will provide each tribal community with a personalized webpage on the site containing detailed contact information including your tribal government contacts along with other localized aging related resources and services that are specific to the tribal Elders' needs. Some examples might include caregiving support, transportation, home modification, and home and community based services.

Our goal is to provide an easily accessible, comprehensive webpage for Elders that will be precisely detailed to your distinct community. It will save them time and frustration that may arise as they search for necessary information. Older people can often get discouraged and delay in taking good care of their health when they cannot find certain avenues to wellness. This webpage will assist by alleviating and preventing some of the obstacles that can be aggravating to an Elder, especially if they are already not feeling well. The information will be Elder-friendly, concise and accessible at any time for free.

We are asking for your assistance with this project. We request your written permission to use information that may be posted on your website or in other locations. What we would like to include is the information and addresses on things such as your tribal government contacts and established health clinics and other services for Elders that you may have. This will be the basis for your Elders' particular web page on our site.

Secondly, TribalFootprints.org will be a tool to educate the Aging Network outside Indian country and create better opportunities to collaborate between state and tribal nations to partner to improve aging services within Indian country.

We envision 566 tribal webpages, each incorporating cultural and social events specific to each tribe. This would help to create an engaging, welcoming environment for your tribal Elders. To accomplish this, we would appreciate your permission to electronically gather your tribal seal or logo and photos to bring life and energy to your webpage.

Please consider our heartfelt request as an effort to improve the lives and wellbeing of all of our older American Indian/Alaska Native citizens. We have the best interest for all as we work to improve communications and the access to quality care for our beloved Elders. If you have any questions you may call the Tribal Footprints Project Coordinator Rebecca Owl Morgan at 505-292-2001 ex. 28. We hope to hear from you very soon so we may begin work on your webpage for the project.

We are attaching a Release Agreement page that you may fax, scan and/or mail back to us as soon as possible. Our fax number is: 505-292-1922.

The simplest way to respond is to **visit our website and submit an electronic signature which is accessible here: www.nicoa.org/tribalfootprints.org.**

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Randella Bluehouse
Executive Director

Paid for through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging

10501 Montgomery Blvd., N.E. Suite 210 Albuquerque, New Mexico 8711
Phone: 505-292-2001 Fax: 505-292-1922 Email: info@Nicoa.org Website: NICOA.org



RELEASE AGREEMENT
for NICOA's TribalFootprints.org

The leadership of the _____
Name of Tribe, Nation, Band or Pueblo

hereby authorizes the National Indian Council on Aging, Inc. to contact tribal employees, search the tribal website and gather information, such as photos, addresses, contact information and tribal seal for the sole purpose of sharing it on Tribal Footprints.org. This agreement will continue for the lifespan of NICOA's TribalFootprints.org. If at some point you wish to be removed from the TribalFootprints.org website, we require written notification from an official tribal representative.

The purpose of TribalFootprints.org is to provide information to assist American Indian/Alaska Native Elders in navigating the services they need to live comfortably at home. TribalFootprints.org will provide each tribal community with a personalized page on the site containing detailed contact information including your tribal government contacts, localized aging related resources and services specific to the tribal Elders' needs.

Please know that this information will not be sold but is being gathered solely for the benefit of American Indian/Alaska Native Elders, their tribal communities and to educate the Aging Network.

Name & Title of Authorizing Personnel

(Print) _____

Signature _____

Email _____

Date _____

Please contact my assistant below for questions and follow up (optional). Name of Assistant.
