

"HOPE AND LIFE CANNOT BE SEPARATED JUST AS ANY RESPONSE TO HIV/AIDS MUST INCLUDE THE NATIVE AND THE TWO-SPIRIT COMMUNITIES."

— Harlan Pruden, Cree, Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS

# NATIONAL NATIVE HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

"DECOLONIZING BORDERS THROUGH INDIGENOUS PARTNERSHIPS"

— NMCPAG Region 7

"We cannot allow ourselves to become invisible, silent, forgotten... our health and our lives are important! We are the caretakers of our future. Hear Indigenous Voices for HIV prevention, education and access to quality treatment! Shout it out! Protect Our People, Know Your Status!"

— Pamela Jumper-Thurman, Cherokee

"FROM INTENSIVE CARE UNIT TO THE FINISH LINE, NATIVES WITH HIV/AIDS CAN RUN MARATHONS TOO."

— Isadore Boni, San Carlos Apache

"There's not a day that goes by that I think how HIV/AIDS has taken its toll on Native American people. I missed the bullet. I've been in HIV/AIDS prevention for 25+ years. Take control of your body, live the healthy life."

— Don Little, Absentee Shawnee/ Seminole

"We recognize that our ancestors did what they could to protect our culture and dream for a better day for our people. We have a responsibility to hold and protect that dream. It goes beyond stigma or labels, it is about being responsible for your health. The knowledge we carry in our beings are reflections of who our ancestors were and who our descendants will be. Protecting our health, honor our past and strengthens our future. Each one of us is important to the tapestry of our tribe and culture. Protecting our health honors our past and strengthens our future."

— Jack Austin, Assistant Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

"WE WILL NOT BE SILENCED AND WE WILL RAISE OUR VOICES BECAUSE NATIVE LIVES MATTER!"

— Irene Vernon, Chair, Ethnic Studies Department, Colorado State University

"OUR LIVES ARE MERELY THE MANIFESTATION OF THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF ALL WHO WERE FORCED TO LEAVE THE HOMELANDS. THEY ENDURED GREAT HARDSHIPS JUST SO WE COULD CALL OURSELVES "NATIVE" AMERICANS. SO LIVE LIFE LIKE THEY WOULD WANT - STRONG, HEALTHY, AND WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WE MANIFEST THE FUTURE."

— Malachi Stroud

"RED LIVES MATTER!!!"

— Hamen Ides, Executive Director, Ti-Chee Lummi Nation

"FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION... TEACH."

— Mary Helen Deer, Kiowa/Mvskoke

"HIV is increasing in Native communities while it decreases in other ethnic groups. We must act on this, we must speak out, we must promote HIV prevention. We must live healthy."

— Victoria Mitchell Vazquez, Cherokee Councilor

"OUR ANCESTORS HELD TO A HOPE THAT WE WOULD HAVE HEALTHY LIVES. HONOR THEIR SACRIFICES; PROTECT YOUR HEALTH AND OUR PEOPLE. TAKE THE TEST."

— Sandra Stroud, Choctaw



"We Stand Strong. We are resilient people especially during times of uncertainty and lack of resources. Resilience is our "mana" our inner strength that we draw from our cultural values, our spirituality, the teachings that have been passed down to us by our ancestors and from each other."

— Carolyn Kual'i'i, Native Hawaiian/Apache, Capacity Building Specialist and Former NNAAPC Staff

"WE AS NATIVE AMERICANS HAVE OVERCOME SO MANY OBSTACLES, LET'S MAKE HIV/AIDS ONE OF THEM"

— Jules Marie Thornton, Miss Cherokee 2014, Cherokee

"Educating yourself about HIV/AIDS is as important for your health and wellbeing as it is for others. I'd love to say one day that HIV/AIDS doesn't exist for our future generations."

— Evonne Bennett-Barnes, Comanche/Navajo

"Native people are mobilizing to protect our own people and erase the stigma of HIV education, prevention, and care"

— Corey Taber, Muscogee, Cherokee

"ON BEHALF OF PROJECT RED TALON AT THE NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD, WE COMMEMORATE THE 10TH ANNUAL NATIONAL NATIVE HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY ON MARCH 20TH. BY RAISING OUR VOICES TOGETHER, WE CAN NORMALIZE TESTING, ENCOURAGE HEALTHY DIALOGUE, AND SUPPORT THOSE IN TREATMENT. WE ARE NATIVE. TESTED. PROUD!"

— Stephanie Craig-Rushing

"HEAR OUR VOICES, FILL OUR HEARTS, AND REMEMBER OUR SPIRIT."

## HEAR INDIGENOUS VOICES:

UNITING THE BOLD VOICES OF AMERICAN INDIANS, ALASKA NATIVES (AI/AN) AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS/OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

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