

# GLS Suicide Prevention Grantee Meeting



## IHS Suicide Prevention Initiative

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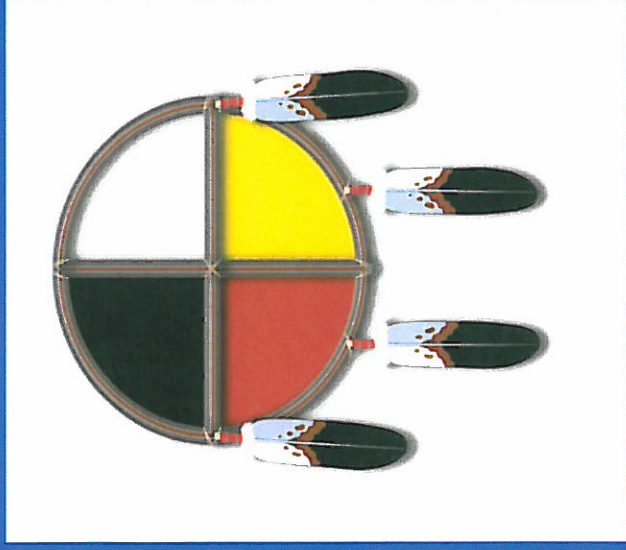
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# Indian Health Service National Suicide Prevention Initiative

- The National Suicide Prevention Initiative addresses the tragedy of suicide in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.
- The IHS National Suicide Prevention Initiative builds on the foundation of the HHS “National Strategy for Suicide Prevention” and the 11 goals and 68 objectives for the Nation to reduce suicidal behavior and its consequences, while ensuring we honor and respect tribal traditions and practices.







## IHS Suicide Prevention Committee Statement of Purpose

- In 2003, the Suicide Prevention Committee was tasked to develop, advocate for and coordinate a comprehensive cultural- and community-based approach to reduce suicidal behaviors and suicides in AI/AN communities.
- Membership includes various disciplines, urban, tribal, etc.
- National Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan
- Guidelines for Indian Health System requests for assistance







## Indian Health Service National Suicide Prevention Initiative

- We have recognized that developing resources, data systems, and promising programs, as well as sharing information across the Indian Health System, requires national coordination and leadership.
- IHS collaborates with Tribes and Tribal organizations, Urban Indian programs, Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as public and private organizations to formulate long term strategic approaches to address the issue of suicide in Indian Country more effectively.







## National Suicide Prevention Initiative

- Provides culturally appropriate information about best/promising suicide prevention programs and training opportunities
- U.S. and Canada MOU established an Ad Hoc Working Group on Suicide Prevention
- IHS Community Suicide Prevention and National Aboriginal Health Organization Websites
- The Area Suicide Prevention and Intervention Pilot Project focuses on training and coordinating the efforts of five IHS Areas (Aberdeen, Alaska, Bemidji, Billings, and Portland)







## National Suicide Prevention Initiative



- Suicide Report Form – Records and tracks the number of suicidal events
- TeleBehavioral Health – Improves access to behavioral health services
- Emergency Services coordinates Commissioned Corp Officers deployment to respond to suicide crises
- Office of Reserve Affairs Inactive Reserve Corp Officers
- Recruitment/Retention (i.e. InPsych)





## National Suicide Prevention Initiative

- National Tribal Advisory Committee on Behavioral Health
- Behavioral Health Workgroup
- Area Behavioral Health Consultants
- Tribal Epidemiology Centers/CDC



Photo Courtesy of the Indian Health Service/U.S. Department of Health and Human Services





## National Suicide Prevention Initiative

IHS is represented on the following workgroups:

- Federal Partners for Suicide Prevention Workgroup
- National Institute for Mental Health Suicide Research Consortium
- Kauffman and Associates, Inc. Native Aspirations Tribal Evaluation Workgroup
- U.S./Canada MOU Ad Hoc Working Group on Suicide Prevention
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Steering Committee





## For further information:

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(301) 443-1539

<http://www.ihs.gov/NonMedicalPrograms/nspn/>

<http://www.honouringlife.ca/>

### Resources:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-TALK

[www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

Suicide Prevention Resource Center

[www.sprc.org](http://www.sprc.org)