Native American Cancer Research (NACR) Corporation: “Native Navigators and the Cancer Continuum (NNACC) Overview” Fact Sheet for Public Health Professionals and Interested Community Members

American Indians’ cancer incidence and deaths from cancer continue to increase even though Whites’ cancer rates are dropping. Taking part in early detection screening can save lives. Contact NACR 303-975-2449 for information about upcoming screening events.

What is NNACC?
A community based participatory research (CBPR) among 5 partners

Who are the NNACC Partners?
Awarded to Native American Cancer Research Corporation (NACR) with Subcontracts to:
- Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan; MI
- Rapid City Regional Hospital, SD
- Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairman’s Health Board, SD
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation, OK
- Southeastern Evaluation, KY

The goal is for the Partners to:
- collaborate, refine, expand and adapt various navigator/community education programs
- to address the Native American communities’ and patients’ needs
- throughout the continuum of cancer care.

What is the research question?
Can a Native specific comprehensive Navigator-implemented community cancer education intervention improve health behaviors among Native American community members?

Who supported NNACC?
The National Institutes of Health, National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities
Mayo 2008 through January 2014

Participants at Denver NNACC Close-out Event and Pow Wow January 26, 2013

On what was the NNACC intervention based?
- Consensus (via Focus Groups)
- Informant Interviews (prior to initiation of grant … based on NACR’s previous studies (CMAP / MUP)
- Tailoring the intervention under the control of each Partner

This Fact Sheet is dedicated to Lance Allrunner, former Native Brother and tobacco educator for Native American Cancer Research Corporation (NACR), NNACC based in Denver, CO
What did NNACC do?

What was the intervention?

Each Partner created a memorandum of agreement (MoA) with 1-2 local American Indian organizations each year.

Trained Native Sisters (also called, “Native Patient Navigators”) collaborated with the MOAs to coordinate 24-hours of cancer education to address:

- Prevention - Risk Reduction
- Early Detection and Screening
- Palliative and Hospice Care
- Quality of Life / Survivorship

Native Sisters also collaborated with MoA to organize 2 Family Fun Events:

- Baseline to kick off the workshop series
- 3-month delayed evaluation to share preliminary results with the community

Trained Native Sisters helped local American Indians:

- Take part in early detection cancer screening
- Who were diagnosed with cancer access timely, quality care.

What were the MoAs’ responsibilities?

What was the intervention?

Each Partner created a memorandum of agreement with 1-2 local American Indian organizations each year.