

**American Indian/Alaska Native Health Research Advisory Council (HRAC)
Federal Partner Sharing Conference Call
June 8, 2009**

HRAC Tribal Delegates and Alternates

- Donald Warne, Aberdeen Area Alternate
- Norman Coeeyate, Albuquerque Area Delegate
- Francine Romero, Albuquerque Area Alternate
- Kathy Hughes, Bemidji Area Delegate
- Cara Cowan Watts, Oklahoma Area Delegate
- Violet Mitchell-Enos, Phoenix Area Alternate
- Sarah Hicks, National Congress of American Indians Alternate

HRAC Federal Partners

- Wendy Perry, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Alan Trachtenberg, United States Public Health Service/Indian Health Service
- Ralph Bryan, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Pelagie “Mike” Snesrud, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Peggy Halpern, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
- Sue Clain, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

Other Attendees

- Victoria Warren-Mears, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board Epidemiology Center

Meeting Minutes

- A quorum was not reached on the call.

Call to Order and Introductions

- Introductions and facilitation: Co-Chair Cara Cowan Watts

Notes:

- While waiting for all participants to join the call, Norman Coeeyate inquired about the Denver IHS Conference plenary session. Cara suggested that he get in touch with Wilbur Woodis following the call, as he will have all the necessary information.
- CER Recommendation votes were received from members who were on the call. “Yes” votes were received from the following, with understanding that additional text will be added stating HRAC recommendations don’t substitute for individual Tribal consultation:
 - Sarah Hicks, NCAI
 - Norman Coeeyate, Albuquerque Area
 - Kathy Hughes, Bemidji Area
 - Cara Cowan Watts, Oklahoma Area
 - Chester Antone, Tucson Area (via email)
 - Reno Franklin, California Area (via email)
 - Tracy “Ching” King, Billings Area (via email)

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1. Research Priorities

- Peggy Halpern explained that ASPE proposes research projects every year which must be approved by senior staff. It is important to know what the current AI/AN research priorities are so that the projects that ASPE and other HHS agencies propose are in line with these priorities; thus, it is key to have a clear idea of HRAC's priorities.
- Cara asked if she had any recommendations for the group on how we could better communicate and support ASPE on that front.
- Peggy suggests zeroing in on the most important issues, and says she's sure there are ways for us to improve our focus and communication about AI/AN research priorities, just not sure of the most effective mechanisms to do this at the moment.
- Cara recommends having a separate call to discuss this specific item further.
- Alan Trachtenberg adds that he would like to have some feedback from the group on the NARCH Program. They are in final steps of a program evaluation. They have received good proposals from NARCH 5 and 6, but do not have funding for all.
 - Violet Mitchell-Enos asks if there is a current synopsis of proposals, where the names are stripped from the text, that he could provide for review?
 - Alan did not know off-hand if that was available.
 - Alan will make a request of specific feedback he would like to receive from the group.

2. The Collection of Research Publications

- Alan Trachtenberg recommends the use of University of New Mexico's Native Health Research Archive. He states it's a great resource to tap into (database). Pat Bradley is the contact, and it might be worth setting up a separate meeting where she could present the information and explain what's available.
 - Francine Romero offered to provide contact information for Pat Bradley.
- OMH and HRAC will produce an annual research report at the end of the summer with information provided by HHS Operating and Staff Divisions on AI/AN relevant research.

3. Additional Face to Face Meeting

- Kendra announces that we will be planning to have another Face to Face Meeting this year. Currently we're looking to have it in Portland, in conjunction with the Annual Native Health Research Conference. We are checking into meeting space and other logistics at the moment.
 - Victoria Warren-Mears offers up the use of her office, where they have meeting space to accommodate the group, if the hotel does not work.

4. General Updates

- Alan Trachtenberg commends the group, and says that he really likes what he's seeing from HRAC.

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- Ralph Bryan says the CDC is welcoming their new Director, and that they are looking forward to seeing how he will support research. He is thankful for and informed by the work of HRAC.