Did you know?

- AIDS rates have steadily increased in recent years, becoming the ninth leading killer of Native people between the ages of 15 and 44.
- AIDS diagnoses among women, especially among women of color, have increased significantly since the beginning of the epidemic.
- Women of color account for 80 percent of all women estimated to be living with AIDS.
- Among American Indian and Alaska Native females, the HIV/AIDS case rate increased almost 5% from 2001 to 2004.
- The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives diagnosed with AIDS has grown more rapidly than in any other ethnic group, increasing almost 800% from 1990 to 1999.
- Women most commonly report heterosexual contact or injection drug use as their primary cause of exposure to HIV.

HIV/AIDS is taking a devastating and disproportionate toll on American Indians and Alaska Natives. Community leaders and tribal health programs can play a critical role in fighting the disease, and Project Red Talon is dedicated to helping them do it.

Today there are an estimated 1.185 million HIV-positive individuals living in the United States—the largest number ever. Of these, nearly 300,000 people do not know they are infected, and may be unknowingly spreading the virus. These numbers will continue to grow unless everyone takes decisive action against the disease.

Project Red Talon: Preventing Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Native Communities!

Know the Facts and Educate, Motivate, and Mobilize against HIV/AIDS!
An estimated 944,306 Americans have been diagnosed with AIDS from the beginning of the epidemic through 2004. Of the 42,514 estimated new diagnoses in 2004, 73 percent were male and 27 percent were female. Less than one percent were children under 13.

In 2004, the rate of HIV/AIDS diagnosis for American Indian and Alaska Natives women was 2.4 times higher than that for whites.

When compared by ethnicity, AI/AN women had the third highest HIV/AIDS rate in 2004.

In 2004, an estimated 206 American Indians and Alaska Natives were newly diagnosed with HIV.

Approximately 3,084 AI/ANs have been diagnosed with AIDS since 1980.

Provided by Project Red Talon, a project of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

To Learn More

- Visit the CDC National Prevention Information Network at www.cdcnpin.org or call 1–800–458–5231
- Visit the HIV/AIDS Observance Days Website at www.omhrc.gov/hivaidsobservances
- Call the CDC National AIDS Hotline at 1–800–CDC–INFO (232-4636)
- Visit Project Red Talon at www.npaihb.org/std-aids/prt
- Call your doctor or other healthcare provider.
- Contact your tribal health department.