

IHS Injury Prevention News

A Publication of the Bemidji Area Injury Prevention Program

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Wisconsin Tribes Host Successful Transportation Safety Conference

Native Americans in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan experience a motor vehicle crash death rate nearly three times the rate for the U.S. general population.

In response to this tragedy, the Menominee, Oneida and Stockbridge-Munsee Tribes of Wisconsin hosted the 2nd annual Great Lakes Native American Transportation Safety Conference "From Cradle Board to Honored Elder" May 1-4, 2001.

This conference brought together 60 tribal community members from approximately 13 tribes to explore transportation safety issues, identify resources and programs, formulate a transportation safety plan for their tribal community, and offer specialized training opportunities. Transportation safety topics ranged from child passenger safety to locating and using data. In response to last year's feedback, pre-conference skill-building sessions including program evaluation and crash site investigation were added as well as a session teaching youth about the importance of restraint use and not drinking and driving.

The conference was held at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, adjacent to the Oneida Casino.

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Minnesota Lifesavers Conference

Antoinelle Benally Thompson, Fond du Lac Injury Prevention Program Manager has been working with a planning committee on the Minnesota Native American Lifesavers Conference at Black Bear Casino, September 13-14. This focus of this conference is motor vehicle occupant protection and drinking and driving issues. An optional ALERT airbag training and a 1-day Child Passenger Safety training will be held on September 12. Please contact Antoinelle at 218-878-9713 if you are interested in attending. The block room cut-off date is **August 29**.

IHS Headquarters Capacity-Building Grantee News

In July, the Northern Native American Health Alliance (NNAHA) Injury Prevention Specialist, Luis Salas was successful in working with the Bad River Tribal Chairman and the Bad River Casino to have a pedestrian/bicycle path installed in the Casino vicinity. This path will route pedestrians and bicyclists off of the shoulder of busy Highway 2.



Luis Salas, Injury Prevention Specialist, NNAHA and Dick Reese, NNAHA Environmental Health Officer during construction of pedestrian/bicycle path adjacent to the Bad River Casino.

DID YOU KNOW??

- ✓ On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 107 minutes.
- ✓ There were 85,000 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes in 1999.

This conference was sponsored by the Menominee, Oneida, and Stockbridge-Munsee Tribes; the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, a site of the Children's Safety Network; Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services for Children, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention; the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Bureau of Traffic Safety; the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bemidji Area Indian Health Service.

Introduction to Injury Prevention Course

An Introduction to Injury Prevention Course will be held October 2-5, 2001, in Green Bay, Wisconsin and hosted by the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and the Bemidji Area Indian Health Service.

This 3-1/2 day course uses group activities, case studies, and lecture formats to introduce participants to injuries as a public health problem in American Indian communities. The course emphasizes the six components of successful programs. The target audience for this course includes: health directors, public health nurses/CHR's, environmental health officers, Head Start health & safety coordinators, and others interested in preventing injuries in the community setting. Continuing education units will be offered for this course.

The deadline for registering for the course and the Radisson Hotel room block cut-off date is **September 10**. Please contact Diana Kuklinski at (218) 444-0503 if you have any questions or want to register.

Bemidji Area Awards Presented

Three Bemidji Area Indian Health Service (IHS) awards were presented in recent months. The awards, The Bemidji Area Injury Prevention Practitioner of the Year, Bemidji Area Injury Prevention Partner of the Year, and the Bemidji Area Injury Prevention Coalition of the year, are presented to individuals and coalitions who have made a positive impact on the Native American community in the Bemidji Area through their injury prevention efforts. The Practitioner of the Year award goes to an individual who works for a Tribe or the IHS. The Partner of the Year award is presented to an individual outside the Tribal and IHS community.

The 2000 Bemidji Area Injury Prevention Practitioner of the Year is **Chris Allen**. Chris is the Environmental Health Officer for the White Earth Service Unit. Chris is recognized for his contributions in community injury prevention, especially in obtaining project funds, working with the White Earth Elder Safety Team to install smoke detectors in elder's homes, and in improving the child passenger safety program.

Holly DeBlois, Rural Safety Specialist for the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, is the 2000 Bemidji Area Injury Prevention Partner of the Year. Holly was selected for her tireless efforts in planning, conducting and evaluating the 1st Annual Great Lakes Native American Traffic Safety Conference.

The **Menominee Tribal Highway Safety Committee**, which began meeting on a monthly basis as a result of the 1st Annual Great Lakes Native American Traffic Safety Conference, was awarded the 2000 Bemidji Area Injury Prevention Coalition of the Year. The committee was selected based on their use of data and crash information to investigate traffic safety problems in the community.

Child Passenger Safety Training

Having certified child passenger safety technicians is now a prerequisite for receiving child safety seat grants from the Bemidji Area IHS. Certification trainings will be offered in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin over the next several months.

MICHIGAN

October 2 – 5, 2001 Charlevoix, Michigan

Sponsors: Michigan Department of Community Health and Michigan SAFE KIDS Coalition.

Contact: Angela Maynard Glew - 517.335.9420

MINNESOTA

September 12, 2001 Cloquet, Minnesota

Sponsor: Fond du Lac Tribe of Minnesota

Contact: Antoinelle Benally Thompson - 218.879.1227

WISCONSIN

September 10 – 13, 2001 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sponsor: Wisconsin Safe Kids

Contact: Karen Everman – 715.344.7101

INJURY PREVENTION CONTACTS

The following IHS and Tribal sanitarians can be contacted with questions concerning injury prevention topics:

Sanitarian	Works With:	Phone #
Chris Allen	Lower Sioux Upper Sioux White Earth	218.759.3361
Gregg Anderson	Leech Lake	218.335.8947
Mary Angell	Red Lake	218.679.3912
Inga Back	Bay Mills Grand Traverse Saginaw Chippewa	906.635.4208
Jennifer Falck	Oneida	920.497.5812
Carolyn Garcia	Hannahville Keweenaw Bay Lac Vieux Desert Stockbridge-Munsee	715.365.5120
Diana Kuklinski	Resource for all tribes	218.444.0503
Stephen Piontkowski	Mille Lacs Prairie Island Shakopee	281.759.3361
Wayne Potter	Bois Forte Fond du Lac Grand Portage	218.759.3373
Richard Reese	Bad River Lac Courte Oreilles Red Cliff Saint Croix	715.779.3707
Carol Rollins	Ho-Chunk	715.284.7830
Gary Schuettpeiz	Menominee	715.799.6152
Sandra Supinski	Forest County Lac du Flambeau Sokaogon Chippewa	715.588.9815
Stewart Watson	Huron Potawatomi Little River Band Little Traverse Bay Band Pokagon Band Resource for all tribes in MI and WI	715.365.5112



MINNESOTA NATIVE AMERICAN LIFESAVERS CONFERENCE

CLOQUET, MINNESOTA
SEPTEMBER 12-14.2001
SPONSOR: FOND DU LAC
INFORMATION: ANTOINETTE BENALLY THOMPSON 218.879.1227

INTRODUCTION TO INJURY PREVENTION COURSE (LEVEL I)

October 2-5, 2001
Green Bay, Wisconsin
Sponsors: Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin, Indian Health Service
Information: Diana Kuklinski 218.444. 0503
Stewart Watson 715.365.5112

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY TRAININGS

See page 2

TRANSLATING INFORMATION INTO ACTION (LEVEL III)

November 27-30, 2001
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Sponsor: Indian Health Service
Information: Diana Kuklinski 218.444. 0503
Stewart Watson 715.365.5112

Editor's Note

I welcome any input concerning the content of this publication. I want it to be a tool to disseminate useful information to injury prevention professionals working with Native Americans in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Please send correspondence to:

Stewart Watson

9A South Brown Street

Rhineland, WI 54501

Call me at **715.365.5112** or fax me at **715.365.5113**

