

Community Engagement and Outreach: Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention (NACP)

Nicolette I. Teufel-Shone, PhD

**Professor of Health Sciences and Associate Director of the Center for
Health Equity Research, NAU**

Co-Lead Outreach Core, NACP

Outreach Colleagues: F Gachupin, C Goldtooth-Begay, J Slowtalker,

J Yellowhair, A Lazaro, K Tracy



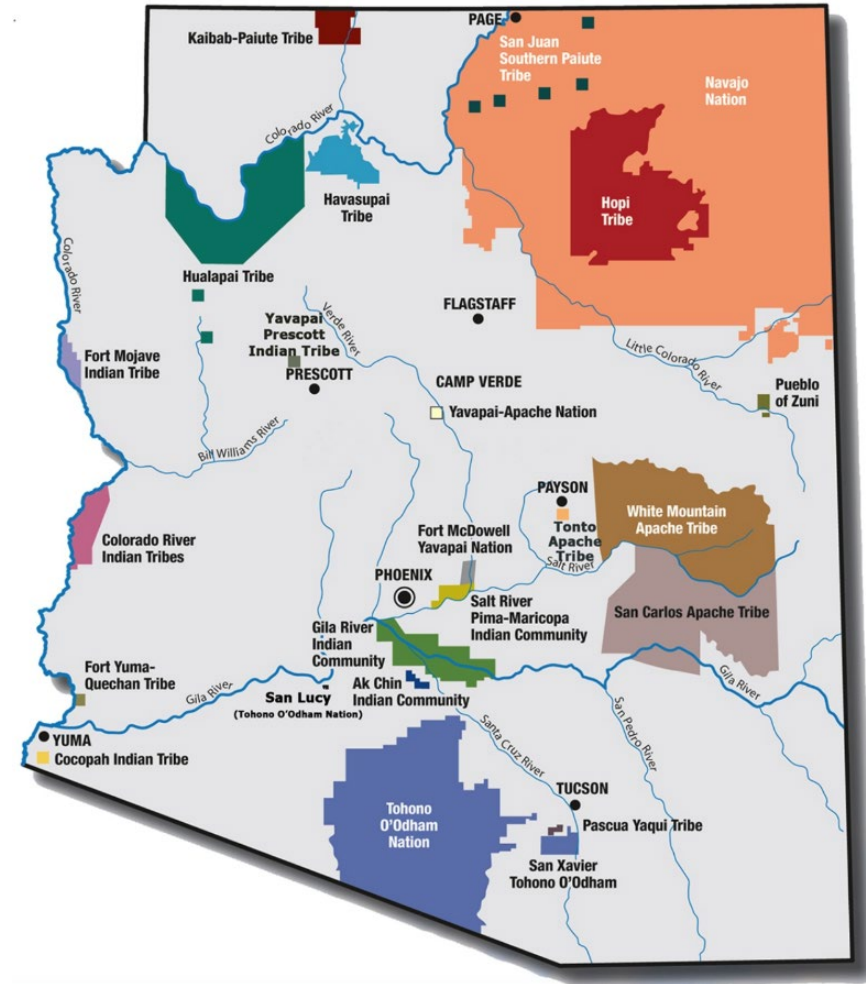
Location and Community Collaborators

- Institutional partners: NAU and UA Cancer Center
- Community partners:
 - Research: Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, Native Americans for Community Action (NACA), Tucson Indian Center
 - Community Advisory Board: Tohono O'odham Nation, Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, Pascua Yaqui



AZ Native Americans and Health Care

- In Arizona, Native Americans constitute 5.7% of the state population
 - 22 Federally Recognized Native Nations in the state
 - Large urban populations, migration for employment and education
- Health care (underfunded): Indian Health Service and/or Tribally administered facilities, PL 93-638
- In rural areas, circumstances are dire
 - Medical personnel shortage due to housing
 - Patients must travel long travel distances (> 50mi one way) for screening, timely treatment and palliative care.



AZ Native American Cancer Trends

- For all Native Americans,
 - Life expectancy is 5.5 yrs less than for US all races (73.0 yrs vs 78.5 yrs)
 - Cancer is the second leading cause of death
- In AZ, Native Americans have **lower incidence rates of screening for detectable cancers** than non-Hispanic Whites (NHWs) are **more likely to be diagnosed with advanced cancer stage**, except for cervical cancer
- In AZ, only the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe have cancer prevention and management programs (CDC funded)
- Need to travel long distances is the primary barrier to screening services and completion of cancer treatment

Overview of Outreach Activities

- **Indigenous Cancer Prevention webinar series** designed to increase investigators', students' and communities' knowledge of specific cancer burden and tribally led programs and interventions (registration information provides reach: demographics and area)
- Videos and workshops for researchers on **best practices for research with Native Nations/citizens** (registration and video hits)
- **Dissemination and Application Academy** to familiarize research teams with non-scientific dissemination to communities; evaluation of content, technical assistance and implementation of actionable plan
- Collaborate with **UA Cancer Center Outreach and Tribal programs**
 - Cancer Awareness Runs (now virtual)
 - Podcast with Navajo Breast & Cervical Cancer Program on services during COVID concerns

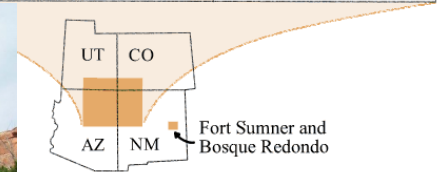
Collaboration with other NACCP cores

- Research Core
 - Facilitate introductions to potential community partners
 - Assist with tribal approvals of research, if needed
 - Assist with recruitment strategies
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gcpWiO2tsX8&t=1s>
 - Provide Dissemination training
- Research Education Core
 - Provided content, reviewed and edited cultural competency and best practices in research with Native Nations modules designed for researchers and students



Adaptation to COVID related travel restrictions: Case Study

- NACP Flagstaff, AZ Outreach team and the Navajo Nation Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (NNBCCP) located in Window Rock, AZ had worked together previously, face-to-face
- With COVID travel restrictions, the 2 teams decided to develop a podcast explaining NNBCCP's modified screening and case management services to address safety concerns
 - Long travel distances support podcast popularity
 - Collaborative script development
 - NACP recorded and edited interviews with program director and 3 case managers: phone and Zoom
 - Distributed used Buzzsprout – a podcast hosting platform track listeners
- Series: *Taking Care of Us*
 - Youtube Link: <https://youtu.be/9wQIlwi-6no>

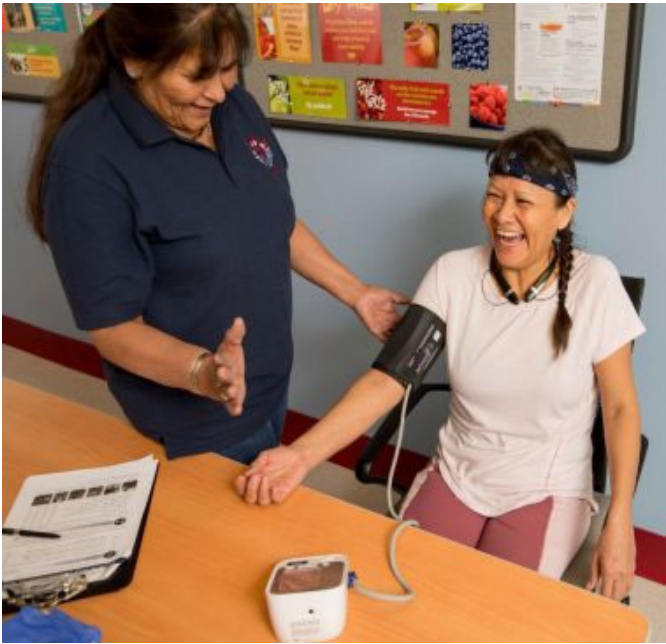


Recommendations for NCI supported PACHEs, Community Outreach

- Expand vision of Community Outreach beyond supporting institutional researchers
- Communities in our region often do not have the capacity for partnering with research projects
 - Capacity needs: personnel, computers with cameras, IT connectivity, marketing, social media expertise and funding
 - Hiring community members to work for the academic institution on research projects does not build local capacity and does not support community driven decision making
- Consider supporting communities to attend NCI and AACR events and to build capacity to document and address cancer needs

Acknowledgments

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