

Celebrating Native American Heritage Month: NCUIH's Commitment to Indigenous Health

Category: News

written by River Carroll | November 1, 2023



November marks the observance of Native American Heritage Month, a time to honor and celebrate the rich cultures, histories, and contributions of Native American and Indigenous communities. At the National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH), this month holds profound significance as it aligns with our ongoing commitment to supporting the health and well-being of Indigenous populations across the country. NCUIH celebrates Native American heritage every day by holding the federal government responsible for their unmet federal trust responsibility to Native people.

Preserving Heritage through Health Initiatives:

NCUIH plays a pivotal role in advocating for the right to healthcare in urban Indian communities, emphasizing preserving cultural heritage as a crucial aspect of overall well-being. By addressing healthcare disparities and championing policies that prioritize the unique needs of Native Americans, our organization contributes to the preservation of Indigenous heritage.

Cultural Competency in Healthcare:

One of NCUIH's key initiatives involves promoting cultural competency within the healthcare system. We believe that healthcare services should not only be accessible but also culturally sensitive and responsive to the diverse needs of Native American communities. Through advocacy and collaborative efforts, NCUIH strives to ensure that healthcare providers recognize and respect the cultural contexts that influence the health choices of Indigenous individuals.

Addressing Health Disparities in Urban Native Settings:

As urbanization continues to impact Native American communities, NCUIH works tirelessly to address health disparities that often arise in urban settings. Our initiatives focus on improving healthcare access and mental health services and addressing social determinants of health that disproportionately affect urban Indian populations. By doing so, we contribute to the holistic well-being of individuals while preserving the cultural fabric that defines their identity.

Advocacy for Equitable Policies:

Native American Heritage Month serves as a reminder of the resilience and strength of Indigenous communities throughout history. NCUIH channels this spirit into advocacy efforts aimed at influencing policies that impact the health and wellness of urban Indians. By actively engaging with policymakers, we strive to create an environment where health policies are inclusive and considerate of the unique challenges urban populations face. Read more about our policy priorities [here](#).

The Call to Action:

As we celebrate Native American Heritage Month, NCUIH invites individuals and organizations to join us in our commitment to the health and well-being of indigenous communities. By fostering awareness, advocating for equitable policies, and supporting culturally competent healthcare, we can collectively contribute to preserving and celebrating Native American heritage. Now is a poignant time to reflect on the importance of organizations like NCUIH in ensuring that the health needs of indigenous populations are acknowledged and met. Together, let us honor the resilience and contributions of Native American communities by continuing to advocate for their health and well-being.

Help support our vital work by making a tax-deductible donation [here](#).