

PROGRAM FUNDING

The Urban American Indian Tobacco Prevention & Education Network is funded through a grant from the State of Oregon's Tobacco Prevention & Education Program (TPEP). Oregon's TPEP program was launched in 1997 with a clear and simple mandate- to reduce tobacco-related illness and death. Since its inception, TPEP has been a comprehensive program, addressing the issues of tobacco use by working to:

- Reduce exposure to secondhand smoke
- Counter pro-tobacco influence
- Help people quit
- Eliminate health disparities

These goals reflect the CDC recommendations for effective tobacco-control programs.



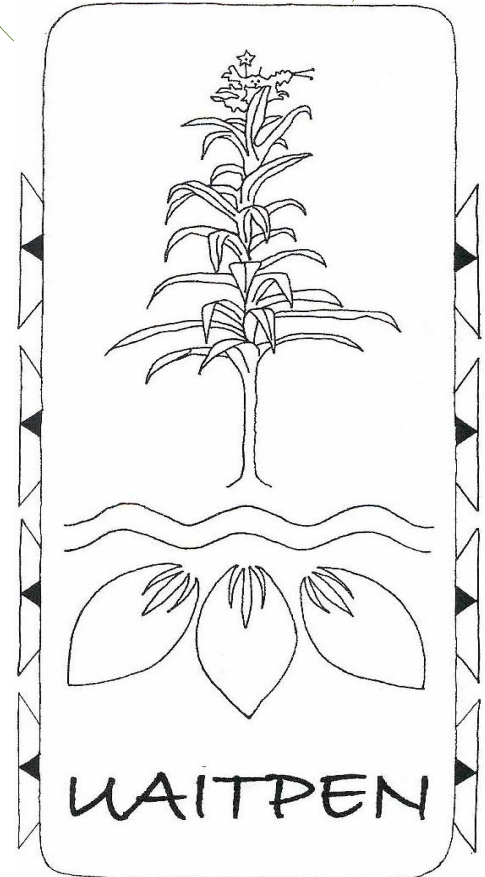
The Urban American Indian Tobacco Prevention & Education Network is housed at the Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest (NARA). Founded in 1970 in Portland, Oregon, NARA is an Indian-owned, Indian-operated, non-profit agency. The mission of NARA is to provide education, physical and mental health services and substance abuse treatment that is culturally appropriate to American Indians, Alaskan Natives and other vulnerable people. For more information about NARA, visit www.naranorthwest.org.

URBAN AMERICAN INDIAN TOBACCO PREVENTION & EDUCATION NETWORK

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URBAN AMERICAN INDIAN TOBACCO PREVENTION & EDUCATION NETWORK



Providing culturally relevant tobacco education and prevention services to urban American Indians and Alaskan Natives in the state of Oregon.

TOBACCO & AMERICAN INDIANS/ ALASKAN NATIVES



the Creator, praying for a good harvest or better fish catch, and rites of passage ceremonies (birth, weddings, funerals). It can also be used to purify the mind and heal the body.

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Technical assistance for planning and implementation of tobacco policy for events and organizations serving Native Americans/Alaskan Natives in Oregon
- Culturally relevant tobacco prevention and education materials
- Community education presentations (Tobacco 101, Secondhand Smoke, Tobacco Marketing, Diabetes & Tobacco, and many other specific topics)

If your organization is having an event where tobacco prevention education would be appropriate, please contact the UAITPEN to see how we can help.

TRADITIONAL TOBACCO

Many tribes have traditional or ceremonial uses of tobacco that are a very important part of culture. The distinction between ceremonial use and commercial use of tobacco must be made in our community in order to help our youth turn away from the destruction that commercial tobacco addiction can cause, including disease, disability and death.

Traditional tobacco is the original, gifted and sacred tobacco of Native tribes. It is strictly for spiritual, cultural and ceremonial use, and it ensures the continuance of the Native way of life. On the other hand, commercial tobacco is manufactured tobacco, sold for a profit for recreational and habitual use. This type of use can cause addiction, death and disease.

Elders teach that tobacco is the first plant the creator gave to Native people. Three other plants, sage, cedar and sweetgrass, follow tobacco, and together they are referred to as the four sacred medicines. Some of the ways that tobacco is used in ceremony (depending on tribe) includes communication with the spirits, thanking

COMMERCIAL TOBACCO

- 38% of American Indians/Alaskan Natives in Oregon smoke (compared to 21% of all Oregonians)¹
- 8% of American Indians/Alaskan Natives in Oregon use smokeless tobacco (compared to 6% of all Oregonians)¹
- 2 out of every 5 American Indians/Alaskan Natives in Oregon die from tobacco related causes (compared to 1 in 5 of all Oregonians)²
- 21% of American Indian/Alaskan youth in 11th grade report smoking (compared to 17% of all 11th grade Oregonians)³
- The tobacco industry specifically exploits sacred Native American imagery in order to make a profit off a product that kills over 440,000 Americans each year.²

1. 2004-2005 Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Survey
2. 2006 Centers for Disease Control
3. 2005-2006 Oregon Healthy Teens Survey