

CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL



QUARTERLY UPDATE | SEP 2019 | VOLUME 2



Reducing Structural Barriers through Mobile Mammography

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan in partnership with Spectrum Health Betty Ford Breast Services, Hannahville and Bay Mills Indian Communities, and the Delta Menominee Department of Public Health secured a Mobile Mammography Unit for two Upper Peninsula tribal communities. 99 women were screened for breast cancer (50 from the Hannahville Indian Community and 49 from the Bay Mills Indian Community); of those screened, four were referred for additional diagnostic screening to rule out cancer. There were no out of pocket costs for those screened.

ABOUT: The ITCM Cancer Prevention and Control Programs work in a spirit of collaboration, addressing cancer related health disparities among Michigan's American Indian Population through policy, systems, and environmental change strategies.

ITCM Cancer Prevention and Control Programs Include Tribal, State, and Federal Partners 2019-2020

Federal Programs:

3 Fires Comp. Cancer Consortium and Cancer Survivorship-NCCP-CDC

Colorectal Cancer Office of Minority Health-USDHHS

State Programs:

Cancer Registry Linkage-MDHHS

Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening-MDHHS

Cancer Survivorship-MDHHS

Colorectal Cancer Screening-MDHHS



CHRISTOPHER POLASKY SHARES HIS STORY OVERCOMING COLORECTAL CANCER

<https://tinyurl.com/Polasky-CRC-PSA>



In an effort to increase cancer screening rates in tribal communities and in Michigan's Native American population, the Inter-Tribal Council has documented Chris Polasky's journey to conquer colon cancer. Christopher Polasky is the Waganakising Odawa Career and Technical Education Program (WOCTEP) Project Director at the LTBB and a member of the Sitka Tribe of Alaska. Chris encourages

Native Americans across Michigan to complete their colorectal cancer screening without hesitation as early detection offers a greater chance in overcoming colorectal cancer. Christopher Polasky's story will be shared through video, audio, at conferences, digital platforms including social media, and as PSA time on local tv networks in Sept. 2019.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES INCREASE RISK OF THESE CANCERS:

- Mouth, Pharynx, Larynx
- Esophageal
- Breast
- Colorectal
- Stomach
- Liver

Despite the fact that alcohol kills more people each year than overdoses - through cancer, liver cirrhosis, pancreatitis and suicide, the issue has recently been shadowed by the opioid epidemic. Fortunately, 3 Fires CCC Tribal Health Centers continue to keep alcohol prevention and treatment as a priority. This quarter Tribes were provided alcohol educational materials to disseminate to their patients and community members on the topic of alcohol as a health risk factor and as a risk factor for cancer. Culturally appropriate clinical interventions for reducing excessive drinking is a best practice recommendation. Next quarter, ITCM staff will provide training on Screening and Brief Intervention (SBI) to tribes and continue to provide American Indian specific educational materials.

Pediatric Obesity and Cancer: At least 13 types of cancer are linked to overweight and obesity. ITCM staff from the 3 Fires CCC and MI Tribal Food Access grants provided workshops at five tribal health clinics and a presentation to the Association of American Indian Physicians in Chicago. Tribal health systems may improve obesity rates among children, adolescents, and adults along with associated cancer rates by integrating tribal government and local community resources into their care plans. Future efforts include utilization of the appropriate diagnostic coding for referral care.

