

American Indian Infant Health Initiative (AIHI)

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The American Indian Infant Health Initiative (AIIHI)

- Home visitation program targeting high-risk pregnant and at risk American Indian families with children ages zero to five.
- Funded in 1995 to address relatively poor maternal child health profile of high-risk American Indian families.
- To this day AIIHI annually receives \$424,000 federal Title V funding through an interagency agreement with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH).

The goals of the AIHI are:

- To identify high risk pregnancies and parenting challenges for American Indian women and families
- To assist parents in meeting the challenges of parenting through resources that acknowledge and respect American Indian culture and traditions
- To promote optimal child growth and development
- To promote trust between the AIHI staff and parents, to promote positive parent-child interaction, and improve parenting skills
- To decrease infant mortality rates and teen pregnancy rates
- To decrease late entry into prenatal care

AIIMI Counties:



- AIIMI is administered in five counties where State data revealed the highest rates of poor Indian Maternal, Child Health outcomes.
- The five counties include: Humboldt, San Bernardino, Riverside, Sacramento, and San Diego.
 - Twenty five percent of California's American Indian population resides in these five counties.

Healthy Families America Home Visitation Model

- AllHI is based on a modified version of the national home visitation program, Healthy Families America (HFA). It focuses on:
 - the establishment of pre and post pregnancy medical care in the homes
 - completed well-child visits
 - building parenting skills
 - appropriate use of health and social services to improve outcomes for the family



AllHI Implementation:

- Local native Community Health Representatives (CHRs) receive oversight from Public Health Nurses (PHNs).
- Most CHRs are American Indian community members who have earned the respect of the community.
 - They visit the homes of clients and provide basic health education, support, and referral services.
 - AllHI personnel are trained in conducting family based assessments and are provided tools for basic assessment and health education.
 - Educational materials developed with funding from the California Endowment are used in the AllHI program. They are culturally appropriate booklets and were developed and adapted with guidance from American Indian community members including program participants, American Indian nurses, and American Indian physicians.



AIHI Data

- Demographic Data is collected and a Maternal Child Risk Profile is completed when a file is started on a family. The program targets high-risk families with a history of child abuse or neglect, family violence, drug and alcohol abuse, maternal history of mental illness, child abuse or a teen dealing with an unplanned pregnancy. Once families enroll in the program a quarterly update is submitted to the State IHP which monitors frequency of home visits, referrals, family goals, progress of goals, and education provided



Key Accomplishments in 2004 – 2007*:

- AllHI families enrolled in this program had a 73.7% first trimester entry into prenatal care.
- AllHI data indicates births to AllHI teen mothers continued a decline from 2004 to 2007.
 - 52 births among AllHI teens in 2004 compared to 8 in 2007.
- During 2004 through 2007, 616 families received a total of 3,196 referrals.
 - AllHI participants followed up on 2,354 or 74% of these referrals.
 - Top 4 Referrals made: Women, Infant and Children (WIC), immunization services, Medi-Cal, and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
 - Data also reveals that the American Indian community under utilizes needed resources such as WIC, USDA, and tribal TANF.
- During 2004 the State Office of Rural Health funded the reprint of the AllHI “Family Guide”.
- Revised AllHI Database & Quarterly Report forms allowed AllHI staff to track referrals, determine outcomes, & monitor family progress.

*Information compiled by Delight Satter, Director, American Indian Research Program, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research , Source: AllHI Quarterly Reports and California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) 2005



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