



Reducing Lost to Follow-up for Native American Families

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Population of the United States by Race & Hispanic Origin: 2008 & Projected 2050



Tribal Statistics





Health Care

- Indian Health Service (IHS) within HHS provides health care to members of more than 560 federally recognized AI/AN Tribes
- IHS delivers care to approx. 1.8 million of estimated 3.3 million AI/AN who live on or near reservations and in rural communities
- Private/Public insurance



Lost to Follow-up After Failure to Pass the Newborn Hearing Screen

- In 2007 55% of all children who failed the hospital newborn hearing screen were reported to have received recommended follow-up services (e.g. diagnostic audiolgic evaluation)
- In 2007 only 7% of American Indian and Alaskan Native newborns who failed the hospital newborn hearing screen received recommended follow-up services.

Centers for Disease Control EHDI Screening and Follow-up Survey 2007



Why Such a Disparity?

- Data collection (i.e. lack of reporting, limited access to demographic data, poor communication with the state EHDI Coordinators)
- Language and Cultural barriers
- Lack of resources
- Services are inconvenient or difficult to access
- Economic issues (i.e. transportation)
- Unequal access to health care services



Strategies for Positive Change

- Cultural competency training for providers (i.e. audiologists, hospital screeners)
- Use of a Cultural Broker
- Care Coordination/Case management services
- Adherence to the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care (CLAS 2001)



What's happening in New Mexico

- Partnership with early intervention to provide follow-up screen at client's home
- Telehealth project in Gallup, NM
- Developing partnership with local trusted family to family support organizations as with EPICS (Education of Parents of Indian Children with Special Needs) or Dine for Our Children (DOC)



Next Steps

 Identification of barriers/challenges for families

Recommendations/strategies



Thank You!



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