

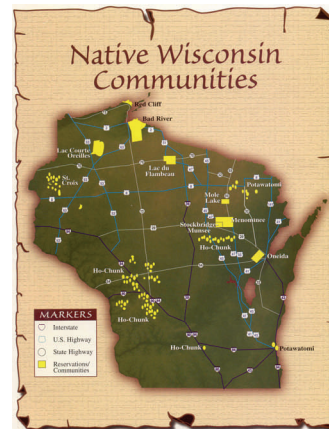


COMMUNITY GRANT OUTCOME REPORT

Honoring Our Children Urban/Rural Outreach Project

Helping American Indian children get a healthy start

Expansion of Healthy Start Initiative to partnering tribes sees improvements along numerous maternal and child health indicators



The Urban/Rural Outreach Project targeted four of the eleven Wisconsin Tribal communities, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Stockbridge-Munsee, and St. Croix, along with the City of Milwaukee.

► **Description:** This project represented an expansion of Honoring Our Children, a federally funded Healthy Start Initiative to reduce American Indian infant mortality at partnering Wisconsin Tribal sites. It enabled nurses and outreach workers to provide prenatal and infant case management, health education, and home visits to parents. This project also reached across the state by providing training to all Wisconsin Tribal Maternal and Child Health nurses as a way to ensure high quality prenatal care coordination for all American Indian women.

► **Results:** The project achieved improvement in several maternal and child health indicators: women beginning prenatal care in the first trimester, percentage of infants who are breastfed, smoking during pregnancy, and infant deaths in those sites utilizing this program. This project also re-established outreach services in some tribes and recruited the Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center in Milwaukee as a new program site. Funding also provided

expansion of home-visiting, health education, and transportation services to tribes.

► **The Partnership:** The academic partner focused on program evaluation, bringing more than 15 years of experience in working with tribal health initiatives. Evaluation used a formative partnership approach, and integrated methods already in place resulting in reports specifically for each tribal site.

► **Next Steps:** Project staff are developing a tribal perinatal system action plan that will result in the development of policies and procedures for the program and includes services for pregnant women and infants using Medicaid Prenatal Care Coordination and Bright Futures Guidelines. These services include protocols for injury prevention, car seat distribution, screening infants/toddlers for developmental delays, maternal depression screening, and reproductive health services.

GRANT FACTS

Grantee: Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc.

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Academic Partners: Charlanne FitzGerald, MPH, Researcher, UW Population Health Institute, cjfitzge@wisc.edu; D. Paul Moberg, PhD, Research Professor, Department of Population Health Sciences, UWSMPH.

Grant Award: \$399,973 over three years