



Our Mission

Indigenous Volunteer Voices works to end the cancer burden among Native peoples by advocating for policies that honor our unique histories, wisdoms, cultures, and traditions.

Cancer Disparities in the Community

- Cancer is generally diagnosed at a later stage in American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people than in White people, with some of the largest disparities for breast and stomach cancers.
- 5-year relative survival rates are lower among AI/AN people than White people for most cancer types.
- More than half (54%) of AI/AN people live in rural areas or small towns, where access to health care is limited. Increased distance to providers is an even greater challenge for rural residents who are poor.

Indigenous Volunteer Voices in Action

Indigenous Volunteer Voices engages in meaningful advocacy and policy work nationally and locally. Members give voice to the unequal burden of cancer and lift up the Indigenous community in the following ways:

- Sharing their unique stories at national forums, conferences, and trainings.
- Offering cultural considerations that shape trustworthiness building and allyship.
- Increasing awareness through educational opportunities locally, statewide, and nationally.
- Influencing policy priorities specific to their communities including access to quality, geographically accessible, affordable, and culturally competent health care.
- Shaping messaging for digital advocacy campaigns.
- Informing trainings for staff and volunteers on health equity, diversity, and inclusion.

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