Indian Health Service Agency

(Established to uphold the Federal Government's obligation to promote healthy American Indian and Alaska Native people, communities, and cultures and to honor and protect the inherent sovereign rights of Tribes.)

Background Information

- Principle Health Care Provider for Indian People
- Goal- raise health status to the highest level possible
- Provide a comprehensive health service delivery system for:
  - 2+ million American Indians/Alaska Natives
  - 567 federally recognized tribes in 35 states

Division of Environmental Health Services

- Children's Environment
- Food Safety
- Safe Drinking Water
- Vectorborne and Communicable Disease
- Healthy Homes

Specialty Areas:

- Injury Prevention
  - Elder Falls
  - Motor Vehicle Crashes
- Institutional Environmental Health

Injuries as a Public Health Concern

- Motor Vehicle Crashes (MVC) are the leading cause of unintentional injury death for AI/AN ages 1 to 44yrs.
- Among children 0-12yrs, AI/AN children have the highest traffic death rate of all racial/ethnic groups in the US.
- AI/AN seat belt and child safety seat use rates are lower than national rates.

Child Passenger Safety

- Conduct injury surveillance
- Develop and implement projects
- Establish partnerships
- Training

Federal Agency Programs

- Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Program (TIPCAP)
- IHS Ride Safe Program
- Indian Highway Safety Program (IHSP)
- Tribal Motor Vehicle Injury Prevention Program (TMVIPP)
- IHS Area specific IP Funding
- Tribal IP Funding

Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Program

- Develop infrastructure in injury prevention
- Funded over $22 million to 96 Tribal/Tribal Organizations since 1997
- Focus on elder falls and motor vehicle crashes
- 2010-2015 Grant Cycle Produced:
  - Over 100 CPS Technicians trained
  - 6 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Certified CPS Techs.

IHS Ride Safe Program

- Designed to meet Head Start Performance Standards
- Provides funding and support for training (NHTSA & CPS)
- Activities: educate, seat distributions, and surveillance

- Eleven Head Start programs participated in year two of the program

HEAD START
Program of Excellence
®

INDIAN HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM (IHSP)

- Highway Safety Act: Provides annual funding to The Department of Transportation for Tribes to implement traffic safety projects

- Around 40 projects are funded annually that range from $30,000 to $425,000

- Fundable program areas include: Police Traffic Services; Occupant Protection; Traffic Records; Impaired Driving Courts; and Safe Communities.

TRIBAL MOTOR VEHICLE INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM

- Reached 12 Tribes over two funding cycles (2004-2014)
- Provided funding and on-going technical support
- Tailored for three evidence-based strategies:
  - Seat belt use
  - CPS, & DUI

IHS Program Support

- Environmental Health Officers, Injury Prevention and Environmental Specialists
- Grant guidance
- Injury Prevention Project Development
- Provide Training Courses:
  - IP Level 1
  - IP Level 2
  - Fellowship
  - SNAP

Nashville Area Car Seat Project

- Partnered with United Southern & Eastern Tribes (USET), TDOT, Safe Kids Worldwide.
- Certified 11 CPS Technicians: 9 Tribal and 2 IHS staff
- Provided over $84,000 dollars in car seats and booster seats to 6 Tribal reservations

Other Traffic Safety Initiatives

- Alcohol-Impaired Driving
- Seat Belt and Child Restraints
- Distracted and Drowsy Driving
- Motorcycle Safety

Seat Belt Use

- Laws Mandating Use
- Primary & Secondary Enforcement Laws
- Enhanced Enforcement Programs
- Seat Belt Surveys
- Media

Impaired Driving

- Maintaining Current Minimum Legal Drinking Age Laws
- 0.08% Blood Alcohol Concentration Laws
- Publicized Sobriety Checkpoint Programs
- Mass Media Campaigns

Distracted Driving

- Any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving
  - Texting
  - Using a cell or smart phone
  - Eating and Drinking
  - Passenger Distraction
  - Grooming
  - Adjusting Radio
  - Navigation system

Issues

- High turnover rate
- Travel Issues
- User Population
- Infrastructure
- Jurisdictional Issues
- Buy-in

Questions?

- LT Riley Grinnell
  Indian Health Service
  Division of Environmental Health Services
  Riley.grinnell@ihs.gov