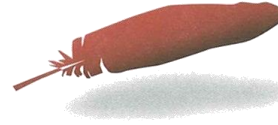


# National Indian Health Board



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Karrie Joseph at [kjoseph@nihb.org](mailto:kjoseph@nihb.org) or 202-507-4070

## Tribal Leaders' Perspectives on Public Health Accreditation Video Released

Washington, D. C. - As Native Americans experience some of the largest disparities in health status, disease prevalence and life expectancy in the nation, the importance of prioritizing public health to prevent disease and protect health is paramount. The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) is a leading proponent supporting Tribes in building quality Tribal public health systems as a tool to combat these disparities and ensure healthy and thriving future generations. NIHB pleased to announce the release of *Tribal Leaders' Perspectives on Public Health Accreditation*, a new video featuring the voices of elected Tribal leaders and Tribal public health leaders across Indian Country on the significance of voluntary public health accreditation to the future health of Tribal communities.

What is seen and heard in the video are Tribal leaders expressing their unadorned views and concerns on the significance of undertaking a Tribal public health accreditation process. "Quality," "credibility" and "self-determination" are some of the terms heard in the video and used by Tribal leaders to describe Tribal public health accreditation. The 15-minute video is interspersed with fundamental public health concepts providing a setting for understanding public health accreditation.

"We envision this video to be used as a tool for offering a Tribal context to leaders and include enough information for them and their communities to stimulate an interest in further exploring and pursuing public health accreditation", explains Karrie Joseph, Public Health Programs Manager for the National Indian Health Board. The video is part of a larger national effort led by the National Indian Health Board in partnership with Tribes and other national organizations to advance public health accreditation in Tribal communities. The video was produced by a team from the National Indian Health Board and the American Indian Public Health Resource Center at North Dakota State University and it is available for on the NIHB Tribal Accreditation Support Initiative webpage <http://www.nihb.org/tribalasi/>.



*Founded in 1972, NIHB is a 501(c) 3 not for profit, charitable organization providing health care advocacy services, facilitating Tribal budget consultation and providing timely information, and other services to all Tribal governments. NIHB also conducts research, provides policy analysis, program assessment and development, national and regional meeting planning, training, technical assistance, program and project management. NIHB presents the Tribal perspective while monitoring, reporting on and responding to federal legislation and regulations. It also serves as conduit to open opportunities for the advancement of American Indian and Alaska Native health care with other national and international organizations, foundations corporations and others in its quest to build support for, and advance, Indian health care issues.*

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