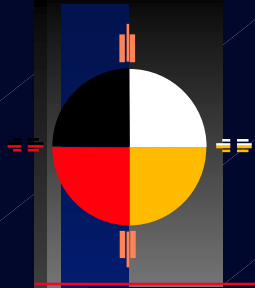


**Forum on the Future of Nursing:  
Community Health, Public Health, Primary  
Care, and Long-Term Care  
Philadelphia, PA, December 3, 2009**

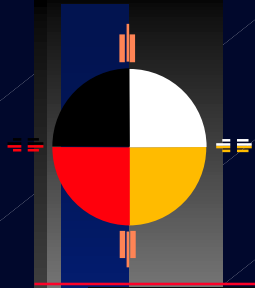
**Indian Health Service: A Rural Health Care  
System for American Indians and Alaska  
Natives**

**Sandra L. Haldane, RN, BSN, MS  
Chief Nurse/Director Division of Nursing  
Indian Health Service  
Rockville, MD**



# Using APN's to Increase Access in IHS

- n **Primary Care Providers, credentialed by medical staff:**
  - 1 **Outpatient, primary, ambulatory care**
    - 1 **Women's health and Midwifery**
    - 1 **Pediatrics/well-child**
    - 1 **Adult and elders**
    - 1 **Psych/mental health brief interventions**
  - 1 **Urgent care**
    - 1 **Sexual assault forensic exams**
  - 1 **Public health/community settings**
    - 1 **Schools, Community Centers, other**
      - 1 **STDs**
    - 1 **Health fairs and events**



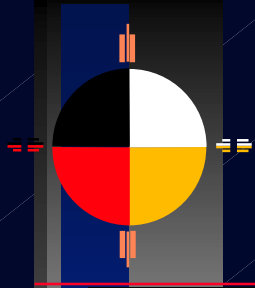
## Using PHN's to Increase Access in IHS

- n **Home care and follow up referrals on**
  - 1 Prenatal, infants, and pediatrics
  - 1 High risk families and infants
  - 1 Elders
- n **Wellness and primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention**
- n **Immunization clinics within and outside facilities**
- n **Well-child clinics**
- n **Community screening and education**
  - 1 Community centers, wellness centers, vendor sites, schools, correctional facilities, health fairs, chapter houses
- n **Communicable disease surveillance and follow up**
- n **Case management and coordination of health and social services at local, county, state levels**



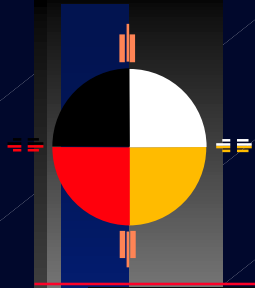
## Making a Difference Through Community Care

- n **Decreasing infant mortality**
- n **Controlling STDs**
- n **Screening and treating victims of sexual assault and domestic violence**
- n **Mass vaccinations for Flu**
- n **Addressing youth obesity**



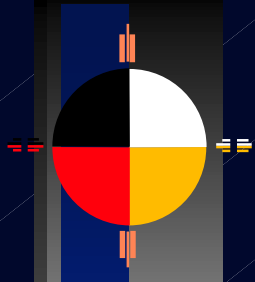
# Barriers/Challenges

- n **Staffing shortages and recruitment difficulties**
- n **Medical community resistance to APN's**
- n **Lack of CMS Reimbursement for PHN activities**
- n **Lack of adequate Loan Repayment funding for nurses**
- n **Lack of scholarship opportunity for nurses**
- n **Nurses unprepared for delivering care outside of inpatient settings, especially public/community health settings**
- n **Lack of nursing education on health disparities, the underserved, and cross-cultural preparedness.**
- n **Public's lack of awareness and knowledge about APN's**
- n **Institutional lack of awareness and advocacy for the role of the APN**
- n **Nursing**



# Recommendations

- n **Change CMS Rules to allow reimbursement for public health/community health nursing activities**
- n **Increase funding for Loan Repayment to nurses going to rural/frontier locations**
- n **Increase funding for scholarships to nurses willing to going to rural/frontier locations**
- n **Diversify the nursing workforce, especially APN**
- n **Increase funding for nurse internship & residency programs to better prepare nurses for rural/frontier health care including primary care and care in the community**
- n **Improve or create reimbursement mechanisms for SANE/SART activities**
- n **Improve nursing education re. public health and cultural awareness**
- n **Mass public awareness campaigns about APNs**



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