



Billings Area Injury Prevention Newsletter

Billings Area Indian Health Service

October 2006

Volume I, Issue I



“INJURIES ARE NOT ACCIDENTS.”

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Events and Schedules:

October 2006

- Fort Peck Tribal Safety Check- Wolf Point, MT on October 23-24, 2006.
- The Fort Peck Tribal Car Seat Clinic- Poplar, MT on October 26-27.

Billings Area Injury Prevention Program Launches Newsletter

The Billings Area Indian Health Service, Injury Prevention Program is pleased to announce the launching of its monthly Injury Prevention Newsletter. The newsletter provides information on various Injury Prevention topics affecting American Indians located within the Billings Area Indian Health Service. Topics include injury prevention awareness, updates on Indian Health Service and Tribal Injury Prevention Programs, upcoming trainings and events, and monthly statistics.

Billings Area I.H.S. hosts Introduction to Injury Prevention



Billings Area Introduction to Injury Prevention participants, (Front Row, left-right), Dana Buckles, Lorelle Demont, Kristina Pounds, Jodee Dennison, Margaret Romero, and Holly Addison. (Back Row, left-right), Jose Figueroa, Dennis Four Bear, Tom Bear Robe, Pat Wilkie, and Darcy Merchant .

The Billings Area Indian Health Service, Injury Prevention Program (IIP) hosted the 'Introduction to Injury Prevention' August 15-18, 2006. The training was a four day event coordinated by Billings Area Injury Prevention Specialist, CDR Jodee Dennison.

The entry-level course introduced participants to various topics in injury prevention including: Injuries as a Public Health Problem, Introduction to Data, Injury Prevention Theory: Public Health Practices and Intervention Models, Case Studies, Coalitions and Collaborations, Action Planning, and Injury Prevention Resources.

Presenter Richard Malone, Office of Medical Investigator, highlighted the course by providing a powerful presentation entitled, "Choosing to Live: A special presentation on Injury Prevention & Traffic Safety." Other course presenters included Jodee Dennison,

Allyson Hinkel, Gary Carter, Adrian Spotted Bird, Bobbi Perkins, and Lorelle Demont. [IIP Training continued. pg 4.](#)

Child Passenger Safety Training Sponsored by I.H.S.

The Billings Area I.H.S. sponsored the National Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training (CPS) held in August 29-Sept 1, at the Holiday Inn Grand Montana.

The course provided training on subjects including: Crash Dynamics, Federal Role & Safety Standards, Vehicle Occupant Protection Systems, Selecting and Securing Children in Vehicle Restraint Systems, Getting to Know Child Restraint Systems, Correct

Installation of Child Restraint Systems, Installing Child Restraints in Vehicles, Misuse and Compatibility Issues, and a Final Written and Check-up Exam.

The CPS training was instructed by Lonie Hutchinson, Safe Kids/ Safe Communities, Patty Carrell, Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies, and Joe Colella, Traffic Safety Projects.

[CPS Training continued. pg 4.](#)



**Area Wide Seatbelt
Observational Survey
Results:**

**Double-Click on link below to
view results.**

Blackfeet SU	Crow SU
Ft. Belknap SU	Ft. Peck SU
NCheyenne SU	Wind River SU- Eastern Shoshone
Wind River SU- Northern Arapaho	

**Area Wide Child
Restraint Observational
Survey Results:**

**Double-Click on link below to
view results.**

Blackfeet SU	Crow SU
Ft. Belknap SU	Ft. Peck SU
NCheyenne SU	Wind River SU- Eastern Shoshone
Wind River SU- Northern Arapaho	

Area Wide News and Events

Blackfeet Service Unit

Spring, 2006- Usually, about the first nice day of spring, we can also see the first bike riders. It may be cold and kids generally take off their coats, but the bikers are back!

This year the Blackfeet Injury Prevention program hosted bicycle rodeos in each of the reservation communities. Given that the bikers were back and very few had helmets, we thought we'd save a few melons, have some fun, and give out helmets.

In the parking lot of the Blackfeet Community Hospital we set our course and taught basic arm signals, to look back, and how to keep their bicycle safe. Bikers from age five to ten participated.

Out at the Babb School there was a lot of training wheels as the youngest members of the community came out with their folks to ride like the wind (or maybe it was the wind that rode them!) Everyone was so excited to be the focus of attention that they hung around for an extra hour, like it was a social event!

There were so many kids in Heart Butte that we ran out of helmets. Even though we had flyers posted, only one or two kids "happened" by when we got there. By the end of the evening, 21 helmets were given out. They trickled out one by one and then came in droves.

This is the second year that Injury Prevention has given out helmets and by far the most fun.

Submitted by Sharon Wagner, Health Educator.

Crow Service Unit

July, 2006- The Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies-Montana Coalition and the Safe Kids/Safe Communities representative, Patty Carrell, and Joe Colella of the Traffic Safety Projects presented the Crash Injury & Healthcare Grand Rounds Tour-Phase V. The purpose of the presentation was to discuss issues involving motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths on Montana's Indian reservations

and how to successfully reduce these injuries. The coalition was



Lodge Grass Health Clinic staff listening to Crash Injury & Healthcare Grand Rounds Tour-Phase V presentation.

giving the presentation to local I.H.S. hospitals and clinics from July 10-14 in Crow Agency, Pryor, and Lodge Grass, MT.

August, 2006- The Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies-Montana Coalition and the Safe Kids/Safe Communities representatives discussed motor vehicle injuries on Montana Indian reservations at the Community 7 Television station located in Billings, MT. The interview was broadcast live to Billings and surrounding communities.

August, 2006- The Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies-Montana Coalition and the Safe Kids/Safe Communities representatives gave a presentation to the Crow Head



Crow Head Start staff listening to Joe Colella's motor vehicle crash presentation.

Start staff on August 28, 2006. The presentation provided information to staff on Motor Vehicle Crashes. A brief instruction and awareness for proper seatbelt usage presented to the participants. The Crow Head Start program was providing an in-

service training for all staff and head start schools located within the Crow Indian Reservation.

Fort Belknap Service Unit

This past year the Ft. Belknap Tribal Health Injury Prevention component sponsored and assisted with a number of activities.

In October Environmental Health staff participated in the open house at Harlem High School, pamphlets, brochures and information regarding safety issues;(seat belt usage, school violence, bullying, drinking & driving, fire safety) were available to parents and students. A drawing for fire extinguishers and smoke alarms was also held. During the month our staff assisted with planning the annual Halloween Masquerade Dance & Party for the community members, we also provided fluorescent goody bags with a safety message on to the area children.

I coordinated a community education session presented by Scott Marshall, Physical Therapist for the Indian Health Service. Mr. Marshall did a powerpoint presentation on "Preventing Sports Injuries" and "Ergonomics in the Workplace" incentives were provided for workshop participants.

During the winter months our office provided public service announcements on the local radio station, KGVA, advising listeners to drive carefully, carry a road emergency kit which should include (Blanket, water, crackers, and flares) and always wear their seat belt especially during the winter months when the roads are snow covered or icy road conditions.

**National Health and
Wellness Observance
Calendar:**

October 2006

Auto Battery Safety Month-

<http://www.preventblindness.org>

**Domestic Violence Awareness
Month**

<http://www.ncadv.org>

**National Crime Prevention
Month**

<http://www.ncpc.org>

**National Fire Prevention
Week**

<http://www.nfpa.org>

**Put the Brakes on Fatalities
Day, October 10, 2006**

<http://www.brakesonfatalities.org>

Area Wide News and Events, continued.

Fort Peck Service Unit

June, 2006- The Fort Peck Tribal Injury Prevention Program launched its annual Bike Rodeo.



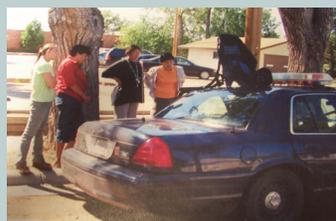
Ft. Peck Tribal Safety Officer, Dana Buckles assists one of the participants on how to correctly put on a helmet.

The event brought in 27 area youths who were given bike helmets and proper street and bike safety information. The event was organized by Fort Peck Tribal Injury Prevention Coordinator, Adrian Spottedbird, other staff involved were Fort Peck Tribal Police Department, Officer Derrick Warner, and Fort Peck Tribal Safety Officer, Dana Buckles.



June 2006, Ft. Peck Injury Prevention Program Bike Rodeo participants.

July, 2006- The Fort Peck Injury Prevention Program initiated its annual Car Seat Clinic this past July of 2006. The clinic was organized by Tribal Injury Prevention Coordinator, Adrian Spottedbird



Ft. Peck Car Seat Clinic participants received hands-on instruction on proper car seat installation.

and Fort Peck Tribal Police Department Officer, Freedom Crawford. The Car Seat Clinic brought in 6 participants whose car seats were inspected for recalls, wear and tear, age, and proper installation. Participants were given educational materials as well as proper installation techniques administered by the Child Passenger Safety Technician, Freedom Crawford. Those participants who had outdated or no car seat at all for their children were given new seats.

October, 2006- The Fort Peck Tribal Injury Prevention Program scheduled a Safety Check in Wolf Point, MT on October 23-24, 2006. The Fort Peck Tribal Law Enforcement and the Roosevelt County Police Department will stop vehicles to check for registration, seat belt use, and provide car seats for children not restrained.

October, 2006- The Fort Peck Tribal Injury Prevention Program scheduled a Car Seat Clinic in Poplar, MT on October 26-27. The event will provide educational instructions to parents on proper installation techniques for child passenger car seats. Those who have outdated or no car seats for their children will be provided a new car seat.

**Northern Cheyenne
Service Unit**

July, 2006- The Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies-Montana Coalition and the Safe Kids/Safe Communities representative, Patty Carrell, and Joe Colella of the Traffic Safety Projects presented the Crash Injury & Healthcare Grand Rounds Tour-Phase V. The purpose of the presentation was to discuss issues involving motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths on Montana's Indian reservations and how to successfully reduce these injuries. The coalition was giving the presentation to local I.H.S. hospitals and clinics from July

10-14 in Crow Agency, Pryor, and Lodge Grass, MT.

Wind River Service Unit

Eastern Shoshone Tribe

Northern Arapaho Tribe

September, 2006- The Northern Arapaho Tribe hosted the annual Health Fair on September 8, 2006. The event was held at the Great Plains Hall and was attended by hundreds of local community members. Educational booths were set up by various local, state, and federal programs and organizations. The Billings Area I.H.S., Injury Prevention Program and the Northern Arapaho Utilities Environmental Health and Engineering, Injury Prevention Program attended the event and



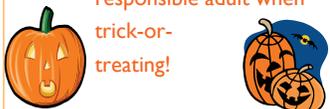
Tribal Sanitarian, Dalco Whiteman providing injury prevention educational material to students and community members.

provided injury prevention education information to the participants.



Halloween Safety Guide!!! Tips for Kids!!!

1. Help your child pick out or make a costume that is safe!
2. If you set jack-o-lanterns on the porch with candles in them, make sure that they are far enough out of the way so that kids costumes won't accidentally start on fire!
3. Make sure that if your child is carrying a prop, such as scythe, butcher knife, or a pitchfork, that the tips are smooth and flexible enough to not cause injury if fallen on!
4. Kids always want to help with pumpkin carving. Small children shouldn't be allowed to use a sharp knife to cut the top or the face!
5. It is best to let kids clean out the pumpkin instead of carving them!
6. Treating your kids to a spooky Halloween dinner will make them less likely to eat the candy they collect before you have a chance to check it for them!
7. Teach your kids basic everyday safety such as not getting into cars or talking to strangers!
8. Watch both ways before crossing the street!
9. Make sure kids are with a responsible adult when



IIP Training continued from pg. 1



Dana Buckles and Dennis Four Bear taking a seatbelt survey near the Holiday Inn Grand, Billings MT.



Margaret Romero and Kristina Pounds enjoy a break from the Introduction to Injury Prevention Training Course.



Tom Bear Robe, Margaret Romero, and Jodee Dennison taking an Seatbelt Observational Survey.

CPS Training continued from pg. 1



CPS Training Students (Front Row, l-r), Lawrence Bell, Wind River CHR; Elliot Tapaha, Ft. Peck Highway Safety Officer; Lonie Hutchinson, Safe Kids/Safe Communities; Jodee Dennison, Billings Area IP Specialist; Patty Carrell, Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies; Patricia Limpy, Northern Cheyenne CHR; Eugene Stump, Ft. Peck Highway Safety Officer; Joe Colella, Traffic Safety Projects. (Back Row, l-r), Adrian Spotted Bird, Ft. Peck Tribal Sanitarian; Darcy Merchant, Billings Area Staff Sanitarian; Wayne Bull Calf, Shane Goss, Blackfeet Early Childhood Transportation; and Walter Blackwolf, Northern Cheyenne CHR.



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**Office of Environmental
Health and Engineering**

**Injury Prevention
Program**

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**Billings Area Indian
Health Service**

Mission of the Indian Health Service

THE MISSION OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE IS TO RAISE THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL, AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKAN NATIVES TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

THE GOAL TO ASSURE THAT COMPREHENSIVE, CULTURALLY ACCEPTABLE PERSONAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TO AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PEOPLE.

OUR FOUNDATION. TO UPHOLD THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S OBLIGATION TO PROMOTE HEALTH FOR AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES, AND CULTURES AND TO HONOR AND PROTECT THE INHERENT SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF TRIBES.

Injury Prevention Program

OUR MISSION:

TO RAISE THE HEALTH STATUS OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKAN NATIVES TO THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL BY DECREASING THE INCIDENCE OF SEVERE INJURIES AND DEATH TO THE LOWEST POSSIBLE LEVEL AND INCREASING THE ABILITY OF TRIBES TO ADDRESS THEIR INJURY PROBLEMS.

