

# Department of Health Care Services, Office of Tribal Affairs

## American Indian Maternal Support Services (AIMSS)

Barbara Hart, Nurse Consultant

# AIMSS PRESENTATION



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Health Disparities

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AIMSS Objectives

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Family Spirit

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AIMSS grantees

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Pit River Shares information on their program

# American Indian (AI) Clinics in California

➤ There are a total of 157 Tribal Clinics in California serving American Indians, to include:

- 67 Indian Health Service Memorandum of Agreement
- 75 Tribal Federally Qualified Health Centers
- 15 Urban Indian Federally Qualified Health Center Clinic sites

➤ Approximately 10 of these clinics provide services for OB clients (These services vary from clinic to clinic).

# Wide Disparities in Treatment Outcomes Exist for People of Color

The **health status of California Indians** is recognized as one of the **lowest of any ethnic group in the state** with higher prevalence of preterm births, suicide, substance use disorders, drug-induced death, diabetes, and other chronic diseases than that of the general population.

# Maternal Health Disparities

- American Indians were **less likely than other races to start prenatal care** in the first trimester (76.8% vs 91.4% Whites and 80.5% Healthy People 2030 Target)
- The **rate of preterm births** among American Indians was **higher** than the rate of preterm births among Whites (10.5% vs 7.6%) and American Indians were more likely to have children with low birthweights (6.7%) than Whites (5.7%)

# Statewide Data

AI Women Experience Higher Rates of:

- Late or no prenatal or postnatal care.
- Higher prevalence of diabetes and hypertension.
- Increased risk for birth complications.
- AI population has one of the highest infant mortality rates in California.

# American Indian Maternal Support (AIMSS)

- » AIMSS grant since 2019
- » Monitors the health of AI women during and after pregnancy through **case management** and **culturally tailored home visitation**.
- » Monitors AI infants for 1<sup>st</sup> year of life.

# Services for American Indian Pregnant Women

- » Ensuring access to prenatal and postnatal care.
- » Coordination of Services.
- » Provide social supports.
- » Reducing stressors.
- » Provide health education services.
- » Work and collaborate with outside partners.

# Case Management Services

- » CPSP training required for all AIMSS staff.
- » Develop protocols, assessments, and referrals, plans of care.
- » Follow infant for 1<sup>st</sup> year of life.
- » Coordination of all services.
- » Provide on-going education using evidenced-based curriculum.

# Case Management Activities

- » Develop protocols, assessments, referrals and care plans.
- » Conduct initial and ongoing assessments.
- » Educate the patient on available community resources.
- » Work with clinic providers and outside providers to coordinate needed care and services.
- » Ensure all plans of care are shared with members of the prenatal and postnatal care team.
- » Ensure all care plans are approved by the clinic physician.

# Home Visitation Goal

- » Improve perinatal outcomes in AI women and infants by providing culturally sensitive home visitation using an evidenced-based model.
- » Home visitation staff will provide support, promote mental health, physical health and early child development education for AI women and infants to one year.

# Family Spirit Curriculum



- » The Family Spirit Core Curriculum covers a wide range of maternal and child health topics, using strengths-based, culturally focused content.
- » The lessons are designed to be taught one-on-one during home visits, but they can also be used in clinic and group settings.
- » Lessons can be administered sequentially (according to a lesson schedule), or independently (individual lessons used as needed depending on the program structure and family needs).

# The Core Curriculum Includes:

Family Spirt is an evidenced-based home visiting program developed for and with Indigenous Tribal communities.

65 Flip chart lessons

Lesson plans

Implementation guide

Participant workbook

Includes a hard copy and a digital version

Series of lessons from post-partum until the child is aged 3.

# Family Spirit Leads With Culture Animated Story

[\(33\) Family Spirit Leads with Culture - YouTube](#)



# The Family Spirit program aims to:

Increase	Address	Promote	Prepare	Ensure	Link	Promote
Increase parenting knowledge and skills;	Address maternal psychosocial risks that could interfere with positive child-rearing;	Promote optimal physical, cognitive, social/emotional development for children from 0 to 3;	Prepare children for early school success;	Ensure children get recommended well-child visits and health care;	Link families to community services to address specific needs;	Promote parents' and children's life skills and behavioral outcomes across the lifespan.

# AIMSS Grantees

- » Chapa-De Indian Health in Auburn (Placer County)
- » K'ima:w Medical Center in Hoopa (Humboldt County)
- » Pit River Indian Health Program in Burney (Shasta County)
- » Fresno American Indian Health Project in Fresno, (Kern County)

# Chapa-De Indian Health Auburn, Grass Valley, coming soon to Rocklin



# Chapa-De Partners



- » County Schools
- » Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- » WIC- CalFresh
- » Local Doulas (Medi-CAL)
- » Placer County Road to Resilience –Sierra Native
- » Kids First
- » Placer County First V
- » Head Start
- » Placer County PH Nursing
- » Healthy Babies Program
- » Granite Wellness- Substance use disorder treatment
- » Local Alta Regional Center and the Local Dept of Education

# K'ima:w Medical Center

## Hoopa, CA



- » Serving the community since 1974.
- » Accredited by the Joint Commission.

# K'ima:w Medical Center Partners

Hoopa Early Head Start

Hoopa Wellness Court,

Humboldt County PHN

Breast Feed Humboldt

Better Birthing Project with Providence Hospital

TANF

United Indian Health Services

Providence St. Joseph Hospital Childbirth Center

Local Farmers

Road to Resilience

Aunties on the River

WIC

# Center for Indigenous Midwives Training



# Pit River Health Services Burney and Alturas



# Community Partners

- » First Five, MCAH Collaborative for Shasta and Modoc Counties.
- » Home Visitation Collaborative Program
- » Local Oral Health Advisory Committee
- » Early Head Start
- » Mayers Memorial Hospital
- » Shasta Community Health Center (delivery)
- » Mercy Medical Center (prenatal care)
- » Redding Rancheria Tribal Health

# Fresno Indian Health Project



# Fresno Building Infrastructure

\$500,000, new funding to grow the program, CalAIM Birth Equity Pilot program



2 new home visitors/case management staff and a care coordinator to promote the program

## **Partners Include:**

OBGYN's

Tribal TANF

WIC

CPS

ICWA Workers

Breast Feeding Coalition

Sierra Tribal Consortium

Fresno County Home Visiting Network

# My Role



Provide Technical Assistance to clinic staff weekly or as needed.



Educate new staff on their Scope of Work and how to collect data and do bi-annual reports.



Send resources and provide training as needed.



Visit the clinics for in-person education and training.



Bring the groups together to learn from one another.

# Questions?



# How to Contact DHCS' OTA

## » Contact Information:

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(916) 713-8611

## » Requests for Assistance:

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**THANK YOU!**