

NWCPHP is nothing without partners.



Here is some of what we do, together.

Tribes

1. Helping tribes prepare

Yearly Emergency Preparedness Conferences are part of a formal partnership of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB), the Washington Department of Health, and NWCPHP.

The first Preparedness Conference, held in 2004 in Portland, drew about 60 leaders from Indian Nations in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Accompanying these leaders were state and local public health organizations from the region.

The conference grew out of a needs assessment NWCPHP conducted with resources from NPAIHB, the Washington Department of Health, and the Group Health Community Health Foundation.

Since 2004, the Preparedness Conference has been held in various locations in Washington and Oregon. By 2009, participation had grown to 150 people. Keynote speakers have included tribal leaders such as Mel Tonasket, the past president of the National Congress of American Indians and current member of the Washington State Board of Health; state public health leaders such as Mary Selecky, Secretary of the Washington Department of Health, and Susan Allan, Oregon Department of Human Services Public Health Director at that time; and federal leadership such as Rear Admiral Craig Vanderwagen from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Hsiao-Ying Lo Photo

Alaska

2. Connecting the dots

in a sparsely populated state

Alaska is by far the largest state in the United States. Its area is one-fifth the size of the lower 48 states. Alaska's large land mass, low population density, and robust indigenous populations make it like no other state. To keep connected as they address their unique public health needs, the Alaskan public health community has gathered every year for the past 27 years at the Alaska Health Summit.

The theme for 2009's December summit was "Small Steps – Big Impact." Curriculum tracks included workforce development, innovative approaches to public health, and social determinants and health inequities. The summit presented current challenges in a roundtable format:

- Substance abuse prevention coalition and its impact on Alaska
- Traumatic Brain Injury and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder: The new face of America's military
- Global partnerships: Building innovative approaches to improve public health
- Cancer survivorships in Alaska
- Project Healthy Juneau Kids: Action to expand access and the utilization of well-childcare services in Juneau
- Improve Department of Health & Human Services communication to Alaska health care providers
- Evaluation of suicide data from the Alaska violent death reporting system
- The Art of DART: Disability Abuse Response Teams in Alaska
- Pre-diabetes: Driving with the warning lights on