The Association of American Indian Physicians is preparing for the 37th Annual Meeting and National Health Conference, which will be held July 23-29, 2008 at the Coeur d’Alene Casino in Worley, Idaho. The title of the meeting is “LISTEN! THE EAGLES ARE CALLING: OUR NATIVE YOUTH CRY OUT FOR HEALING”.

The focus of the conference is to understand the root causes of the issues that our Native youth must face. A panel of Native youth will be incorporated into the program to share their perspectives and experiences. Our intent is to listen to the youth to learn and better understand. The speakers will come from many health and social disciplines, bringing their respective wisdom and experiences as well.

I invite you to come to the Coeur d’Alene reservation to join us. Chairman Chief Allan and my fellow tribespeople look forward with much anticipation and excitement for the opportunity to have AAIP, our Native students and guest speakers interact with the local community in a positive way. This year’s annual meeting will be held during the time that the Coeur d’Alene people celebrate their annual powwow, “JULY’AMSH”. It is the largest outdoor event of its kind in the Pacific Northwest.

There will also be many chances to take in the beauty of Northern Idaho, my home. This is where I grew up as a youth, a place where I can come to recenter myself with my people and walk the earth of my ancestors. I always acknowledge that I have been fortunate to have been born SCHITS’UMSH (Coeur d’Alene).

In this newsletter, we encourage students to seek out scholarship monies that will allow them to attend the conference. This will be a forum for all, young and old alike, to share knowledge and exchange ideas. We will all stand to gain from this experience.

Again, I look forward to reconnecting with friends, family, colleagues and the Coeur d’Alene people.

Limlemsh,
(Thank you)

GERALD IGNACE, M.D.
SCHITS’UMSH (Coeur d’Alene)
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The Association of American Indian Physicians will host the Diabetes Today Training program June 3-4 at the Marriott University Park Hotel in Tucson, Arizona. AAIP invites healthcare professionals, organizations, and community members to participate. The purpose of the two-day program is to give participants the knowledge and tools to provide culturally appropriate diabetes education, care, and services to American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) populations.

“Participants will gain important information that they will be able to take back to their communities,” said Nicole Frazier, AAIP Diabetes Coalition Liaison/Outreach Specialist. “We want them to be able to empower Native communities to fight against diabetes.”

The training is free with a $100 stipend available to all participants. The training is made possible through the National Program to Promote Diabetes Education Strategies in Minority Communities – a National Diabetes Education Program grant.

Those who attend the program will receive a Diabetes Today manual. The curriculum features four modules, with detailed lesson plans and educational handouts and guidelines for implementation. Attending the training will allow participants to do the following:

- Enhance their diabetes services through the creation of community coalitions
- Utilize AIAN culturally relevant diabetes care and prevention strategies
- Plan and develop a diabetes program
- Evaluate their program to show effectiveness and apply for or renew funding
- Have the tools to empower their community

While there is no training fee, participants will need to register. Visit www.aaip.org to register online. Participants must also make their own travel and lodging arrangements. Special room rates are available ($75 plus tax) at the Marriott University Park Hotel. The deadline for room reservations is May 2.

For more information, visit www.aaip.org or contact Nicole Frazier, Diabetes Coalition Liaison/Outreach Specialist at 1-877-943-4299.
For most of his childhood, Dr. Andrew Levi Stevens’ mother was ill. She suffered from end-stage liver disease, a potentially deadly illness. He remembers his mother being severely ill, often making trips to the hospital.

“I didn’t understand her illness until much later,” said Dr. Stevens.

During a particularly grave episode, doctors gave her the option of undergoing what was then an experimental operation – a Leveen shunt. The procedure would help drain fluid from the abdomen. Doctors warned the family though that she could die from the operation.

“My mother asked me what she should do,” recalled Dr. Stevens. “I told her to have the operation.

She did…and she lived for another 17 years before succumbing to her illness in 1995.”

Witnessing his mother’s suffering and later the miracle of medicine, Dr. Stevens aspired to become a doctor.

“There was a moment when my mother’s clinical picture improved from that simple operation, I was inspired to pursue a career in medicine – specifically, a career in surgery. I have dedicated work to that goal for the past 30 years of my life,” he said.

Dr. Stevens graduated from the University of Oklahoma and then earned his medical degree from the University of North Dakota. For his general surgery training, he attended the University of Missouri and St. Louis University.

He is currently a staff physician with the Chickasaw Nation Health System at the Carl Albert Indian Health Facility in Ada, Oklahoma.

Dr. Stevens is one of three general surgeons at the facility. The board-certified surgeon is also the Director of the Diabetic wound clinic at the Chickasaw Nation Health System.

Dr. Stevens (Cheyenne-Arapaho) is proud to be a member of the Association of American Indian Physicians. He believes in the AAIP mission and its desire to encourage more Native students to pursue a career in healthcare.

“At least once a week I am told by my patients that I am the first Native doctor they have ever met. I am proud of that fact, but also saddened by it,” explained Dr. Stevens. “I would like to eventually arrange for medical students and surgery residents to rotate with me to be exposed to practicing medicine within the Indian Health Service.”

Dr. Stevens and his wife, Cynthia, along with their four children reside in Ada, Oklahoma.

“At least once a week I am told by my patients that I am the first Native doctor they have ever met…”
Northern Idaho is blessed with natural beauty. The Coeur d’Alene tribe has known this for more than a century. Today, members of the tribe continue to admire the landscape – people like Dr. Gerald Ignace.

Dr. Ignace grew up in DeSmet, a town 35 miles south of Coeur d’Alene.

“I treasure the memories growing up in this area of Idaho. We went fishing and biking. There was so much to do outdoors,” recalled Dr. Ignace.

The AAIP mission is to inspire more American Indian/Alaska Natives to pursue careers in healthcare. Dr. Igance says the goal is to provide support and encouragement to Native youth and families. He wants American Indian children to know success is possible. He is an example.

While Dr. Ignace’s parents had limited schooling, they valued education. They instilled in him that education was the key to a brighter future.

“They told me that getting an education would help me advance and obtain opportunities,” he explained. “My mother said I had three choices for a profession: physician, lawyer, or priest.”

At age 12, he made his decision. Being a doctor would allow him to help more people by treating their illnesses and making them well. He fulfilled his parents’ ambitions for him, practicing medicine for more than 40 years.

His career has taken him away from his “homeland” of Northern Idaho. The Wisconsin physician finds his way home several times a year to visit his 96-year-old father – and to savor the land, lakes, and mountains that make Coeur d’Alene special.
“In my tribe’s culture, the land is important. It is part of us,” said Dr. Ignace. “And so when I go back to visit, it is a renewal. I am able to ‘recenter’… I gain energy.”

Another aspect of this area is the sense of community. Dr. Ignace says his tribe as well as missionaries influenced him to do his best. He believes that sense of community is needed to raise children today. He said the AAIP conference will allow for dialogue and discussion with young people. Native youth will be able to voice their concerns and share the issues that they face today.

Dr. Ignace helped craft the theme and title of the conference – LISTEN! The Eagles are Calling: Our Native Youth Cry Out for Healing.

“During my entire childhood and adolescent years, I only spotted one eagle in Northern Idaho. Some years ago when my mother passed away and I returned to the area, I saw five eagles in one weekend,” said Dr. Ignace. “It was an awe inspiring moment – the rebirth of eagles to the area.” He hopes the conference will ultimately create a ‘rebirth’ for those who come this summer.

Like his parents, Dr. Ignace has inspired his children to pursue higher education. His son, Lyle, is also a physician and a member of AAIP. His daughter, Thekla, is a Marquette University graduate and daughter, Danielle, recently earned her Ph.D.
Wednesday, July 23, 2008
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Students Arrive
Shiloh Inn and Suites
Coeur d’Alene, ID
6:00 p.m.
Pre-Admissions Workshop Orientation
Shiloh Inn and Suites
Coeur d’Alene, ID

Thursday, July 24, 2008
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Pre-Admissions Workshop
Coeur d’Alene Casino Hotel – Golf Pavilion
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Medical Student Program
Coeur d’Alene Tribal Wellness Center
Plummer, ID
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Professional Development Workshop
Coeur d’Alene Tribal Wellness Center
Plummer, ID
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Research Career & Poster Contest
Coeur d’Alene Casino Hotel – Golf Pavilion
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
AAIP Business Meeting
Aripa Room – High Mountain Buffet
Coeur d’Alene Casino Hotel
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Opening Session
Coeur d’Alene Tribal Wellness Center
Plummer, ID
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Plenary Session
Coeur d’Alene Tribal Wellness Center
Plummer, ID
12:00 noon
July’Amsh Powwow Grand Entry
Greyhound Park, Post Falls, Idaho
8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Sweat Ceremony

Sunday, July 27, 2008
7:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Initiation Ceremony-Terry Maresca
Camp Larson
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Registration
Coeur d’Alene Casino Hotel Lobby
8:00 a.m. – Noon
Exhibits Set Up and Registration
Coeur d’Alene Casino Hotel – Golf Pavilion
8:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Plenary Sessions & Breakout Discussions
Coeur d’Alene Tribal Wellness Center
Plummer, ID
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Exhibits & Refreshments
Coeur d’Alene Tribal Wellness Center
Plummer, ID
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
3 Workshop Sessions
Coeur d’Alene Casino Hotel – Golf Pavilion
MONDAY, JULY 28, 2008

12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.
Luncheon
Coeur d’Alene Tribal Wellness Center - Plummer, ID

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Boat Cruise – Coeur d’Alene Resort

TUESDAY, JULY 29, 2008

7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Registration
Coeur d’Alene Casino Hotel Lobby

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.
Closing Lunch & Awards
Coeur d’Alene Casino Hotel – Golf Pavilion

Shuttle Buses Available to Conference Events

* Spokane, WA to Coeur d’Alene
33 miles, 40 minutes

* Spokane, WA to Casino/Hotel
45 miles, 1 hour

* Coeur d’Alene to Casino/Hotel
30 miles, 40 minutes

* Casino/Hotel to Worley
4 miles, 6 minutes

* Casino/Hotel to Plummer
10 miles, 13 minutes

* Worley to Plummer
6 miles, 9 minutes

* Casino/Hotel to Chatcolet
17 miles, 25 minutes

* Coeur d’Alene to Chatcolet
47 miles, 1 hour
Dear Grantor:

Thank you for your support at our Annual Conference (CME) activity. In order to meet the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Guidelines, our files must contain a signed Letter of Agreement (LOA) before the program actually occurs. Mail this completed LOA form to AAIP 1125 Sovereign Row Suite 103, Oklahoma City, OK 73108 or fax to 405.943.1190. The Association of American Indian Physicians, hereafter referred to as (AAIP) is the ACCREDITED PROVIDER for this program and all financial transactions must be handled through our office. (Form must be typed or in legible print)

Granting of Educational Support by Commercial / Exhibitor Source

The above named grantor wishes to provide the following educational support of the continuing medical education activity listed above: (check choices)

___ TOTAL grant in the amount of $ ____________ for the support of CME activity such as:
___ Student Conference Registration   ___ Luncheon   ___ Educational Grant   ___ Student Travel
___ All speaker expenses (To include travel, lodging, meals and honoraria - please list the exact honoraria amount.): OR___ Travel, ___ Meals, ___ Honoraria Amount $___________ (Indicate amount determined by the course director.)
___ Speaker Name(s): 1) __________________________ 2) __________________________

___ Exhibit $625.00   ___ Arts/Crafts $150   ___ Catering functions (specify) $___________
___ Other (indicate amount and purpose) __________________________ 

Management and Conditions of Funds From Commercial / Exhibitor Sources

1. PURPOSE OF AND CONTROL OVER THE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY: 1.1) The activity shall be independent and non-promotional, focused on educational content, and free from commercial influence or bias. Information presented about commercial products shall be objective and based on scientific methods generally accepted in the medical community. 1.2) AAIP shall maintain full control over the planning, content, quality, scientific integrity, implementation, and evaluation of the activity, and over the selection of speakers, moderators, authors, or other faculty for the activity. 1.3) [Grantor] shall not engage in scripting, targeting points for emphasis, or other actions designed to influence the content of the activity.

2. GRANTOR ASSISTANCE IN PLANNING, PRODUCTION, AND MARKETING OF THE ACTIVITY: 2.1) AAIP may solicit assistance in the planning and production of the activity from [Grantor]. That solicitation must be in writing. Acceptance by AAIP of advice or services concerning speakers, moderators, authors, invitees, or other educational matters, including content, shall not be a condition of support for this activity. [Grantor] shall not suggest speakers, moderators, or authors who are or were actively involved in promoting the company's products or who have been the subject of complaints regarding misleading or biased presentations. 2.2) [Grantor] may provide services in support of the preparation of activity materials; however, these materials shall not, by their content or format, advance the specific proprietary interests of [Grantor]. 2.3) If [Grantor] offers to provide a presentation reporting results of scientific research, [Grantor] shall provide to AAIP a detailed outline in order to confirm the scientific integrity of the presentation. 2.4) AAIP must authorize dissemination of information about this activity by [Grantor], and any information must identify the activity as produced by AAIP. 2.5) Invitations or mailing lists shall not be generated by the sales or marketing departments of [Grantor] and shall not be generated or procured to reflect sales or marketing goals of [Grantor]. 2.6) AAIP cannot use a commercial interest as the agent providing a CME activity to learners.
3. DISCLOSURE: 3.1) Meaningful disclosure shall be made to the activity audience of the following: 3.1.1) [Grantor's] funding of the activity, without reference to specific products. 3.1.2) Any significant relationship between The AAIP, authors, presenters, or moderators and [Grantor]. 3.1.3) Any significant financial or other relationship between authors, presenters, or moderators and the manufacturers of products or providers of services mentioned by the author, presenter, or moderator during the activity. 3.1.4) Whether any product mentioned during the activity is not labeled for the use under discussion or is still investigational. 3.2) Disclosure shall be made in writing in all instances when that is possible. Should disclosure occur verbally, such disclosure must be verified by written documentation in the activity file.

4. SCOPE AND PRESENTATION OF THE ACTIVITY: 4.1) The title of the activity shall fairly and accurately represent the scope of the presentation. 4.2) The activity shall present discussion of multiple treatment options, and shall not focus on a single product, except when options are so limited as to preclude meaningful discussion. 4.3) Faculty shall be instructed to use generic names of products, or, if trade names are used, to use those of several companies. 4.4) Opportunity for meaningful discussion or questioning shall be provided during a live activity.

5. CONDUCT OF [GRANTOR] AT EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS: 5.1) Exhibit placement shall not be a condition of support for the activity. 5.2) No commercial/exhibitor promotional materials shall be displayed or distributed in the same room immediately before, during, or immediately after the educational activity. 5.3) Representatives of commercial/exhibitor supporter may not engage in sales activities while in the room where the educational activity takes place. 5.4) Information about [Grantor's] product(s) presented in the activity may only be further disseminated after the initial presentation, by or at the behest of the [Grantor], in response to an unsolicited request or through an independent provider.

6. SOCIAL EVENTS: 6.1) Social events shall not compete with, nor take precedence over, the educational activity. The appropriateness of the social event is at the sole discretion of The Association of American Indian Physicians, and AAIP shall have final authority in the scheduling and production of the social event. 6.2) The cost of the social event shall be modest.

7. STRUCTURE OF GRANT AND USE OF FUNDS: 7.1) The educational grant shall be made payable to AAIP. [Grantor] shall pay no other funds to the director of the activity, faculty, or others involved with the activity. 7.2) Grant funds shall not be used to pay travel, lodging, registration fees, honoraria, or personal expenses for non-faculty attendees. 7.3) Grant funds may be used to permit medical students, residents, or fellows to attend the activity, as long as the selection of students, residents, or fellows who will receive the funds is made either by the academic or training institution, or by The Association of American Indian Physicians with the full concurrence of the academic or training institution. 7.4) The Association of American Indian Physicians shall furnish [Grantor] with a report concerning the expenditure of grant funds provided.

8. REGULATORY AUTHORITY: 8.1) AAIP and [Grantor] agree to abide by all requirements of the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support of Continuing Medical Education (March 1992), the FDA Final Guidance on Industry-Supported Scientific and Educational Activities (December 1997), the AMA regulations regarding the Physician's Recognition Award, the AMA Opinion 8.061: Gifts to Physicians from Industry, and the AMA Opinion 9.011: Continuing Medical Education.

AGREED:  
Commercial Interest:  

Grantor Representative: Signature and Date

Print Name: ____________________________
Title: ________________________

AGREED:  
Accredited Provider:
Margaret Knight: ________________________
Authorized Representative Signature and Date

Print Name: Margaret Knight
Title: AAIP Executive Director

The Association of American Indian Physicians, 1225 Sovereign Row, Suite 103, Oklahoma City, OK 73108 (Federal Tax ID # 23-7296826)  Margaret Knight mknight@aaip.org Fax: 405-943-1190

AAIP invites exhibitors to participate in the conference. Exhibitors will have the opportunity to share their programs and materials with conference attendees. This form - the Letter of Agreement - must be completed in order to register as an exhibitor. Please contact Anita Cox, Exhibits Manager at acox@aaip.org at (405) 946-7072.
Discover Idaho’s northern region means seeing picture perfect landscapes, scenic mountain ranges and rivers. Even the people who live in the area view the surroundings as paradise.

“This is truly God’s country,” stated Chief Allan, the Chairman of the Coeur d’Alene tribe. “It is something out of an Ansel Adams’ picture. You will not be disappointed when you arrive.”

Chairman Allan and the Coeur d’Alene tribe are making preparations to welcome the Association of American Indian Physicians, its members, Native students, and other participants at the AAIP National Meeting and National Health Conference. The conference will have workshops, lectures, and social activities planned in a variety of venues in Northern Idaho July 23-29.

“This will be a first for us to have activities spread out in different locations,” explained Margaret Knight, AAIP Executive Director. “Participants will get to see much of Northern Idaho because of how things are mapped out.”

The conference will be held at the Coeur d’Alene Casino & Resort Hotel in Worley, Idaho. Organizers say it will be a memorable conference with activities planned in nearby cities, including Coeur d’Alene, Plummer, Worley, and Chatcolet.
“It will be an exciting time for our Native people in the area. The conference coincides with our July’amsh Powwow which is the largest outdoor powwow in the Pacific Northwest,” said Chairman Allan. “We will also have our annual stickgame tournament. For avid golfers, they’ll get to enjoy our own Circling Raven Golf Course which has been voted best native course in the country.”

Chairman Allan said while the conference will showcase the beauty of his homeland, the gathering would serve as a positive influence for Native people in the area.

“I think Native people need to see that – yes – we do have Native doctors. They will certainly be role models for our youth,” he said. “There is a need for Native people in all walks of life, including the health profession.”
The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) and the University of Minnesota-Duluth, Center of American Indian and Minority Health will conduct the Pre-Admission Workshop (PAW) in coordination with the AAIP Annual Meeting & National Health Conference on July 23 – 29 in Worley, ID. The PAW will be held July 24-25. Those receiving a scholarship to attend PAW will be able to participate in the remainder of the AAIP annual conference.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide a framework for undergraduate and graduate students in the application process to a health professional school. The workshop consists of presentations by Native physicians, the Association of Native American Medical Students (ANAMS), university faculty, and other health care professionals. Student participants will be exposed to issues and experiences encountered during the application process for medical and other health professional schools.

The workshop will also help students in the following areas:

- Develop a personal statement
- Study for the MCAT
- Understand the admissions process
- Know how to contact supportive services
- Seek financial aid/scholarship resources
- Prepare for professional school admissions committee interview
- Conduct “mock interviews” to help students with interview preparation

Twenty PAW scholarships are available. Students must submit the scholarship application and required items (see sidebar) by Friday, June 27. The scholarship will pay for airfare or mileage reimbursement, lodging, and most meals. The scholarships are awarded to a student on a one-time basis. Past recipients are not eligible.

Visit www.aaip.org to download an application or contact Philip Johnson, Student Recruiter, at (405) 946-7072.

**SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE**
**FRIDAY, JUNE 27**

Application must include the following:

- AAIP Student Primary Data Sheet
- Recent College Transcripts
- One Letter of Recommendation from professor or academic advisor
- Copy of Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood or Tribal ID Card
- Recent Photo
- One Page Personal Statement
The National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), Office of Minority Health Research Coordination will award eighteen undergraduate student scholarships to attend the Association of American Indian Physicians annual conference in Worley, Idaho.

Selected scholars will be required to attend an NIDDK session on Research Training Opportunities to be held during the conference. Students may also participate in the other programs and social activities scheduled during the AAIP conference July 23 – 29.

The scholarship is awarded on a one-time basis only. Previous recipients are not eligible. The scholarship provides for the student’s airfare, hotel lodging, and $59 per diem for meals and incidental expenses.

Applications must be postmarked by Friday, June 20. Visit www.aaip.org to download the application located under “AAIP News and Announcements” section. For more information, contact Lucinda Myers at (405) 946-7072 or lmyers@aaip.org
Save the Date

June 3-4  Diabetes Today Training
June 21-29  Patty Iron Cloud NNAYI Program
July 24-25  Pre-Admission Workshop
July 25-29  Annual Meeting & National Health Conference

Upcoming AAIP Events

Association of American Indian Physicians
1225 Sovereign Row, Suite 103
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

www.aaip.org