

# Utilizing Electronic Health Record (EHR) Alerts to Improve Child Passenger Safety in NW Tribal Communities



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*Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs*



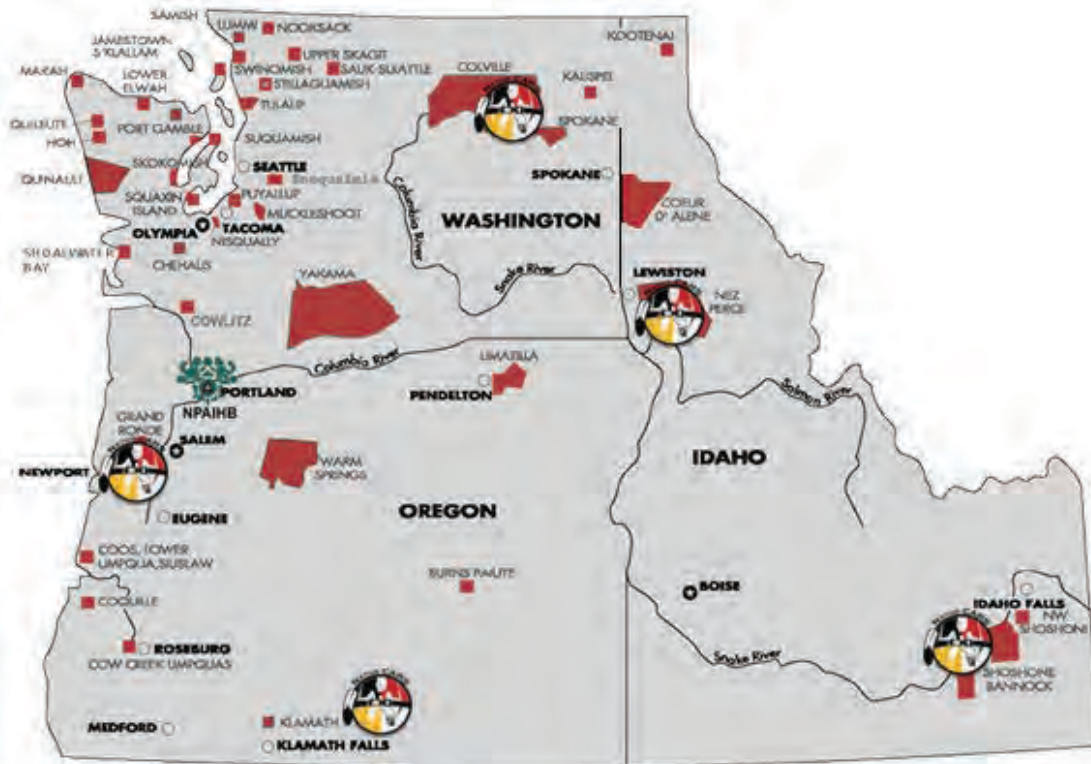
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Chinook Territory 📍 Portland, Oregon

# Native CARS Team

- Northwest Tribal Communities
- NW Portland Area Indian Health Board (NW Tribal EpiCenter)
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  - Candice Jimenez, MPH (*Warm Springs*), Research Manager
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  - Meena Patil, MPH, Biostatistician
  - Jennifer Seamans, MST, MPH Candidate, Intern
- Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU-PSU)
  - Jodi Lapidus, PhD, Co-Principal Investigator
- University of Washington, Harborview Injury Prevention & Research Center
  - Beth Ebel, MD, PhD, Co-Investigator



# Native CARS Study



Community led, data informed interventions to improve the use of child safety seats among American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children utilizing a community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach.



# Native CARS: Community-Driven

## Identify Health Disparities

Analysis of public health data

## Investigate

Collect data, Explore context

## Implement

Community-led, data-driven activities

## Evaluate

Process, Impact, Outcomes

## Disseminate

Translation + Accessibility for general use



# Community Intervention Process

- Review vehicle observations (quantitative data)
- Review elicitation interviews (qualitative data)
  - ✓ Associations with use and non-use
  - ✓ Barriers
  - ✓ Facilitators
  - ✓ Community strengths

**Issue + Approach + Audience + Collaborators = Intervention**



# Intervention Approaches

- Awareness
- Education
- Health or Safety Practice
- Behavior Change
- Environment/Policy



Issue + Approach + Audience + Collaborators = Intervention



# Example Intervention: Media Campaigns

BUILD A STRONG TRADITION  
*Native Children Always Ride Safe*



**We all care for the future generation.**

Life is complicated and sometimes children have to ride in vehicles with grandmas and grandpas, aunts, uncles or friends. But it is important that they are in child seats even when with other drivers, no matter who they're riding with, all children from birth to 8 should ride in a child safety seat appropriate for their age and height. If your child spends a lot of time riding with another driver, it's a great idea to have an additional child seat for the other driver's car to make keeping your child safe easy and convenient.

Nez Perce Tribe



**Nez Perce Child Safety Seat Law**  
**Television PSA**

from *Native*



*Native Children Always Ride Safe*

**Protect our children.  
Use child safety seats.**

*Nez Perce Tribe*



Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board



# Risks Factors Identified

- Children moving into the next child safety seat too early (i.e. incorrect restraint or position)
- Children traveling close to home (*5 minutes or less*)
- 7-8 year old children



More recent concerns –

Continuing need to build awareness of 2018 national recommendations





# How can we help address these risks?

- Share successes with other tribal communities
- Incorporate lessons learned from other tribes
- ***Amplify impact*** of child safety seat distribution programs in community



# What the data says

## Resources that work –

- CPSTs
- child safety seats
- local distribution program

- More kids are using restraints, but not necessarily the seat that is right for their age and size
- Tribal health is #1 source of child safety seat information for a community.



*Question:* How do we link these together?



# EHR Alerts – Care Coordination



# Health Education via EHR

**RPMS Electronic Health Record Alert (Native CARS)**  
from **Native CARS Atlas**

**CHILD HEALTH-PRESCHOOL (3-5 YEARS)-CAR SEATS & AUTOMOBILE SAFETY**

**OUTCOME:**  
The parents/caregiver will understand assures that will improve car safety.

**STANDARDS:**

1. Emphasize the importance that all occupants in the vehicle use appropriate safety belt or safety seat - allow no exceptions.
  - a. Stress the use of a properly fitted, properly secured, NHTSA approved car safety seat or booster seat EVERY TIME the child rides in a vehicle.
2. The placement of the car seat in the vehicle should be correct for the age/size of the child.
3. Discuss avoiding behaviors that can divert attention from driving, such as smoking, cell phone use, texting, eating, CDs and radios, or unruly kids.
4. Emphasize the importance of never driving while under the influence of alcohol, street drugs, sedatives or over-the-counter drugs that can cause drowsiness.
5. Discuss the need to secure or remove any loose items in the car that can fly around and hurt the child if you stop suddenly or are in an accident.
6. Discuss the potential dangers of leaving a child alone in a vehicle, e.g., vehicle gears shifted and car goes in action, injury caused by power windows or sunroof, keys locked in vehicle with child, heat or cold exposure, abduction or child wandering away.

08/11/2012 Smoke Free Home Tobacco

10:50 HANSON KATIE | PASSWORD: EHR D1 NA IHS G/IV | CHEMMAWA H CT | 15-Sep-2016 11:37

Start | RPMS EHR JORNSO... | 11/3/2016

Native CARS logo in top left corner.

Navigation icons: Heart, Clock, Paper plane.

Video player controls: Play button, 10:50, Progress bar, Signal strength, Settings, Full screen, Vimeo logo.

# Another Avenue of Outreach

## Clinical health reminder alert = EHR 'Consult'

- How many times clinic providers are documenting car seat education codes?
- How many consults are made to child passenger safety technicians?
- How many of those consults are complete?



# Creating Spaces for Collaboration

- Up-to-date information from CPSTs
- Education for providers during well child exams
- Alerts remind providers and consults connect families



# Child Safety Seats: 'Immunizing Against MV Injuries'



# Why address this when there are so many priorities?



- Highly preventable
- Child safety seats work
  - Reduce risk of death by 71% for infants
  - Reduce risk of death by 54% for children age 1-4 years
- Booster seats reduce risk for serious injury by nearly half for children aged 4–8 years old *compared to seat belt use alone*





# Accessibility

Native CARS is designed to *increase and sustain* overall use:

- ❖ Both online and print content are free and easy to access
- ❖ Easily tailored to community needs; tribal and non-tribal communities alike
- ❖ We welcome partnerships with tribal, state & national groups/organizations



[www.nativecars.org](http://www.nativecars.org)



# Acknowledgements



HARBORVIEW  
INJURY PREVENTION & RESEARCH CENTER



Spokane Tribe  
of Indians



National Institute  
on Minority Health  
and Health Disparities



# Thank You



NativeCARS.ORG  
Native Children Always Ride Safe

ATLAS

[www.nativecars.org](http://www.nativecars.org)



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Upcoming training opportunity: April 21-23, 2020 @ NPAIHB  
Portland, OR - IHS “Introduction to Injury Prevention” Course

