

SMOKE signals



Oniyan Wakan Coalition Newsletter

June 2009

Briefs

Oniyan Wakan Coalition June meeting rescheduled

The June meeting of the Oniyan Wakan (Sacred Breath) Coalition will be held June 16th at JD's Pizza on Main-street in Rapid City. Normally scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month, the meeting had to be postponed due to members in attendance at the National Conference on Tobacco.

If you are interested in strengthening your family, community and nation by promoting becoming commercial tobacco free? Oniyan Wakan (Sacred Breath) Coalition welcomes you to its monthly meetings where we value your input!

Oniyan Wakan Coalition meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from Noon to 1 pm.

Summer Health Fair kick-off to be held

A Summer Health Fair kick-off will be held June 29th from 5pm to 8 pm at the Lakota Homes Community Center. Co-sponsored by the PHN, Health Education, Diabetes Prevention and Christian Children Fund, this event is to educate the community as to what resources are available to them. A BBQ supper will be provided by the CCF.

Any questions, call Ike at 342-9411, Brenda at 355-2203, Richard at 355-2432 or Jacquie Arpan at 355-2257.

Babysitting classes to be offered

Babysitting classes will be offered to middle school aged students June 26 at the Lakota Homes Community Center.

These classes will help prepare middle school aged students with basic emergency preparedness, and first aid skills.

For any questions, call Ike at 342-9411 or Richard at 355-2432.

Cigarette Butts Clean Up



Area youth gathered at Knollwood Townhouses on April 27th to clean up cigarette butts. The event was a huge success with around 100 youth working to clean up cigarette butts. Two nationally-known Tobacco speakers were also on hand to support the effort. Thank you to Pam Teaney Thomas at RCAS Youth Development for partnering with BHCAH and the Oniyan Wakan Coalition with a special thank you to all the youth and their sponsors who volunteered their time to make this successful event happen.

Focus Groups Being Conducted

American Indians have the highest smoking rates in the U.S. and experience an enormous burden of smoking-related diseases. The Black Hills Center for American Indian Health is conducting focus groups among Oglala Lakota College students to help attain ways to increase prevention and cessation rates and gather insight on tobacco policies. Groups

have been held at Rapid City, Kyle and Pine Ridge college centers. Findings will be used to design more effective commercial tobacco prevention and cessation programs for Lakota men and women.

If you are an OLC college student and would like to participate in a group discussion please contact the BHCAH 348-6100

BHCAIH hosts Tobacco Intervention Training

Community Health Representatives received Brief Tobacco Intervention Training on April 8th. The training for health professionals was offered by BHCAIH to assist providers as they intervene with patients

who use commercial tobacco.

To schedule training for your organization contact Rebecca by emailing her at rweathers@bhcaih.org or call 605-348-6100. (CEUs and certification provided)

Kicking Butts on Film Video PSA Contest

Youth organizations were given an opportunity to stand out, speak up and seize control in the fight against big tobacco companies by submitting an original video public service announcement.

Dakota Middle School Youth to Youth submitted the winning video PSA and received \$200 for their organization

2nd place went to Girls Inc., which was awarded \$100.

To view the winning PSA online, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6cAi28-xFc>

SMOKE SIGNALS Spread the news!

Smoke Signals is the newsletter of the Oniyan Wakan Coalition. If your organization has upcoming events or activities planned or news or photos of interest to other coalition members, Smoke Signals is the place for you.

If you have news events or photos you would like to have included in the next issue of Smoke Signals,



Kick Butts Day Bagel Give Away



BHCAIH staff headed to the streets on a mission to giveaway bagels on Kick Butts Day, March 25th. Pictured (l to r) are Priscilla Nez, Sandra Albertson, Monique Giago and Mr Ciggy.

Traditional Wacipis Held



OLC Service Learning, BHCAIH and Oniyan Wakan Coalition came together to sponsor Traditional Wacipi. These pow wows were held at the Mother Butler Community Center on February 21 and May 9th.

Oniyan Wakan Coalition

Strengthening all Nations by working toward becoming commercial tobacco free.

Our team objectives are:

- Advocate for smoke-free environments
- Educate on wellness and wholesomeness
- Increase prevention efforts
- Increase cessation activities
- Promote healthy lifestyles

For more information or to join Oniyan Wakan Coalition please call the Black Hills Center for American Indian Health at 605-348-6100

