



CALIFORNIA RURAL INDIAN HEALTH BOARD, INC.

For Immediate Release
December 28, 2016

Jennifer Yniguez, BA
Communications Specialist
916-929-9761 ext. 2005
jennifer.yniguez@crihb.org

CRIHB AWARDED MILLION DOLLAR GRANT FOR YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION

Sacramento, CA- The California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc. (CRIHB) was recently awarded a five-year youth suicide prevention grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The Native Connections grant is structured to support participating Tribal Health Programs in CRIHB's membership by providing them with resources that will improve the health and wellbeing of youth in their communities.

“This grant will provide a great support for the Tribal communities we serve. It is imperative that we help our youth become confident, healthy individuals,” said CRIHB Chairwoman, Lisa Elgin.

CRIHB CEO, Dr. Mark LeBeau commented, “The Native Connections grant is essential in providing Tribes and Tribal Clinics with much needed support to at-risk Native youth. CRIHB staff and clinic leaders are persistent in their efforts to ensure we build on the success of previous youth programs.”

The goal of the program is to prevent and reduce suicidal behavior and substance abuse, reduce impact of trauma and promote mental health among American Indian/Alaska Native youth, 24 years old and younger. There are nine Tribal Health Programs participating in the Native Connections project: Chapa-De Indian Health Program, Feather River Tribal Health, Greenville Rancheria Tribal Health Program, Karuk Community Health Clinic, Mathiesen Memorial Health Clinic, Pit River Health Service, Sonoma County Indian Health Project, Tule River Indian Health Center, and Warner Mountain Indian Health Program. Additionally, the Toiyabe Indian Health Project and United Indian Health Services were awarded their own Native Connections grants.

The grant program will continue to build upon the work of CRIHB's Healing Our Own People (HOOP) program that ended in 2016. The project will commence with a planning phase to include participating community members, Tribal Health Programs, and Tribal leaders. An advisory group will be developed to inform the direction of grant objectives, while a comprehensive needs assessment, community readiness assessment, and community resource/asset map will be created to determine areas and issues the project will address.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Native Connections project, contact Daniel Domaguin, Behavioral Health Clinical Manager, at daniel.domaguin@crihb.org.

###