

Tribal Safety Conscious Planning: Lessons and Successes

Northern Rocky Mountain Region
Rural Transportation Safety Conference
May 20-21, 2009
Rapid City, South Dakota

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Montana Department of Transportation



Overview

- Data Overview
- Tribal Planning and Programs
- Successes and Lessons Learned

Native American Fatal Crashes

In 2008 Native Americans fatalities represented 11.8% of all Montana fatalities



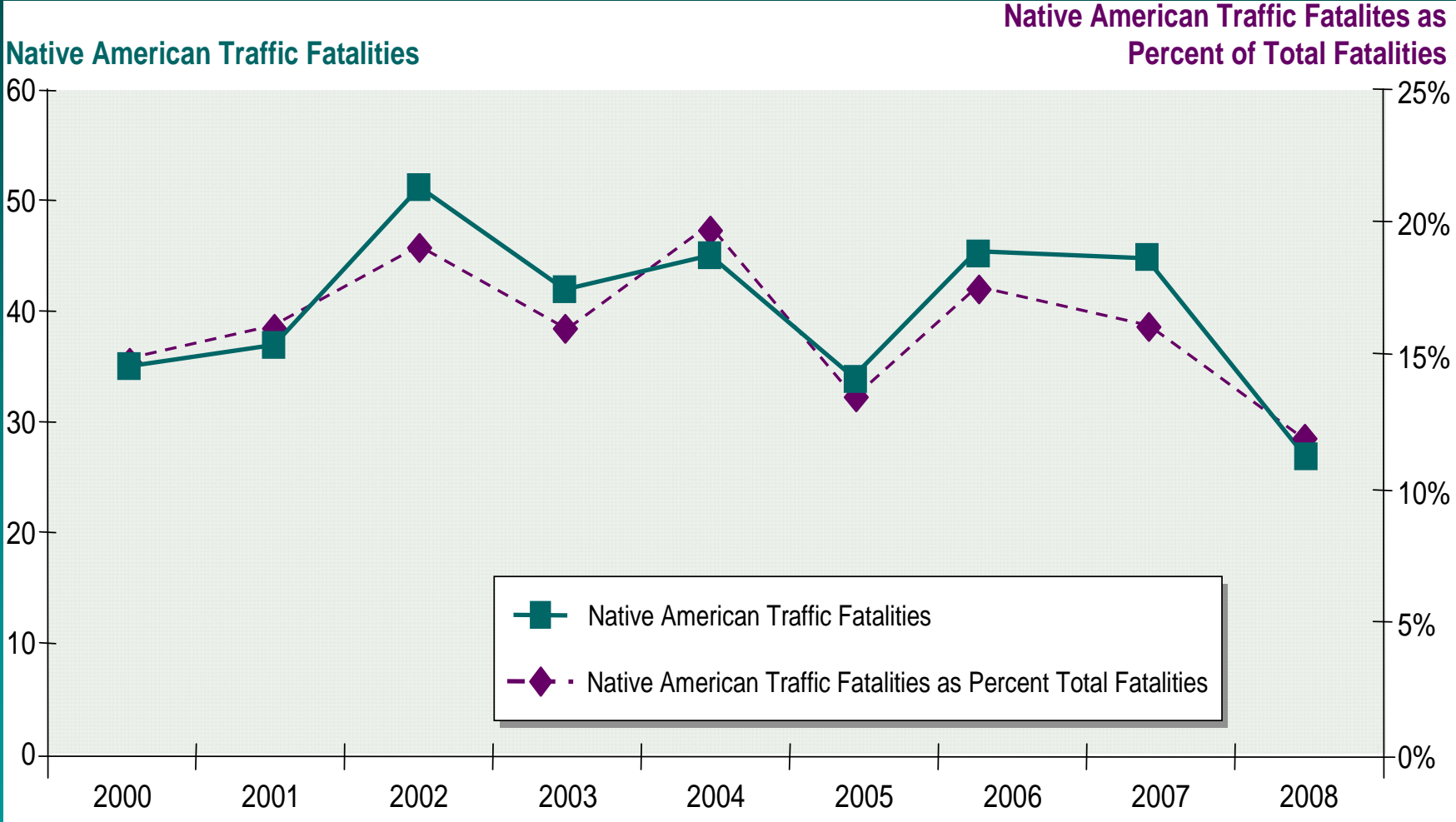
Historically they have been 15-20%

Native Americans make up only 6.2% of the population

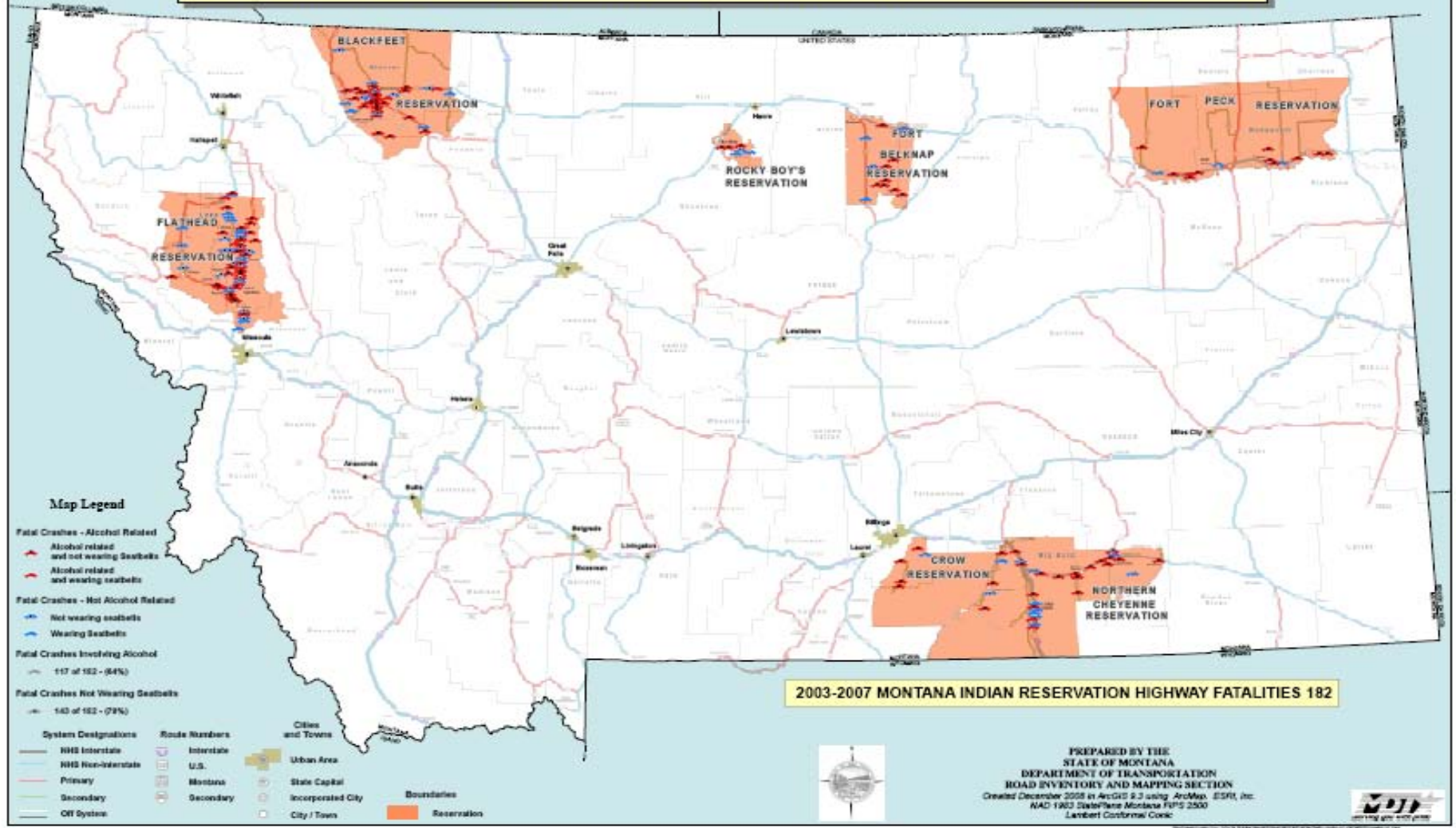
Montana Safety Issues - 2008

- **Alcohol** related fatalities were 45.9% of all fatal crashes
- **Seat belt use** in was 79.3%
- **Single vehicle run off the road** crashes represent 56.3% of all fatalities
- Approximately 90% of fatal crashes in Montana are **rural**

Native American Fatalities



FATAL CRASH LOCATIONS ON MONTANA INDIAN RESERVATION HIGHWAYS: 2003-2007



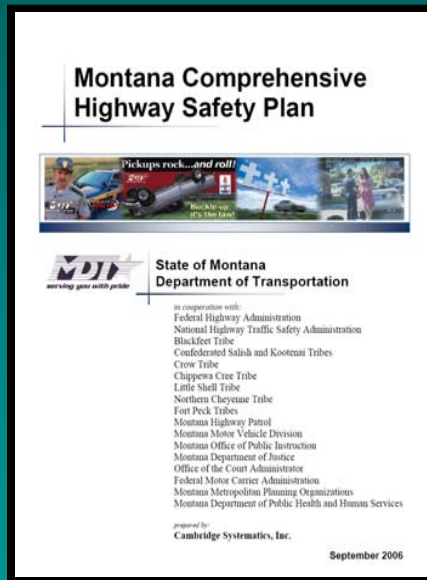
Tribal Safety Planning

“How do we work TOGETHER to reduce Native American Fatalities?”



- June 2005: Tribal Safety Conscious Planning Forum
- April 2006: Governor’s Tri-party gathering
- September 2006: Montana’s Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan (CHSP)
- 2008/2009: Development of Tribal Specific Safety Plans


Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan – Native American Strategies



- Data Sharing among Tribal, State, & Local Entities
- Cross-Deputization of Law Enforcement
- Adoption of Uniform Traffic Codes
- Law Enforcement Training
- Tribal Safety Plans for Each Reservation


Tribal Safety Planning

CROW TRIBE
Safety Management Plan



June 2008

FORT PECK TRIBES
Safety Management Plan



June 2008

BLACKFEET NATION
Safety Management Plan



June 2008


NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE
Safety Management Plan



Northern Cheyenne

October 2008

THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
Safety Management Plan



A People of Vision

December 2008

Tribal Safety Plan Format

1. Inventory of Existing Safety Programs on the Reservations
2. Identification of Safety Issues
3. Development of Strategies to address the issues.



Programs and Projects

- Safe On All Roads (SOAR) Program
- STEP overtime patrols for tribal law enforcement
- Equipment and training
- Crash Data
- Prevention of Racial Profiling

SOAR – Safe on All Roads

Goal: Reduce Traffic Deaths & Injuries on Reservations



Strategic foundation:

Messages to promote behavior change must come from within the audience communities and culture



SOAR Coordinators



211
Indian people died
on Montana roads in
the last 5 years.

192
of those who died
were not wearing
seat belts.

153
of those deaths were
alcohol-related.

80
were under
the age of 25.

The Montana Department of
Transportation Safe On All Roads
program is working with reservation
communities to prevent crash deaths
and injuries. If you would like to
help, email info@safeonallroads.com
or write to Safe On All Roads, P.O.
Box 509, Great Falls MT 59403.



This little piggy graduated.

This little piggy went to a party.

This little piggy had a few beers.

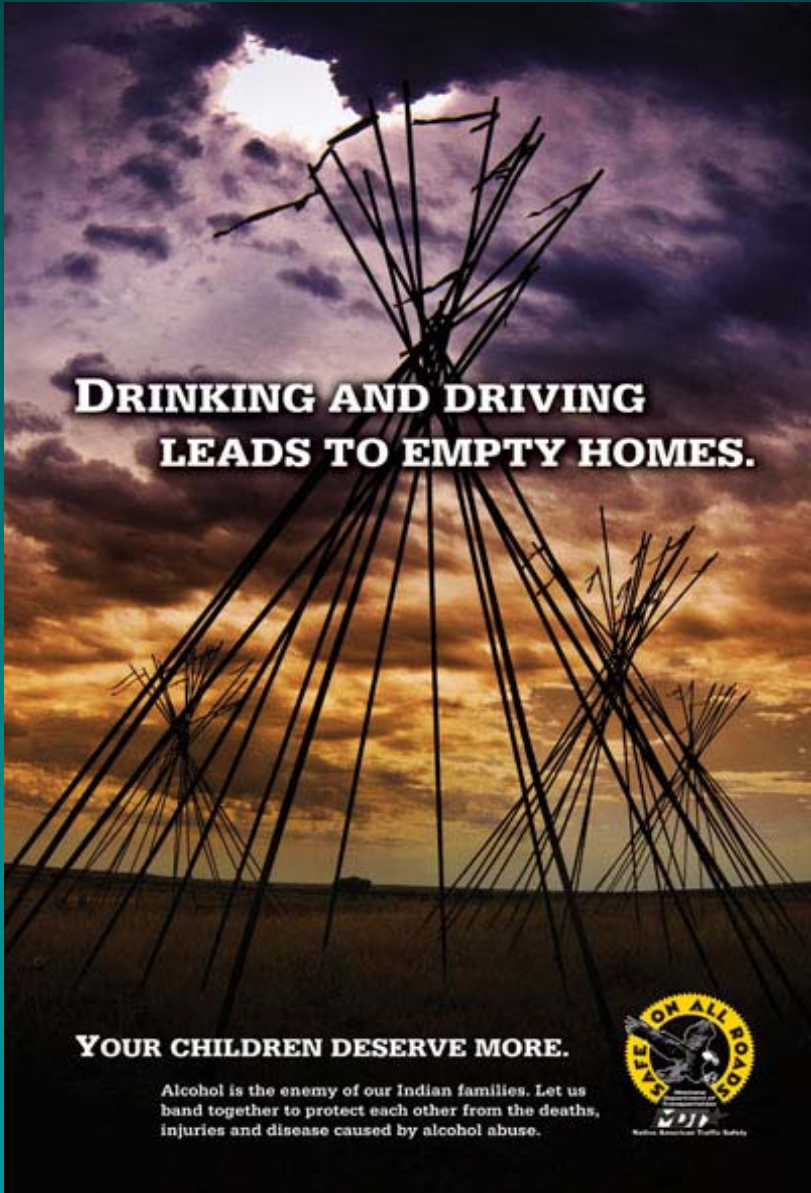
This little piggy drove away.

This little piggy never made it home.

**SOBER
behind the
WHEEL**

SAFE ON ALL ROADS
Montana Department of Transportation
Native American Traffic Safety

CITY OF BROWNING
MORGUE



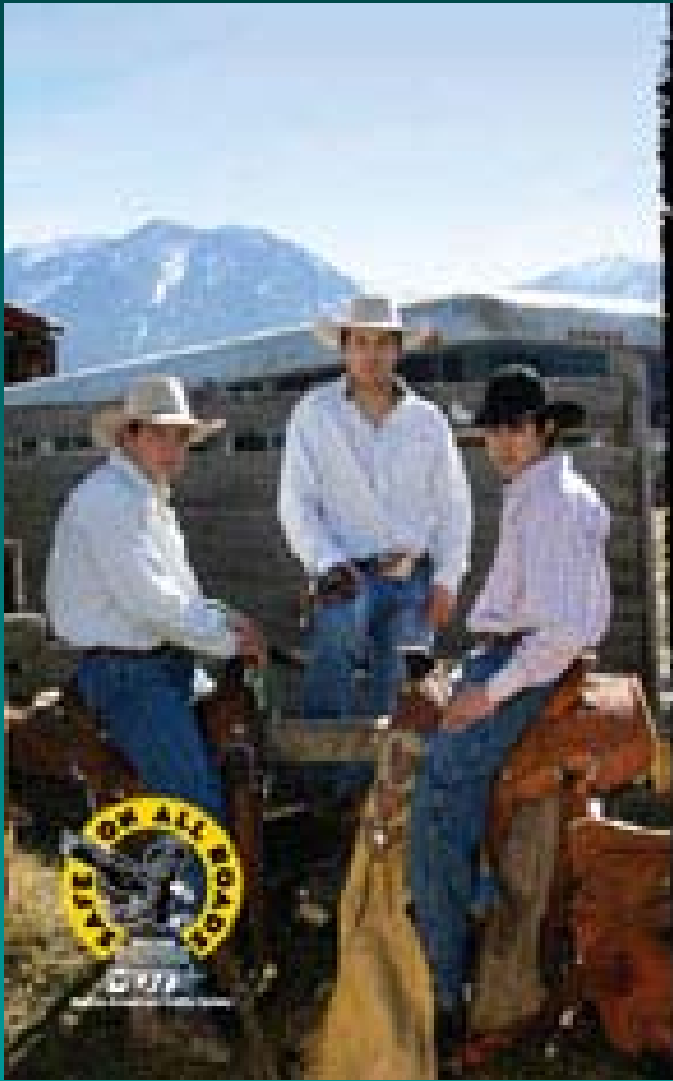


Killing Yourself Isn't the Worst Part

What if your friends die or become disabled because you were drunk behind the wheel?
Please, respect the families of your community and your tribe.
Don't drink and drive.



A Message from the Montana Department of Transportation and Your Tribal College



(BUCKLE UP BOYS)

Levi, Billy and Rusty Hendrickson of Arlee Rodeo champions - Seat belt users



"We grew up on horses, riding almost as soon as we could walk. But when we ride in a truck, we count on the buckle. So should you."



BUCKLE UP IN YOUR TRUCK.

Pickup trucks are twice as likely to roll over as a car. A seat belt increases your chances of survival in a rollover by up to 82%.

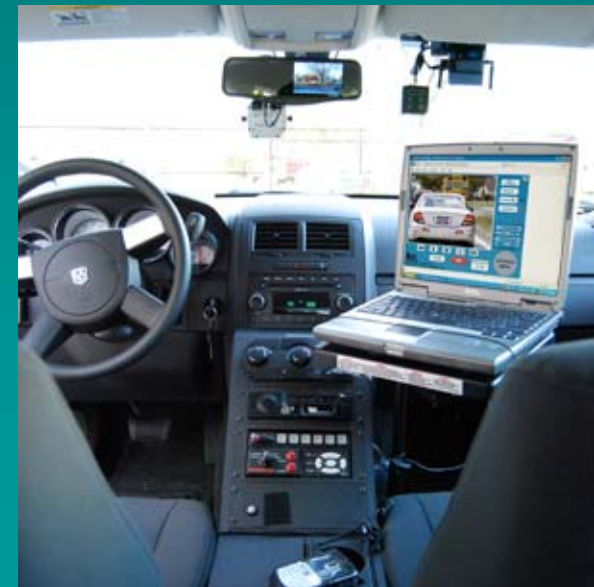
SOAR Activities

- Training
- Coordination with community agencies/organizations
- Coalition-building with regional/community leaders
- Data collection
- Support for law enforcement
- Advocacy for policy change
- Recruitment of student advocates



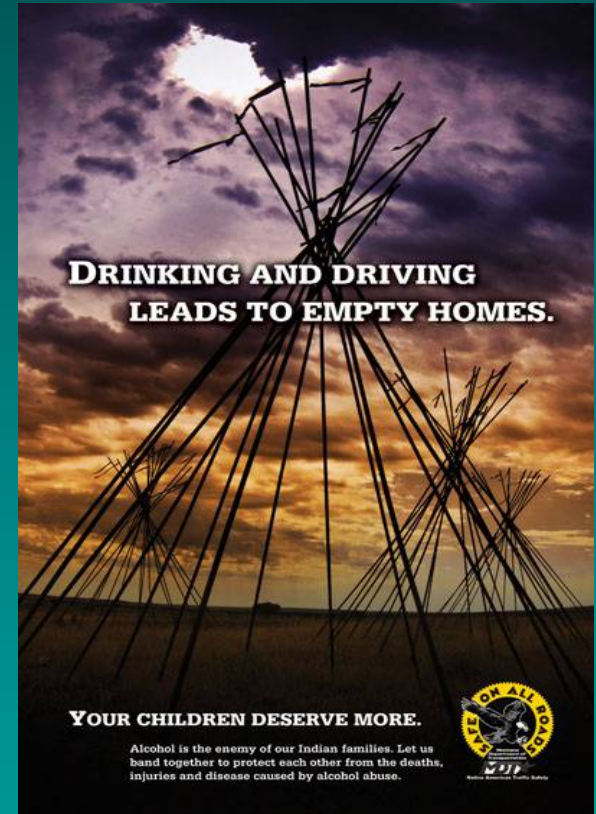
Other Native American Safety Programs/Projects

- Overtime for Tribal Law Enforcement
- Equipment Purchases
- Prevention of Racial Profiling



Lessons & Successes

- Each tribe is unique
- Involve tribes in finding solutions
- Connect tribes with resources
- Relationships are key – Active programs with strong Tribal participation
- Data is showing improvements
- Awareness of Culture and framing programs



Respect the Cage



Respect the Cage



