



NEWS RELEASE

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AMERICAN INDIAN CANCER FOUNDATION ELECTS NEW CHAIR OF THE BOARD

MINNEAPOLIS, MN - The American Indian Cancer Foundation's (AICAF) newly elected Chair of the Board is Nicole Hallingstad (Tlingit), from Petersburg, Alaska. Her Tlingit name is Ch'aak Tlaa and she is Raven (Yeíl) of the Seapigeon (T'aakdeintaan) Clan. She owns a management consulting firm and works in Anchorage, Alaska. Nicole has been on the board since 2018 and is a two-time cancer survivor.



“The mission of AICAF is personally resonant and so important,” said Nicole. “It is such an honor to serve AICAF’s mission to reduce cancer burdens in Indian Country. These are our sisters and brothers, aunties, uncles, our kids. Our family. The personal donations we get are the lifeblood of our budget to help them. Please consider a contribution today to this outstanding organization. We thank you and our children thank you.”

Melissa Buffalo, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and the AICAF Board of Directors thank former Board Chairperson, Dr. Gary Ferguson (Aleut/Unangan) and former Secretary, Deana Jackson (Navajo) for their service during their terms.

“I am beyond thankful for Gary and Deana’s leadership and for bringing their passion, insight and expertise to carry out the organization’s vision and mission. Thank you for your commitment to serving our relatives for the last seven years,” said Melissa Buffalo, CEO.

Nicole is joined by other board officers including Tamera Begay of the Navajo Nation as Vice Chair, Frances Tiger of the Muscogee Creek Nation as Treasurer, and Native Hawaiian Donna Palakiko as Secretary.

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Dr. Ferguson and Jackson have fulfilled their terms but remain committed to AICAF's mission. AICAF thanks all our wonderful board volunteers for their service and expertise.

Donate Today!

A gift to AICAF helps us strengthen our programs, build larger campaigns, and provide more resources to families across Indian Country. It's generous donors like you that play a vital role in making this work happen! Donate at americanindiancancer.org/donation.

About the American Indian Cancer Foundation

AICAF is a national Native-led and Native-governed non-profit organization established to address the cancer burdens faced by American Indian/Alaska Native people. AICAF strives to be a partner trusted by tribes and organizations, and is working toward effective and sustainable cancer solutions based on cultural teachings and wisdom.

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