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Media Contact: communications@aicaf.org

## American Indian Cancer Foundation Announces 13th Annual Powwow for Hope: Dancing for Life, Love, and Hope

ST. PAUL, MN - The American Indian Cancer Foundation (AICAF) is excited to announce that the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Powwow for Hope™ (PFH): Dancing for Life, Love & Hope will be Saturday, May 4, 2024 at the Base Camp Facility.

We are excited to continue the tradition of dancing, celebrating, and creating memories together, in person. We are honored to provide a space for community, cancer survivors, and caregivers to honor all those impacted by a cancer diagnosis, including our relatives who have journeyed on.

"The Powwow for Hope can change your life. The collective heart power of healing and caring at that event lifts you up, no matter what you are experiencing at the time. We encourage everyone to come: survivors, caregivers, families, children - we all benefit from feeling the connection to each other.", said Nicole Hallingstad, Tlingit, AICAF Board Chairperson.

Our mission to eliminate the cancer burdens of Indigenous people remains steadfast, and as we navigate the hurdles of health disparities in our communities, it is important to keep in mind that <u>cancer</u> <u>continues to be the leading cause of death</u> <u>for Native women and the second leading cause of death</u> <u>for Native men</u>. More than ever, a donation to support our work in eliminating cancer burdens is needed.

Last year, with the gracious support of our sponsors and community, AICAF raised over \$100,000 that will go to support the following:

- Strengthening the Survivorship Program to offer more support to loved ones facing cancer.
- Delivering cancer care packages and resources to more communities.
- Building larger campaigns to address the cancer inequities faced by our communities.

AICAF extends a huge "THANK YOU" to the following sponsors who helped us reach this goal:

- Pfizer
- Exact Sciences
- The Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota (ANSR)
- Eisai Inc.
- Mayo Clinic Center for Health Equity and Community Engagement
- Genentech
- Minnesota Department of Health Office of Statewide Health Improvement Initiatives
- University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center
- The Minneapolis Foundation
- Colon Cancer Coalition

- Minnesota Department of Health Sage Cancer Programs
- American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network MN
- AmeriHealth Administrators
- Ryan Mechanical
- Hennepin Healthcare Comprehensive Cancer Center
- UCare
- Genentech Catori
- Cellular One
- Triple Moon, LLC
- Sears Imported Autos
- Nashke Native Games

Our hope is to continue the momentum this year, as we reflect on the needs of our communities.

Local and national organizations are invited to attend to share educational resources that will promote health, wellness, and support our mission in reaching more American Indian / Alaskan Native communities by strengthening their knowledge in cancer prevention, early detection, and encouraging healthy lifestyles.

We welcome everyone to dance for life, love, and hope for our current and future generations! Further details on this year's PFH will be out soon, so follow us on <u>Facebook</u> or <u>subscribe</u> to our newsletter for the latest news. Learn how you can get involved at <u>powwowforhope.org</u>.

## About the American Indian Cancer Foundation

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

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