

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AUG. 19, 2024

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## AICAF WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**ST. PAUL, MN**— The American Indian Cancer Foundation (AICAF) is pleased to announce the appointment of two new Board members who bring their expertise and passion for supporting cancer education and prevention within American Indian communities.

Joining the AICAF Board of Directors are:



Christian Weaver, *Shinnecock Nation*Christian Weaver serves as the VP of Philanthropy for the GRID Alternatives and has been a leader in the non-profit industry for over 20 years.

At his core, Christian is passionate about environmental sustainability, conservation, community development, and civil rights. He holds a bachelor's degree from Valdosta State University, and a Masters in Indigenous Law from the University of Oklahoma College of Law.



Zepporah Fuller, *Diné* 

Zepporah Fuller has over seventeen years of experience in private, specialty, and Indian Health Service health care delivery system, owns her own consulting business, providing expertise to Tribal (PL-638) and Urban Indian Organizations in health center operations, population health, policy and procedure development, quality and compliance, and board of directors training.

In her spare time, Zepporah loves running, hiking, paddleboarding, reading, and spending time with her family and friends.

"We are thrilled to welcome these accomplished individuals to our Board of Directors," said Melissa Buffalo, AICAF CEO "...their diverse backgrounds and commitment to addressing American Indian cancer disparities will be invaluable as we work toward our mission of eliminating cancer burdens faced by Native people."

The new members will join the current Directors in guiding the strategic direction of AICAF and ensuring the organizations programs and initiatives are impactful and sustainable. The Board plays a crucial role in overseeing the organization's finances, governance, and overall operations.

Christian is excited to be in a position to help activate Native communities by tapping into traditional /culture life ways.

"For thousands of years we have used our natural ways and traditional ways to maintain health and balance. With the introduction of commercial tobacco, processed foods and chemicals that harm our environment we've seen our ways of life and health threatened. Join me and all of the Board and staff at AICAF in working to create healthier communities for Indigenous people," said Christian Weaver.

Zepporah's passion for the mission and work of AICAF is deeply personal.

"Joining the American Indian Cancer Foundation Board is a deeply personal and profound decision for me having lost my mother to breast cancer when I was 16. I'm inspired by AICAF's vision of a future where cancer is no longer the leading cause of death for Native people," states Zepporah, "As I embark on this new role as a Board Director with AICAF, I look forward to a future where Native communities can thrive in health and whole-person wellness."

The American Indian Cancer Foundation is a national non-profit organization dedicated to addressing the cancer inequities faced by American Indian and Alaska Native communities through education, advocacy, and research. To learn more about AICAF and its mission, visit <a href="https://www.americanindiancancer.org">www.americanindiancancer.org</a>

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