



Elder Visions

Newsletter of the National Indian Council on Aging, Inc.

Summer 2002

Healing Our People, Healing Our Spirits, Healing Our World

Conference 2002

Draws a Crowd

NICOA is in the final stages of preparation for its 2002 conference, "Healing Our People, Healing Our Spirits, Healing Our World." On September 4-6, the conference will take place in Albuquerque, N.M. as part of a larger, international conference, "Healing Our Spirit Worldwide (HOSW)."

Focusing on Native people healing from abuse, the HOSW conference is hosted by a different country every two years, and will come to the U.S. this year. The Year 2000 conference took place in New Zealand.

NICOA is proud and excited to be a part of the larger conference this year, and to bring elders together for a conference that promises to be much different than usual. While many of NICOA's



traditional conference events such as the Pow Wow, Prayer Breakfast, and Fashion Show will take place, elders will

have more opportunities to hear Native speakers from as far away as New Zealand, Canada, Latin America, and other parts of the globe.

Conference workshops will focus on healing from different types of abuse, and offer firsthand testimonies from many speakers. The workshops will provide a place for people to come together, to talk, and to heal together.

For registration information, or to register, please call Eva or Martha at NICOA's national headquarters office at 505-292-2001, or visit the NICOA web page, <www.nicoa.org>, to download and print a registration form.

We look forward to seeing each one of you as we begin the journey to "Healing Our Spirits, Healing Our People, and Healing Our World."

**The National Indian
Council On Aging, Inc.**

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716/354-9287

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(Past Chair) 580/622-2057

The Latest Information
Conference Questions

Q: *How much will it cost to register for the Conference?*

A: Advance Registration is closed. For NICOA Voting Members (elders) who have a current NICOA membership, the cost of registration is \$65.00. For all others, registration is \$180.00.

Q: *What if I am an Indian elder (55 or older) and a tribal member, but I am not a voting member of NICOA?*

A: Bring proof of your age and enrollment to the conference, and you can join NICOA on-site (\$10.00 for two years). If you do, you can register for the Voting Member cost (\$65.00).

Q: *What if I'm not an elder, and I am not a NICOA member?*

A: We encourage you to come. This conference is for everybody! Registration costs will be 180.00.

Q: *Where can I find out more information about conference housing, travel, and events?*

A: Please call Eva or Martha at our national headquarters office in Albuquerque, NM, (505) 292-2001 or visit NICOA's website: www.nicoa.org.

Q: *What if I want to participate in the fashion show?*

A: NICOA will provide a sign-up sheet at registration. This

NOTE: Because this year's Elder Fashion Show will be international, we request that no more than 10 elders per tribe participate. Tribal elder programs, please select elder participants prior to coming to the conference!



High Tech Phone Access for Indian Country

Verizon New Conference Sponsor

Verizon, the nation's fourth largest long-distance company, has entered a new partnership as the top sponsor of NICOA's conference. Verizon has 8.2 million long-distance customers in 44 states and now offers long-distance to four out of every five of its customers. The company ranked first in the nation for customer satisfaction in a recent survey of high-volume customers.

"Verizon has really shown an interest in bringing high-tech broadband telephone access to reservations," said NICOA Executive Director Dave Baldrige. "With broad band for our Title VI sites, we could really get some of our new diabetes and benefits education materials to our elders."

NICOA and Verizon are good partners, according to Baldrige. High speed telephone access for Indian country can help close the information gap, he said.

The partnership began when NICOA's board chairman, Frank Chee Willetto, traveled to Washington, D.C. in November, 2001 to meet with Verizon officials. "We owe a lot to Mr. Willetto and to our board members," Baldrige said. "They travel and speak a lot on behalf of Indian elders, and they represent us in a very good way."

year's Fashion Show will be held along with the evening Elder Banquet on Wednesday, September 4.

Conference Exhibitors

Conference exhibits are being handled by the National Indian Health Board (NIHB), which is hosting the HOSW conference. A limited number of booths are available for Indian elders at a rate of \$150 (first come, first served, and for NICOA organizational members at \$500. Exhibitor rates are:

Indian Elder (limited availability)	\$ 150
NICOA members	\$ 500
Businesses (NICOA organizational member)	\$ 500

Payment must be made with your registration form, directly to:
National Indian Health Board
1385 S. Colorado Blvd., Suite A-708
Denver, CO 80222

Registration forms with no payment will not be processed.
~~Registrations paid by purchase order will be assessed a \$50 processing fee by NIHB.~~ No refunds will be made.

NICOA Mentors Andrus Fellows

NICOA recently began working with four Master's Level American Indian interns through the Andrus Foundation Scholars Program. The interns, Robyn Atencio, Kee Benally, Karilyn Houzous and Lula Nez--students at New Mexico Highlands University--are members of two tribes--Navajo Nation and the Pueblo of Cochiti.

The interns recently participated in an all-day meeting hosted at NICOA headquarters. There, Indian community leaders, including NICOA Board Chairman Frank Chee Willetto, NICOA contractor Rebecca Baca, and Melvina McCabe, M.D., spoke about leadership and health issues. The internship program introduces minority scholars to the many commitments, rewards, and demands involved in a research career in aging.

In July, the interns attended the annual AARP Andrus Foundation National Educational Enrichment Fellowship Program, where they met Senate legislative staffers, other minority aging advocates, and private sector advocates such as Patrick Gaston, Vice President of Verizon.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Send completed form, with payment to:
NICOA, 10501 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite 210, Albuquerque, NM 87111.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TRIBE/ORGANIZATION _____

C.D.I.B./CENSUS # _____ DOB _____ PHONE () _____

VOTING Member "... any Indian who is enrolled as a member of an Indian tribe, band or combination of tribes and bands, recognized by the United States Department of the Interior...{and} who is 55 years of age or older."

Please attach a copy of C.D.I.B./Census # for proof of enrollment or use form below if a copy is unavailable.

FOR VOTING MEMBERS ONLY (A tribal official must attest/sign)

I hereby attest that (Print Name) _____ is a member of the _____ tribe, of

(State) _____ Enrollment # _____

Certified By _____ Title _____

ASSOCIATE Member Any Indian (under 55 years old) or non-Indian individual may become a non-voting Associate member of the National Indian Council On Aging.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION ONLY
MEMBERSHIP DUES

Voting Members	\$ 10.00*
Associate Members	\$ 40.00
Organizational Members	\$ 100.00

CONFERENCE FEES

Registration (after June 25, 2002)

Voting Members	\$ 65.00
All Others	\$ 180.00

Registration (after June 25)

Method of Payment

Check/Money Order No. _____

Purchase Order No. _____

Amount Due

Membership \$ _____

Conference Registration \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED* \$ _____

EXHIBITORS

Register with the National Indian Health Board, not with NICOA. Phone 303/759-3075.

For NICOA members only, **limited booth space** is available at \$150 for Voting Members, \$500 for companies and organizations.



*Payment must accompany this form. Do not send cash. Refund of fees will be made if written notice of cancellation is received by August 15, 2002.

NICOA Membership Application

If you can't attend the conference this year, you can still become a NICOA member!

Complete form and mail to: NICOA Membership
10501 Montgomery Blvd. NE, Suite 210
Albuquerque, NM 87111

Name:(Please Print) _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Tribal Affiliation: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Tribal Roll or Census #: _____

Membership type: (please check one)

VOTING MEMBER (\$10): Qualified voting members are any Indian 55 years of age or older who is an enrolled "member of an Indian tribe, band or combination of tribes and bands, recognized by the United States Department of the Interior."

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (\$40): Any Indian under age 55, or non-Indian individual may become a non-voting associate member of NICOA upon payment of dues.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER (\$100): Any organization (including tribes) may become a non-voting organizational member of NICOA upon payment of dues.

PAYMENT ENCLOSED: Check # _____ Money Order # _____ Cash _____

FOR VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

Copy of Tribal Roll/Census # Attached? YES NO

Please attach a copy for proof of enrollment. Fill out the following if a copy is not available.

I hereby attest that (print name) _____ is a member of
the _____ (tribe) _____ of
(state) _____.

Enrollment # _____

Certified by _____ Title _____



NICOA Hires Program Manager

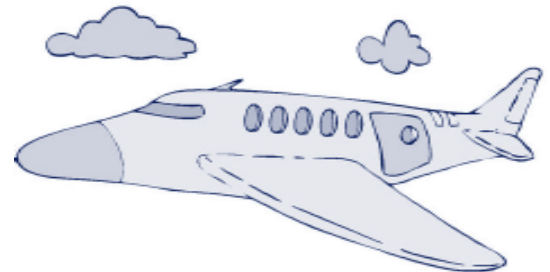


NICOA has added a program manager position to its growing staff. Heather DH Mann, from Idaho, began working at NICOA just before the holidays. In her words, “it has been one of the best decisions I have ever made, receiving with honor this opportunity to work for people whose voices must be heard.”

Heather recently completed her master’s degree in Geography at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. She followed her dreams to the mesas and mountains of New Mexico, and made herself right at home in Albuquerque. “Idaho is where I will always have my roots, but New Mexico is my home. I knew that it was my home when I first drove through the state in 1998.” Heather made that dream come true when she packed her things and moved here with her husband in October.

Settling down to her daily activities at NICOA, Heather eagerly looks forward to more contact with the people she serves. “I welcome any opportunity to expand my technical and computer skills. I like public speaking and communication, but most importantly, I hope to speak with individuals. I am blessed to still have all four of my grandparents. They teach me each day what it means to be my best self, and I hope to use the lessons I have learned from my elders to gain a better understanding of the daily trials, triumphs, and desires of American Indian elders, so that their wishes and needs can be represented through me.”

*Register in advance to
save time!*



**We'll see you at
the conference.
Please travel safely!**

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