

**NIDA CTN American Indian and Alaska Native Special Interest Group
(NIDA CTN AI/AN SIG)**

Minutes

4/1/2026

Attendees: Antonia Young, Paulette Baukol, Priscilla Blosser, Marissa Doyle, Kathy Etz, Loretta Grey Cloud, Allison Kelliher, Frankie Kropp, Angel Vasquez

1. Introductions – Welcome to everyone who joined the call today! Please feel free to introduce yourself in the chat.
2. NIDA Updates – Phase 2 Research Opportunity Announcements are live. Webinars for the ROAs are planned for April; dates to be announced. Questions about ROAs should be sent to ncrew@nih.gov or ncrew@nida.nih.gov for public response process.

Dr. Jay Bhattacharya accepted an invitation to visit Lummi Nation in September and attend an NCREW meeting.

Angel announced that NCREW is planning a workshop in June on participating in clinical trials for Tribal Organizations interested in CTN participation. Will use CTN-0096 as an example to show the level of effort and elements involved. The workshop will cover site selection process, staff requirements, and data collection.

3. SIG Manuscript for CTN 25th anniversary journal issue
 1. After a long review period, JSAT recently sent back reviewer comments and offered for us to revise and resubmit. Thanks to Maria Crouch for her significant editing work to revise the manuscript and address reviewer concerns. The manuscript has now been resubmitted and we are awaiting word on the outcome.
4. AIAN SIG abstract and poster for annual meeting
 1. Frankie received a request from CCTN to develop a poster to represent the AIAN SIG at the upcoming Steering Committee meeting later this month. A draft was shown and the following recommendations were given by the group:
 - i. Add number of CTN studies done with AIAN populations
 - ii. Show geographic reach
 - iii. Add links or QR codes for publications
 - iv. Add reference for the four directions medicine wheel to provide educational context.
 2. Poster session is scheduled for April 13th in the afternoon.
 3. Attendance is open for in-person or remote viewing. To register:
<https://medicine.utah.edu/internal-medicine/epidemiology/parcka/gin/ctnregistration>

5. Study/project updates

1. CTN-0096 – Data collection is completed and working on dissemination. The team is scheduling a presentation for the Southwest Node to share results. Working on dissemination materials, including an infographic; receiving feedback to make them more approachable. The materials are being customized to each individual site and site-specific datasets are being prepared to return to the communities.
2. CTN-0123 – Currently in the RCT phase and has experienced slow recruitment. However, they are close to their target sample size. Paulette will reach out to Christy Patten for a more detailed update.
3. Other CTN and/or related study updates
 - i. Priscilla is involved with a Ceremony project for culturally-engaged recovery. Clinic at Sacred Circle Healthcare is implementing the “Cradle Board Journey: Reclaiming Recovery in Pregnancy and Postpartum”. This program includes group prenatal care and postpartum wellness weaving traditional teaching, cultural strength, holistic care, recovery support, and peer support. Sessions include tummy time, smudging, prayer, group learning, hands-on activities, peer connection and closing in prayer or song. First group session is scheduled for later this month.
 - ii. UNHS NCREW project received IRB approval in January. Currently making changes requested by the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board. Conducting needs assessment with community members, stakeholders, staff, elders, and youth at San Juan School District. Four facilitators have been identified, all Navajo-speaking. Planning first focus group at the end of April.

6. Additional discussion

1. Please send ideas for future presentations/presenters for this call to the co-chairs- Paulette Baukol and Frankie Kropp. Antonia is open to presenting on her work from her master’s thesis at an upcoming meeting.
2. Meetings and Conferences –
 - i. Association of American Indian Physicians Cross-Cultural Medicine Conference at the end of April (<https://medicine.utah.edu/internal-medicine/epidemiology/parcka/gin/ctnregistration>). This coincides with the final Gathering of Nations Pow Wow.
 - ii. NIHB 2026 National Tribal Health Conference call for workshop proposals. Due 4/10/26 at <https://medicine.utah.edu/internal-medicine/epidemiology/parcka/gin/ctnregistration>
3. Other-open
 - i. A question arose regarding Native research librarians with expertise in Native studies and literature. Devon Olson at University of North Dakota was

suggested as was Alex Soto at Arizona State University Labriola National American Indian Data Center.

- ii. Paulette announced she has a new position at Migizi Communications. The organization works primarily with youth. They are creating a Native youth research advisory board and exploring bridging the gap between research and youth work through research librarian training pathway. Working on an NCREW Phase 2 application for Minnesota encompassing multiple Native organizations, mostly urban.

Next Meeting –6/03/2026

REMINDER – new passcode is 9iMZwK!