Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) is an evidence-based, community health program that serves families with complex needs in ethnically, racially and geographically diverse communities throughout the United States.

Since 2009, American Indian and Alaska Native leaders in tribally operated health care systems and affiliated agencies have chosen to bring NFP to their communities. NFP nurse home visitation services are culturally attuned and currently delivered at local NFP agencies, meeting clients wherever they are, on tribal lands or elsewhere.

NFP nurses use the NFP model to build on family and cultural strengths, knowing that each family is the expert on their own life. Early in pregnancy, the NFP nurse and family build a trusting connection, empowering parents to choose their own unique path to achieve health, parenting and economic success goals as they define them. During home visits that extend until the child’s second birthday, the parent and personal nurse support knowledge sharing and confidence-building that emphasize family, culture and community as the keys to success. NFP services are available to both first-time families and families with more than one child in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

A CARING CONNECTION BUILT ON TRUST FROM THE START

Home visits by NFP nurses center on supporting the parent and child. Through learning and receiving support from a personal nurse to establish and reach goals determined by the client, NFP nurses help clients build confidence as a parent and beyond.

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP GOALS

1. Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping parents engage in preventive health practices, including thorough prenatal care from their healthcare providers, improved diets and reducing use of cigarettes, alcohol and drugs that can cause harm,

2. Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care, and
3. Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education and find work.

ATTUNED TO UNIQUE CULTURES: LEARNING AND LISTENING
Honoring traditional wisdom and understanding cultural values are central to all aspects of the relationship with the family. It is also central to development and to the implementation of NFP in American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities. The American Indian and Alaska Native Community of Practice (AIAN COP) originally launched during the Tribal Formative Evaluation with the Prevention Research Center in 2010. NFP is committed to providing culturally responsive care to meet the specific needs of the AIAN community. The AIAN COP has given the broader NFP network an opportunity to learn from subject matter experts on topics including cultural traditions around pregnancy, childbirth and early parenting, language revitalization and serving Two Spirit families. We seek to expand AIAN community networks of support, community buy-in and guidance in the development and implementation of NFP.

AIAN communities continue to teach us more about how to incorporate cultural knowledge into the delivery of NFP internal and external services. In accordance with NFP’s commitment to providing optimal support and resources to Local Network Partners serving Tribal Nations, NFP established the Tribal NFP Committee in 2020 to promote equity and eliminate disparities for the families we serve.

A PROVEN SUCCESS
NFP is at the forefront of community health programs in diverse communities in 40 states, several AIAN communities and the US Virgin Islands. Communities can be confident in choosing the program because more than 40 years of research from randomized, controlled trials in diverse populations proves it works – delivering multi-generational evidence-based outcomes that benefit communities and reduce the costs of long-term health and social services.

Widespread replication of the NFP program in diverse communities and populations provides confidence that NFP is effective and the investment in this program is money well spent.

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP PLEASE CONTACT:

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