



# American Cancer Society Circle Of Life<sup>SM</sup>

*Cancer Education and Wellness for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities*

Thank you for your interest in the Circle Of Life cancer education initiative. We look forward to working with your community to support meaningful conversations and share helpful cancer-related information. Together, we can save lives from cancer.

## What is the American Cancer Society Circle Of Life initiative?

The Circle Of Life initiative presents a holistic, culturally sensitive, and interactive means for individuals, families, and tribal communities to make healthy choices and stay well. The original Circle Of Life journey began in 1991, with a program focusing on women's health and wellness. It grew from the original form, taking on the shapes and sizes of the communities that gave it life. There was so much richness in this work that in 2009, the American Cancer Society brought together 30 American Indian and Alaska Native people representing diverse communities to give the Circle Of Life initiative a fresh look and focus – taking it from a resource intended for women and focused on breast health to a resource encompassing paths of wellness for both men and women.

The Circle Of Life education modules cover a variety of topics, including:

- What cancer is, how it develops, and how different types of cancer can be prevented, found, or treated
- Tips on how to make healthy choices every day to reduce cancer risk and stay well
- How to help people experiencing a cancer diagnosis, including information about caregiver concerns and coping with treatment side effects
- How to help people facing the end of their cancer journey

The Circle Of Life initiative builds on a strong foundation of cancer resources produced by many American Indian and Alaska Native communities, but also focuses on cancer topics that have not been discussed. American Cancer Society Circle Of Life resources will help support community health workers as they educate and guide community members through every step of the cancer journey.

## Will you join us on this journey?

We invite you and your community to join us on a path to wellness through the Circle Of Life initiative. We hope you will take the Circle Of Life initiative and make it your own – personal and meaningful to you and your community.

The journey continues with you and the ways you may choose to use and adapt the Circle Of Life resources within your community to make a difference in the story of cancer.

To learn more about how we can work together to bring the Circle Of Life initiative to your community, please contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345 or [circleoflife@cancer.org](mailto:circleoflife@cancer.org).

**Stay well. Get well. Save lives. Walk with us into the Circle Of Life – the journey continues.**

Funded by: Center for Disease Control and Prevention,  
Grant # 1U50DP001711

[cancer.org](http://cancer.org) | 1.800.227.2345

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