



COPE Cancer Program

PATIENT-CENTERED CANCER CARE

The COPE Cancer Program seeks to improve cancer outcomes through meaningful community engagement. We are led by the lived experience of individuals and families affected by cancer on Navajo Nation. Through our Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC), annual Cancer Survivorship Conference, and COPE Cancer Coalition (CCC), we are working to ensure care, outreach, and education is patient-centered, coordinated, culturally relevant, and true to the voice of the community.

American Indians and Alaska Natives face the lowest 5-year cancer survival rates of any racial group in the US. Not only is cancer the second leading cause of mortality overall and the leading cause of mortality for women on Navajo Nation, cancer screening rates are also far lower than in other regions of the US.

Guided by PFAC, COPE has developed a set of recommendations for how to improve cancer care on the Navajo Nation, created and adapted education material, and continues to provide communication and education opportunities aimed at promoting a positive approach to a challenging and complex health condition.

Our research uses mixed methods to understand the barriers and opportunities to improve cancer care on Navajo Nation. Our engagement with community members and stakeholders in this work is driven by the community voice through the guidance of our PFAC and CCC.



15 Community members guide our programs & research via our Patient & Family Advisory Council



260 Attendees learned & shared at our 5th Annual Cancer Survivorship Conference



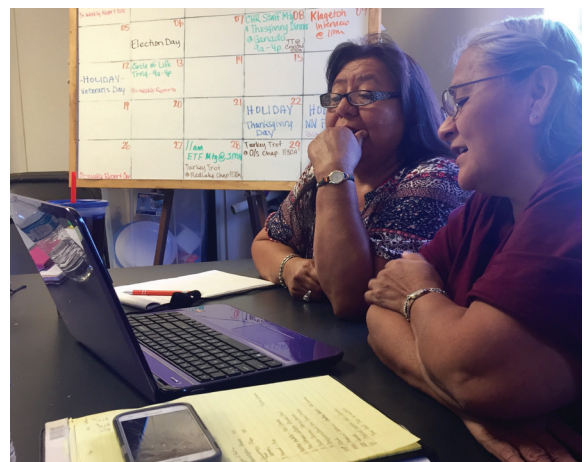
92 Outreach Workers are trained in delivering the COPE created, Navajo-specific Circle of Life cancer education curriculum



22 Partners participate in our coalition to improve cancer outcomes on Navajo Nation



222 Hours completed in engagement sessions with partners to create the Community Action Plan



CHRs participate in a Circle of Life training session. Photo by COPE staff.



Window Rock, AZ: Caregivers and survivors share their experiences at the 2018 Cancer Survivorship Conference, in a session facilitated by PFAC. Photo by COPE staff.

What did you value the most about the Cancer Survivorship Conference?



– The way we were given hope and how to communicate with our loved ones. Also it's great to know how we are not with the only one going through this!

– Everyone sharing their stories - it was very open and emotional, but it was nice to know you are not alone.”

Patients testimonials and experiences - they offered some valuable information.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- **Advocate for resources and support for tribal communities!**
- **Learn more about COPE and our partners at copeprogram.org/cancer**
- **Support COPE at copeprogram.org/donate**