



**Alaska Native
Tribal Health Consortium**

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March 19, 2009

National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
and debut of the original documentary
“Breaking the Cycle: Stories of Alaska Native Women”

View the powerful documentary **“Breaking the Cycle: Stories of Alaska Native Women,”** about Alaska Native women and HIV/STD prevention. The Governor’s and Anchorage Mayor’s Offices have issued proclamations proclaiming March 20 Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

Where: Anchorage Museum
121 W. Seventh Ave.; parking available in garage

When: 6-7:30 p.m. Friday, March 20, 2009

Who: Acting Mayor Matt Claman

Don Kashevaroff, President and CEO of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Michael Covone, Senior Program Manager, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

“Breaking the Cycle: Stories of Alaska Native Women” is a new, 30-minute documentary highlighting the findings of a recent community needs assessment focusing on Alaska Native women in Anchorage and their issues with HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). This video offers the viewer a rare insight into the lives and issues that face Alaska Native women, including sexual and physical abuse, discrimination and a lack of cultural pride. These problems are balanced by the reclaiming of a long history of resilience and cultural strength that have sustained Alaska Native women for centuries.

Sarah Palin, Governor of Alaska, and Matt Claman, Acting Mayor of Anchorage, have proclaimed March 20 **Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day** in Alaska.

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium HIV/AIDS program staff, and other health services agency representatives, will be available to share information about the burden of this disease among Alaska Natives and American Indians.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic among Native people is a public health crisis that requires a focused national effort as well as tribal effort to bring attention to the prevention needs of indigenous people.

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