



# Native Education Collaborative

Connecting partners | Cultivating resources



## Promising Programs and Practices: Program Examples

States should focus on the resourcefulness, resilience, and expertise of Native education.

### Program Examples

#### College Horizons

- Pre-college access program for Native students
- Helps students navigate the college application process
- Instills confidence in students
- Success outcomes:
  - ▶ 99% of alumni enroll in college immediately after high school
  - ▶ 95% enroll in 4-year institutions
  - ▶ 85% graduate within 5 years
- By the end of the program, students:
  - ▶ Complete the common college application
  - ▶ Complete the FAFSA
  - ▶ Create a resume
  - ▶ Draft a college essay
  - ▶ List 10 schools that align with their goals

#### Native Science Field Centers

- Encourages STEM pathways in higher education
- Native scientists help communities:
  - ▶ Retain language, culture, and identity
  - ▶ Manage resources
  - ▶ Support political and economic development
  - ▶ Work with mainstream institutions
- Four goals:
  - ▶ Develop a model that other communities can replicated
  - ▶ Expand the STEM career ladder through community partnerships
  - ▶ Develop Native program evaluation tools and methodologies
  - ▶ Document best practices to inform future work

## Indian Education for All (IEFA) in Montana

- Teaches Native history and the federal government's responsibility
  - Instills pride in cultural identity
  - Requires schools to have written policy on how they will incorporate IEFA in all levels of education
  - Provides roughly 600 Native-related workshops through the Office of Public Instruction
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## Lakota Circles of Hope

- Encourages healthy decisions through cultural and traditional values
  - Runs from 2nd through 5th grade
  - Includes 10 lessons per grade for 40 lessons total
  - Places life decisions in the context of the Lakota values of generosity, fortitude, wisdom, and respect
  - Successful outcomes:
    - ▶ 87% of educators and community members saw an increase in Lakota values and knowledge
    - ▶ 88% believed the lessons on substance abuse were effective
    - ▶ 90% believed more time should be dedicated to the program
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## Zuni Public School District

- First independent, Native-controlled public school system

## Kamehameha Schools

- Implements culturally congruent education for public schools in Hawaii

## Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District

- Relies on the community to provide culturally relevant content
- Asks the community to review materials and provide feedback

## Denver Public Schools' American Indian Focus Schools

- 6 schools, similar to magnet schools, within the public school system
  - Emphasizes mentor relationships
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## Healthy & Empowered Youth Project

- School and community-based youth development program
- Uses the Students Together Against Negative Decisions (STAND) curriculum for healthy decisions

The contents of this publication were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the federal government.

