



Five Natural Helpers Honored

The Tulalip Tribes hosted the American Indian Health Commission's (AIHC) 6th Annual Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Health and Home Visiting Summit on Wednesday, November 14, 2018.

Braiding Tradition, Culture and Prevention to Support Healthy Seven Generations: Healthy Babies, Healthy Moms, Healthy Families. Five individuals were honored as the 2018 Natural Helper Recipients, nominated from four Tribes as those that carry and serve with traditional cultural teaching and practices within their tribal communities. Every year AIHC invites the Natural Helper Award recipients to join the event for a lunch time ceremony. The awards are a token of AIHC's appreciation and to acknowledge the importance of cultural continuity in realizing the vision of Healthy Seven Generations.

Natural Helpers are individuals acknowledged by their communities as those that perpetuate cultural and traditional knowledge and inspire us to fulfill the vision of ***Healthy Native Families for Seven Generations.***

Natural Helpers make a positive impact on the health of people in their communities by contributing to the well-being of mothers, babies, fathers, children, and families. They make it their personal mission to make connections to pass on their cultural knowledge and traditional teachings. They are noted for helping others in their journey forward to complete health and well-being.



Front Center: Danita Washington, Lummi; Left to Right: Christina Hicks, Chehalis; Tony Johnson, Shoalwater Bay; Ron Tso, Lummi;

Five Tribal and Urban Indian Community natural helpers were nominated and chosen for the special gifts and contributions they bring to their communities. Thank you to the 2018 Natural Helper Award Recipients: Danita Washington and Ron Tso, Lummi Nation, Christina Hicks, Chehalis Tribes; Tony Johnson (Chinook), Shoalwater Bay Tribe; and Lillian Henry Price, Tulalip Tribes.

The event is supported in partnership with AIHC and the WA State Department of Child, Youth and Families and WA State Department Health, and the generous contributions of the Tulalip Tribes.