

## THE FACTS

### "WHAT DOES HIV/AIDS HAVE TO DO WITH MY CHILD?"

- From the beginning of the AIDS epidemic through 2004, 3,084 AI/ANs have been diagnosed with AIDS and 1,578 AI/ANs with AIDS have died.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2004, an estimated 1,506 AI/AN adults and adolescents were living with AIDS.<sup>2</sup>
- AI/AN adults and adolescents currently have the 3rd highest rate of AIDS diagnoses at 10.4 per 100,000, in relation to other ethnic groups; an increase from the rate of 9.5 in 2001.<sup>3</sup>

### "IT WON'T HAPPEN TO HER!"

- Over 850,000 teen girls became pregnant in 2000.<sup>4</sup>
- **Almost 46% of Indian mothers** having their first child are under the age of 20.<sup>5</sup>

#### TEENS WHO BECOME PARENTS<sup>6</sup>:

1. ARE MORE LIKELY TO END UP POOR OR ON WELFARE
2. HAVE FEWER JOB OPPORTUNITIES.
3. HAVE FEWER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.
4. ARE LESS LIKELY TO MARRY.

### "AREN'T SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES RARE?"

- In 2001, AI/ANs had the 2nd highest rates of chlamydia infection, gonorrhea, and syphilis in the U.S.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2003 American Indians were nearly six times more likely than whites to have chlamydia, over three times more likely to have gonorrhea, and twice as likely to have syphilis.<sup>8</sup>

### "THEY'RE TOO YOUNG TO HAVE SEX."

- An estimated two-thirds of all STDs occur in people 25 years of age or younger.<sup>9</sup>
- Each year, one in four teens contracts an STD.<sup>10</sup>
- Thirty-four AI/AN children, younger than 13 years of age, with AIDS, have died since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic through 2004.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved June 20, 2006, from <http://www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/population/native.asp>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Rushing, C., et al., Red Talon STD Profile: STD Treatment and Prevention Capacity within Idaho, Oregon, and Washington Tribes. Portland, OR. Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, 2005.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and The Office of Population Affairs. Parents, Speak Up! A Guide for Discussing Abstinence, Sex, and Relationships, 2006 (Washington, DC, 2006).

<sup>5</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved June 20, 2006, from <http://www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/population/native.asp>

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and The Office of Population Affairs. Parents, Speak Up! A Guide for Discussing Abstinence, Sex, and Relationships, 2006 (Washington, DC, 2006).

<sup>7</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved June 20, 2006, from <http://www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/population/native.asp>

<sup>8</sup> Rushing, C., et al., Red Talon STD Profile: STD Treatment and Prevention Capacity within Idaho Oregon, and Washington Tribes. Portland, OR. Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, 2005.

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and The Office of Population Affairs. Parents, Speak Up! A Guide for Discussing Abstinence, Sex, and Relationships, 2006 (Washington, DC, 2006).

<sup>10</sup> Ibid

<sup>11</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved June 20, 2006, from <http://www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/population/native.asp>