



Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition
(SOMS)

SOARING

January 22, 2010

Soaring Over Meth and Suicide (SOMS)

The Soaring Over Meth and Suicide Grant (SOMS) is in its fourth month of implementation. Since the last newsletter Jessyca Vandercy resigned, as of December 31, 2009. This was a difficult decision for her; however, she took advantage of an opportunity to lead a start-up organization called Right Turn. She will be missed.

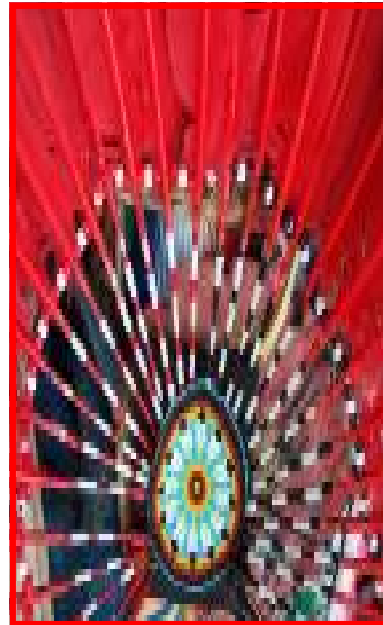
During her short time with NUICH, Jessyca was instrumental in setting the groundwork for the SOMS project, creating the Project Advisory Board, and making many important contacts. The staff here wish her the best.

On January 7, 2010 Anita Wisecup was hired as the new Project Director.

Anita has a BS in Elementary Education. She has worked with children and families in Nebraska as a teacher and social worker for over five years.

While Anita was born and raised in Nebraska, she did spend the last year and a half living in Anchorage, AK. During her time there, she gained valuable knowledge, insight and appreciation for Native families.

Anita is very excited to be a member of the NUIHC staff. She is passionate about proactively addressing the issues of meth and suicide amongst the Nebraska Urban Indian youth in Omaha.



Special points of interest:

Among American Indians/ Alaska Natives ages 15- to 34-years, suicide is the second leading cause of death.

Suicide rates among American Indian/ Alaskan Native adolescents and young adults ages 15 to 34 (19.7 per 100,000) are 1.8

THE CHOKING GAME

(www.stop-the-choking-game.com)



Reported Incidences of The Choking Game
updated 01/09/10 4:00PM EST

	Cases	Injury	Death	In the U.S.	Other Country
TOTAL	518	41	474	422	96
2009	44	6	38	41	3
2008	50	2	48	44	6
2007	63	6	57	56	7
2006	117	14	104	106	11
2005	96	8	88	82	14
2004 -1974	148	8	140	93	55