

## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0188-18

**DATE:** May 30, 2018

**SUBJECT** AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'IYATI' COMMITTEES; SUPPORTING THE FOUNDATION TO IMPROVE CARE ACCESS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS (FICANA) IN ITS INITIATIVES TO REDUCE THE NEED FOR AMPUTATION ON THE NAVAJO NATION THROUGH INTERVENTION CARE IN THE AREAS OF LIMB PRESERVATION AND OTHER DISEASE STATES BEST TREATED BY MINIMALLY-INVASIVE CARE

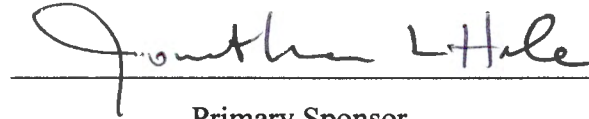
**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this legislation is to support efforts to improve access to needed care to reduce necessity of amputations on the Navajo Nation.

**This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate review the proposed resolution in detail.**

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: None  
Website Posting Time/Date: 1:21pm 6/11/18  
Posting End Date: 6/19/2018  
Eligible for Action: 6/10/2018

PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION  
23<sup>RD</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—Fourth Year, 2018

INTRODUCED BY



Primary Sponsor

TRACKING NO. 0188-18

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
NAABIK'YATI' COMMITTEES; SUPPORTING THE FOUNDATION TO  
IMPROVE CARE ACCESS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS (FICANA) IN ITS  
INITIATIVES TO REDUCE THE NEED FOR AMPUTATION ON THE  
NAVAJO NATION THROUGH INTERVENTION CARE IN THE AREAS OF  
LIMB PRESERVATION AND OTHER DISEASE STATES BEST TREATED  
BY MINIMALLY-INVASIVE CARE

WHEREAS:

**Section One. Authority**

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has legislative authority and oversight over all matters related to health on the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 401 (C)
- B. The Naabik'iyati' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has the legislative authority to assist the development of needed programs designed to serve the Navajo People. 2 N.N.C. § 701(A)(7)

**Section Two: Findings**

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has received several reports on efforts on the Navajo Nation to reduce the number of amputations through early intervention care access.

- 1 B. These efforts have included efforts to save limbs and preserve mobility and  
2 independence of Navajo patients suffering from diseases affecting circulation by  
3 reducing the number of amputations through early intervention.
- 4 C. Access to such intervention care is central to the ability to preserve affecting limbs.
- 5 D. The Foundation to Improve Care Access for Native Americans (FICANA) based in  
6 Flagstaff, Arizona is working to initiate and extend such care to members of the  
7 Navajo Nation. See Exhibit A.
- 8 E. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council  
9 finds it to be in the best interest of the Navajo People to support and encourage  
10 FICANA and other similar efforts working to improve the accessibility and quality of  
11 health care on the Navajo Nation.
- 12 F. The Naabik'iyati' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council finds it to be in the best  
13 interest of the Navajo People to support and encourage FICANA and other similar  
14 efforts working to improve the accessibility and quality of health care on the Navajo  
15 Nation.
- 16  
17

18 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

- 19 A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council  
20 hereby supports and encourages FICANA and other similar efforts working to  
21 improve the accessibility and quality of health care on the Navajo Nation.
- 22 B. The Naabik'iyati' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby supports and  
23 encourages FICANA and other similar efforts working to improve the accessibility  
24 and quality of health care on the Navajo Nation.
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# Partnership for Interventional Care on Navajo Nation

**Dr. Keith Goss**

Director of Health Equity and Community Partnership  
*Comprehensive Interventional Care Centers*

Program Facilitator  
*Foundation to Improve Care Access for Native Americans*

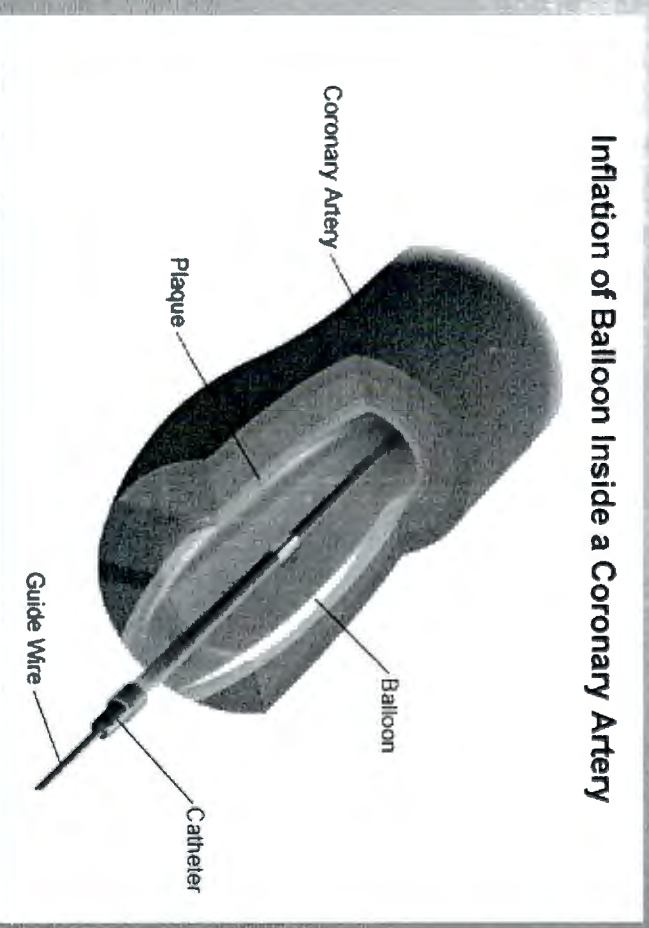
EXHIBIT

"A"



# What Is Interventional Care ?

- ✿ **Most Advanced Surgery**
- ✿ **Minimally Invasive**
- ✿ **SAFE**
- ✿ **The Future of Medicine**



# Why Interventional Care ?

## *Major Roles:*

- 1.) **Heart Disease**
  - › Cardiac Catheterization
  - › *Treats Heart Attack*
- 2.) **Cancer**
  - › Tumor Ablation
  - › *Treats Cancer*
- 3.) **Diabetic Foot Disease**
  - › Revascularization
  - › *Treats Gangrene*
- 4.) **Liver Disease**
  - › Cirrhosis treatment
  - › *Treats Liver Disease*

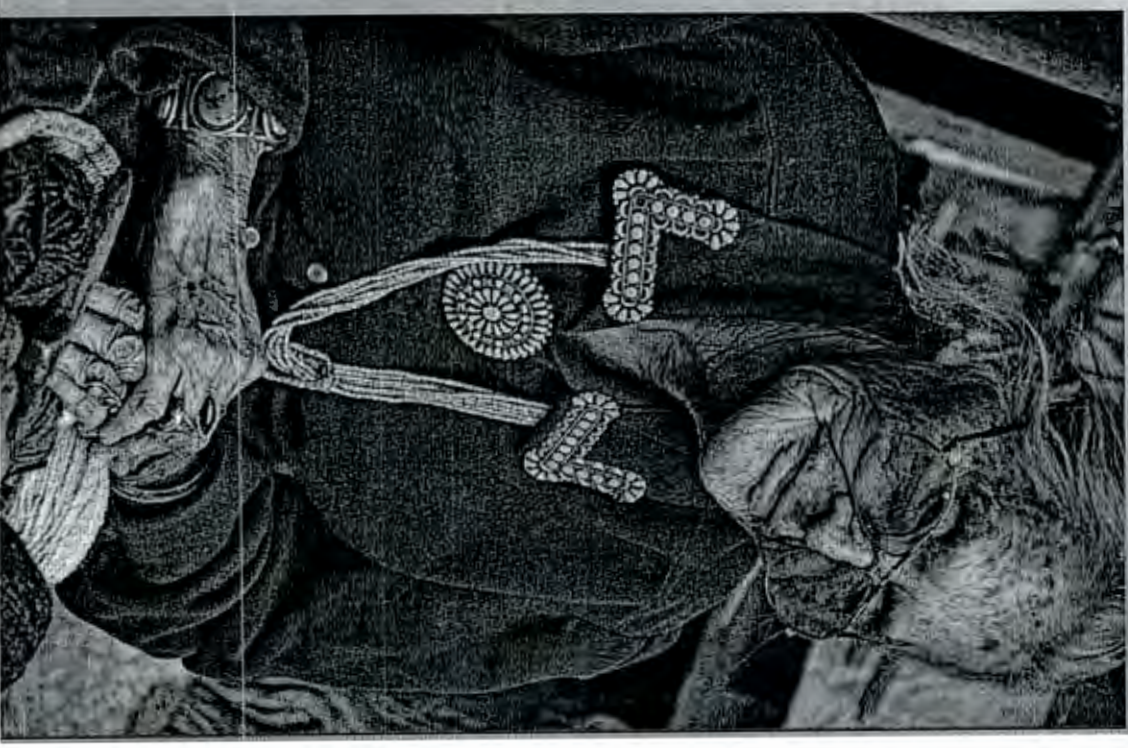
## *Top 5 Causes for Mortality in Native Americans:*

- 1.) Heart Disease
- 2.) Cancer
- 3.) Accidents
- 4.) Diabetes
- 5.) Liver Disease

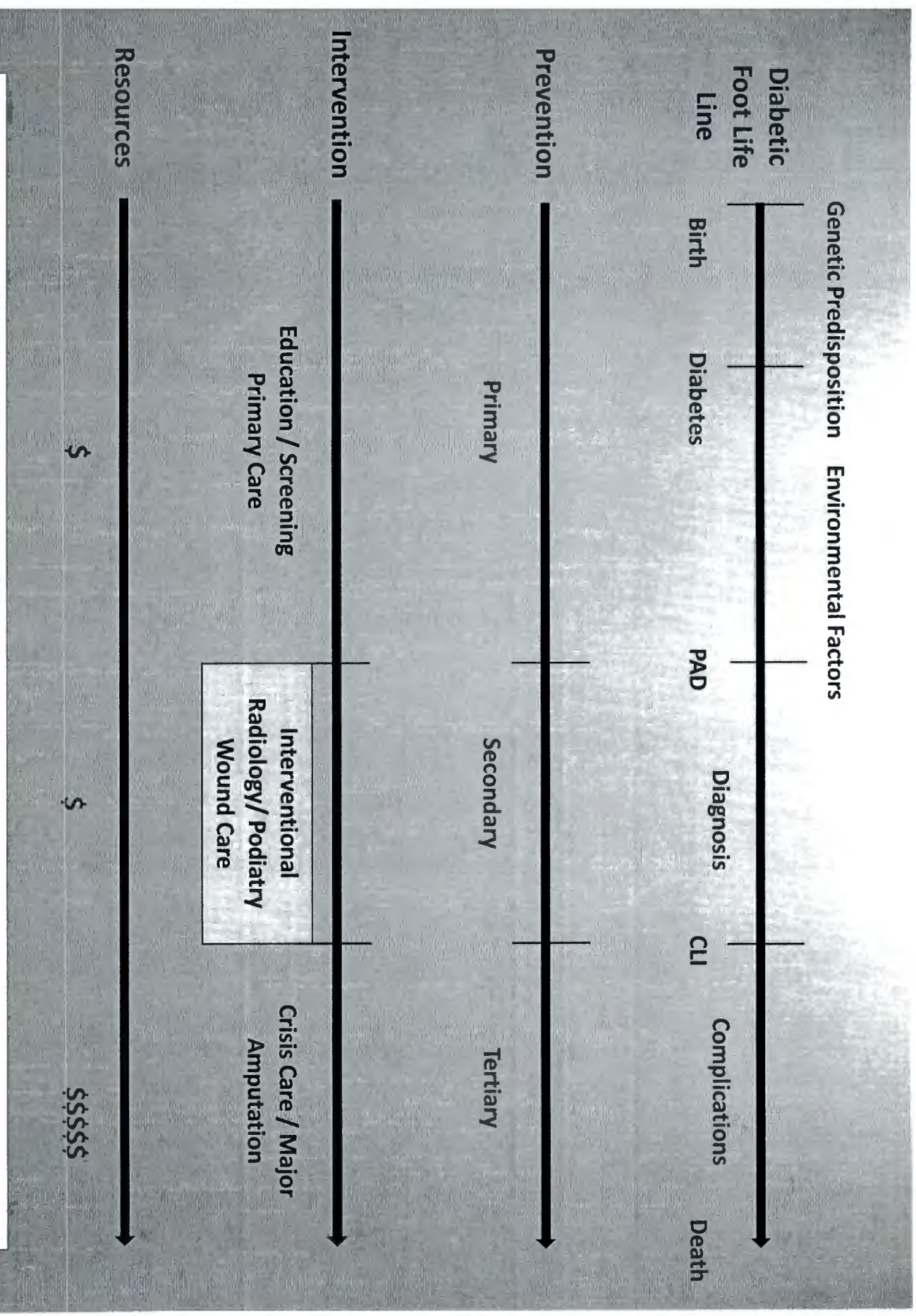


# The Diabetic Foot - IHS

- ✿ 3 x as likely to develop DM
- ✿ 3 x as likely to develop an ulceration
- ✿ 3 x as likely to require amputation due to ulceration
- ✿ 3 x as likely to die from an amputation







**Our Goals: Increase Time between Birth and PAD onset, Decrease time between PAD and Diagnosis, and Increase time between Diagnosis and Death.**



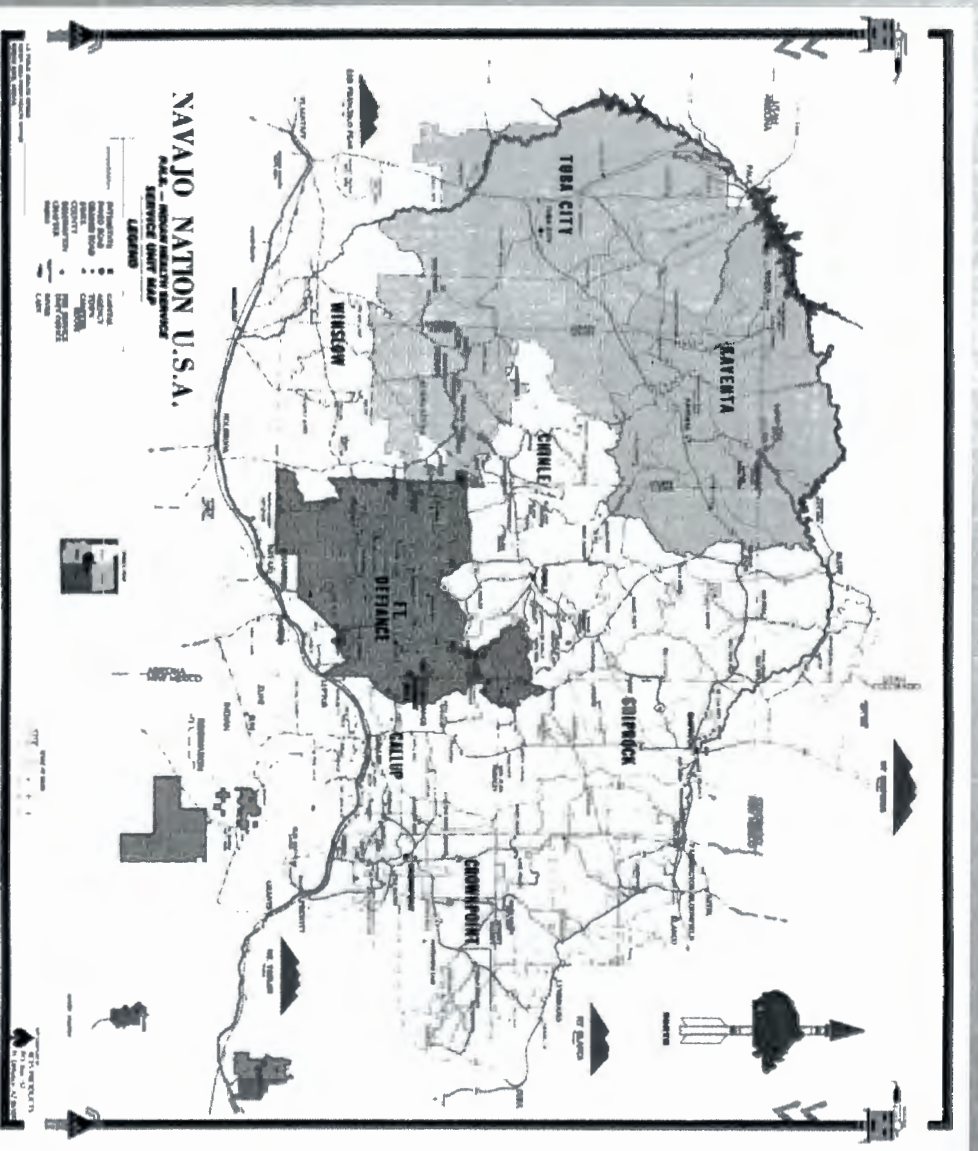
- 300,000+ enrolled
- 25,000 mi<sup>2</sup> (#12 in size in US)

One Million visits

- 18,000 hospitalized
- 3,900 staff

8 Podiatrists

NO Interventionalists





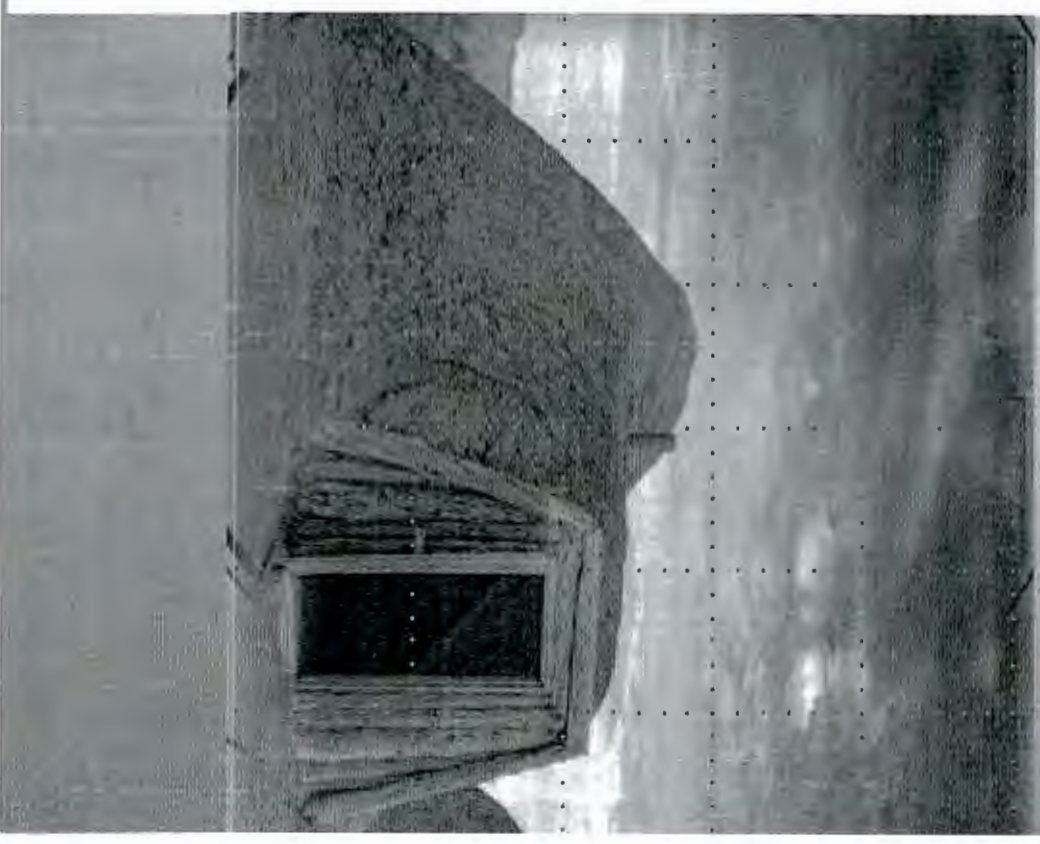
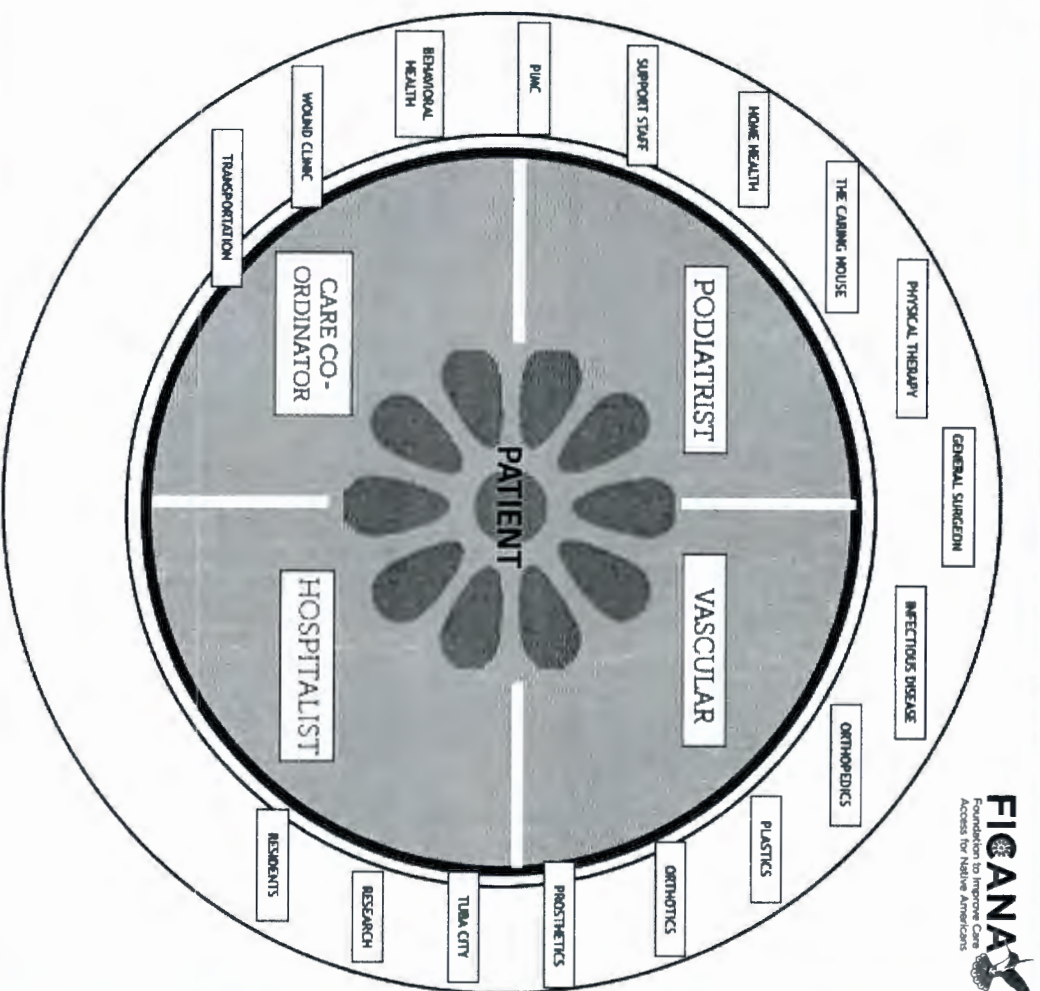
# FLIO ANA

Foundation to Improve Care  
Access for Native Americans





# Medical Home Model





# Programs



✿ Education

✿ Patient Assistance

✿ New Facility Development

✿ Community Partnership for DM Foot Screening

✿ Political Advocacy / Tribal Health Policy

✿ Patient Navigation

✿ Local Medical Home Support

✿ Research



# Our Results



- ❁ **Decrease major amputation 85%**
- ❁ **5000+ vascular surgeries in 3+ years.**
- ❁ **5 Locally trained Pods with advanced surgical education.**
- ❁ **An increase from 1 to 8 vascular surgeons dedicated to Native American Limb Preservation.**
- ❁ **Projected 10 facilities by end of 2018.**
- ❁ **Local, Native-Led Foundation**



# Proposal



## ❁ Public-Private Partnership

- ❁ Native Leadership
- ❁ Transparent
- ❁ Mutual Financial Benefit
- ❁ Local Job Creation
- ❁ PRC Cost Savings

## ❁ Mobile Health Program / Telemedicine

## ❁ Reservation-based Hospice and Home Health



# Proposal



- ✿ **New Facility Development on the Reservation**
  - ✿ Heart Center
  - ✿ Cancer Center
  - ✿ Liver Treatment Center
  - ✿ Limb Preservation Center
- ✿ **Patient Navigation program**
- ✿ **Access to Interventional Care a Navajo Nation Mandate**



**FICANA**  
Foundation to Improve Care  
Access for Native Americans

*History says, "Don't Hope on this side of the Grave."  
But then, Once in a Lifetime,  
The Long'd for Tidal Wave of Justice can rise up,  
and Hope and History rhyme...*

- Seamus Heaney







Joel Rainwater, MD, Founder and CEO, FICANA  
(480) 374-7354 jrainwater@ccccenters.com

Brooke Canyon, Director of Patient Navigation and  
Community Based Programs, FICANA  
(928) 719-7400 brooke.canyon@ccccenters.com

## Our Mission

**DESCRIPTION** Founded in 2017, The Foundation to Improve Care Access for Native Americans (FICANA) is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization dedicated to address the health disparities in rural and urban Native American Communities. The goal of FICANA is to partner with health care leaders serving the Native American population to identify these barriers to care, and to create practical, sustainable, and local solutions to improve access to quality health care and improved outcomes in a way that resonates with the values and the spirit of the Native American Community. In particular, FICANA is dedicated to reducing non-traumatic amputations in Native America by providing Communities with the key elements of a Limb Preservation Medical Home.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY** FICANA is seeking \$1.5 million in working capital over 2 years to develop a Mobile Health program designed to deliver comprehensive Cardiovascular diagnostic examination with immediate physician/surgeon consultation, interventional treatment scheduling, and arrangement of patient transport and lodging with assistance of Telemedicine and Patient Navigators from the Native Community. The Mobile Health program will also provide access to advanced wound care treatment and modalities. Funding will primarily support the development of 4 Mobile Health vehicles and the training of Patient Navigators. The Mobile Health units will be financially self-sustaining, generating revenue as multi-specialty clinics.

### THE NEED FOR CHANGE

The prevalence of Diabetes in the Native American population is 3 times that of the U.S. average, and in some communities, as high as 6 times the national rate. A Native American patient with a Diabetic foot ulcer is 3 times as likely to be treated with an amputation. Once amputated, these patients are 3 times as likely as their cohort in the U.S. to die from an amputation. Those patients surviving after an amputation have an increased rate of onset and severity of co-morbid conditions, including disability. The social impact of an amputation is also greater for the Native American amputee, for whom lost wages and employment have a disproportionately large impact on the family and community where there exists > 50% unemployment, ubiquitous poverty, and a 78% likelihood of not being employed following the diagnosis of disability.

### Lack of Primary Prevention Programs:

- Less than 50% of Native Americans with the diagnosis of Diabetes have received a routine foot exam.
- Most dedicated Native American health care facilities do not have the standard diagnostic modalities required to identify and interpret a patient's relative risk for limb loss.

### Lack of Secondary Prevention Programs:

- Most dedicated Native American health care facilities do not have dedicated Podiatry services, Wound Care services, Advanced Wound Care modalities, or Vascular Interventional services.
- The concept of the multi-disciplinary Limb Preservation Medical home is not currently a standard in dedicated Native American health care facilities

### OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL IMPACT

Although early in the deployment of its 10 Programs, FICANA has already witnessed reductions in overall amputation rates by as much as 85% in the Communities within which it partners. We anticipate that these rates will continue to improve and be witnessed in other communities, as these Programs are easily replicated and scaled.

These Programs include:

- **Education**
  - Includes Patients, Community, Provider, Staff, Students, and Residents.
  - National CME Conferences, and Local Trainings.
- **Community Development**
  - Includes New Facility Development, Medical Home Support, and Community Partnership for Diabetic Screening.
- **Patient Assistance**
  - Transport, Lodging, and Meals for patients accessing distant surgical care.
  - Patient Navigation.
- **Health Policy And Advocacy**

### WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY ABOUT FICANA

*"To my knowledge, FICANA is the ONLY amputation prevention program of, by, and for the Native American Community that is durable and effective. It will endure and achieve remarkable outcomes because it inspires within its broad range of community, corporate, political, and academic partners a strong sense of Health Justice, that is not unrealistic, but practical, attainable, and sustainable."*

- Keith Goss, DPM, Chief of Podiatry

*"The Foundation to Improve Care Access for Native Americans ("FICANA") is a dynamic organization with a unique purpose and model for making revolutionary health care services more widely accessible to Native Americans. FICANA's mission, its employment of competent professionals, and its use of state of the art technologies are designed to result in earlier diagnoses, more successful treatments, and ensure fewer health complications arise in association with diabetes and other ailments commonly experienced by Native American populations. These elements, in conjunction with a core element of providing greater education and information in Indian Country, make FICANA efficient and effective in combating amputations and other issues associated with diseases and ailments more-commonly faced by Native Americans and, otherwise, those people Indian Country."*

- Brian Lewis, Esq., Brian Lewis Legal

## FICANA IN ACTION

**SERVICES:** The Patient Assistance program has been instrumental in assisting access for thousands of Native American patients to receive advanced vascular limb reconstructive surgery by some of the most experienced and acclaimed Vascular Interventional Surgeons. Routine access to this surgery would have been unthinkable 5 years ago. But now, over 5,000 limb- and life-saving surgeries have been performed on this population. In addition, the New Facility Development Program has guided the deployment of 3 surgical facilities optimally located for the Native healthcare-seeking population to receive timely, effective, and local care. By strategically placing these facilities in sites most accessible to the community, the concept of a Limb Preservation Medical Home is within reach. Strategic deployments have also encouraged the employment of Native American Community members into the network of health service partners in this Medical Home.



## PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Over the next 2 years, we anticipate that expanded program implementation across Native American Communities in the Southwest, Mountain West, and Northwest, will create an exponential increase in patient participation in primary and secondary amputation prevention programs, and a dramatic reduction in amputations rates in these Communities



**EVIDENCE BASED:** Numerous studies have shown that a Limb Preservation Medical Home that is multi-disciplinary, including Podiatry, Advanced Wound Care, Vascular Surgery, and Primary Care with a strong focus on Prevention and Early Treatment, appreciate amputation reductions between 50 and 85%.



**SOCIAL IMPACT:** Currently FICANA uses the metrics below to track its impact on the Native Community:

### Social Indicators:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Limb Preservation Rate.....                    | 85% |
| Percentage of Service Areas Participating..... | 92% |

### Financial Indicators:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Percentage of Funding spent on Direct Services .....     | 78%   |
| Annual Direct Services Average Spending per Patient..... | \$275 |

## FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

FICANA receives generous corporate support through charitable donations. Currently, FICANA is working to receive support through Federal Program Grants to initiate its Mobile Health / Telemedicine and Patient Navigation Programs. These programs, once implemented, are financially sustainable as they will be able to bill the appropriate health insurance carriers including Medicare and Medicaid. Furthermore, the estimated revenue generation of these clinics will be able to fund expanded program development.

## SOURCES


- *Levels of Diabetes Related Preventative-Care Practices – U.S., 1997-99; MMWR Weekly, 49 (42): 954-8.*
- Economic Policy Institute: *Native Americans and Jobs - The Challenge and the Promise; Briefing Page #370, 12/17/2013.*
- [www.cdc.gov/diabetes/pub/pdf/ndfs\\_2011.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/pub/pdf/ndfs_2011.pdf)
- Valway, S.E., R.W. Linkins, and D.M. Gohdes 1993. *Epidemiology of Lower-Extremity Amputations in the Indian Health Service, 1982-1987.* Diabetes Care 16 (suppl. 1):349-353.
- Valway, S., W. Freeman, and S. Kaufman 1993. *Prevalence of Diagnosed Diabetes Among American Indians and Alaska Natives, 1987.* Diabetes Care 16 (suppl. 1):271-276.
- Sandefur GD, et al. *Changing Numbers, Changing Needs: American Indian Demography and Public Health.* National Research Council (US) Committee on Population Washington (DC); National Academies Press, 1996.





**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Honorable Jonathan Hale  
Navajo Nation Council

**FROM:**   
Edward A. McCool, Principal Attorney  
Office of Legislative Counsel

**DATE:** May 30, 2018

**SUBJECT** AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'YATI' COMMITTEES; SUPPORTING THE FOUNDATION TO IMPROVE CARE ACCESS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS (FICANA) IN ITS INITIATIVES TO REDUCE THE NEED FOR AMPUTATION ON THE NAVAJO NATION THROUGH INTERVENTION CARE IN THE AREAS OF LIMB PRESERVATION AND OTHER DISEASE STATES BEST TREATED BY MINIMALLY-INVASIVE CARE

As requested, I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. Based on existing law and review of documents submitted, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. As with any action of government however, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge. Please ensure that this particular resolution request is precisely what you want. You are encouraged to review the proposed resolution to ensure that it is drafted to your satisfaction.

The Office of Legislative Counsel confirms the appropriate standing committee(s) based on the standing committees powers outlined in 2 N.N.C. §§500, 501. Nevertheless, "the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall introduce [the proposed resolution] into the legislative process by assigning it to the respective oversight committee(s) of the Navajo Nation Council having authority over the matters for proper consideration." 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).

If the proposed resolution is unacceptable to you, please contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel and advise me of the changes you would like made to the proposed resolution.

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0188-18\_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR: Jonathan Hale

**TITLE: An Action Relating to Health, Education and Human Services, Naabik'iyati' Committees; Supporting the foundation to improve care access for Native Americans (FICANA) in its initiatives to reduce the need for amputation on the Navajo Nation through intervention care in the areas of limb preservation and other disease states best treated by minimally-invasive care**

**Date posted: June 4, 2018 at 1:21pm**

Digital comments may be e-mailed to [comments@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:comments@navajo-nsn.gov)

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director  
Office of Legislative Services  
P.O. Box 3390  
Window Rock, AZ 86515  
(928) 871-7590

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

**Please note:** This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*



**THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY**

**LEGISLATION NO.: 0188-18**

**SPONSOR: Honorable Jonathan L. Hale**

**TITLE: An Action Relating To Health, Education and Human Services, Naabik'iyati' Committees; Supporting the foundation to improve care access for Native Americans (FICANA) in its initiatives to reduce the need for amputation on the Navajo Nation through intervention care in the areas of limb preservation and other disease states best treated by minimally-invasive care**

**Posted: June 4, 2018 at 1:21pm**

**5 DAY Comment Period Ended: June 9, 2018**

**Digital Comments received:**

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Comments Supporting</b>   | <i>None</i> |
| <b>Comments Opposing</b>     | <i>None</i> |
| <b>Inconclusive Comments</b> | <i>None</i> |

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Legislative Secretary II  
Office of Legislative Services**

6/11/2018 8:15am  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date/Time**

Committee Report

THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL to whom has been assigned;

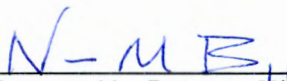
LEGISLATION NO. 0188-18

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*Sponsor: Honorable Jonathan L. Hale*

Has had under consideration and report the same with the recommendation that Legislation 0188-18 PASS with no amendment and no directive; and therefore referred the same to the NAABIK' IYATI' COMMITTEE OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

Respectfully Submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Norman M. Begay, Vice-Chairperson  
Health, Education and Human Services Committee

**June 11, 2018 - Main Motion**

Motion by: Honorable Nathaniel Brown

Seconded by: Honorable Jonathan L. Hale

Vote: 4 in favor; 0 Opposed; Vice-Chairperson Not Voting

Absent (excused): Amber Kanazbah Crotty

Yeas: Nathaniel Brown; Jonathan L. Hale; Steven Begay; Nelson BeGaye

Nays: None