

United Health Foundation and Native American Connections: *Expanding Access to Integrated Health Care*

Native American Connections (NAC) is based in Arizona and has been serving the greater Phoenix metropolitan area since 1972. NAC provides culturally relevant behavioral health, affordable housing and community development services to improve the lives of individuals and families.

According to *America's Health Rankings®*, Arizona's American Indian/Alaskan Native population experiences distinct health care access and mental health challenges. To increase access to primary and mental/behavioral health services, the United Health Foundation, the philanthropic foundation of UnitedHealth Group, began a three-year, \$2 million grant partnership with NAC in 2024 to establish NAC's Mobile Health Initiative. Through a state-of-the-art mobile medical unit, the Mobile Health Initiative brings together primary care services (such as wellness visits and immunizations) with universal screenings for depression and substance use – delivering care on-site at NAC's housing communities across greater Phoenix. These integrated health care services are provided directly to people residing in NAC's housing communities, which include housing for homeless individuals, youth, veterans and seniors; affordable housing for families; and outpatient behavioral health centers and residential treatment centers.



COMMUNITY IMPACT*

677

patient visits to the mobile health unit

75%

of patients who screened positive for behavioral health issues accepted a follow-up appointment

100%

satisfaction rate among patients who recently visited the mobile health unit

*as of 6/30/26

WHY IS THIS WORK CRITICAL?

A NAC resident struggling with mental health and substance use saw the Mobile Health unit and booked an appointment—an essential step toward recovery. Therapy provided coping tools, communication skills, and self-advocacy strategies. He's now actively prioritizing his health and making meaningful progress in managing his challenges.

