

# Native Children Always Ride Safe (Native CARS) Study

## Using Tribal Data to Drive Effective Community Interventions

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### INTRODUCTION

American Indian and Alaska Native children experience mortality from motor vehicle crashes at a rate twice that of other races, partly due to riding improperly restrained in vehicles.

Native CARS is a community-based participatory research project partnering with six Northwest tribes to develop and conduct evidence-based interventions to improve child safety seat use.

### METHODS

Native CARS is a two phase delayed intervention study. Three tribes received interventions in round 1 and three in round 2. We conducted a 2009 vehicle observation survey in all six tribes to estimate proper restraint & determine factors associated with proper restraint.

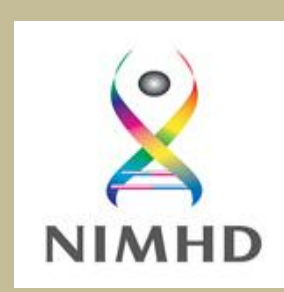
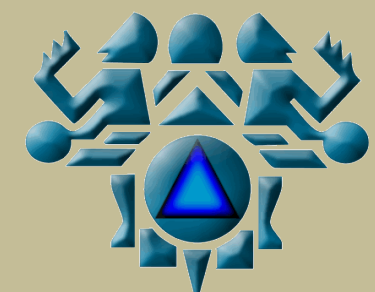
Tribes used the survey results, along with information from personal interviews with community members, to design interventions. The intervention plans were reviewed by community focus groups, modified accordingly, and implemented for 18 months. The vehicle survey was repeated in 2011 to estimate improvement for intervention tribes compared to control tribes.

### SURVEY DATA 2009

- We observed 1853 children in 1213 vehicles
- 49% of children age 12 & under were properly restrained
- Proper restraint varied from 24% to 70% by tribe

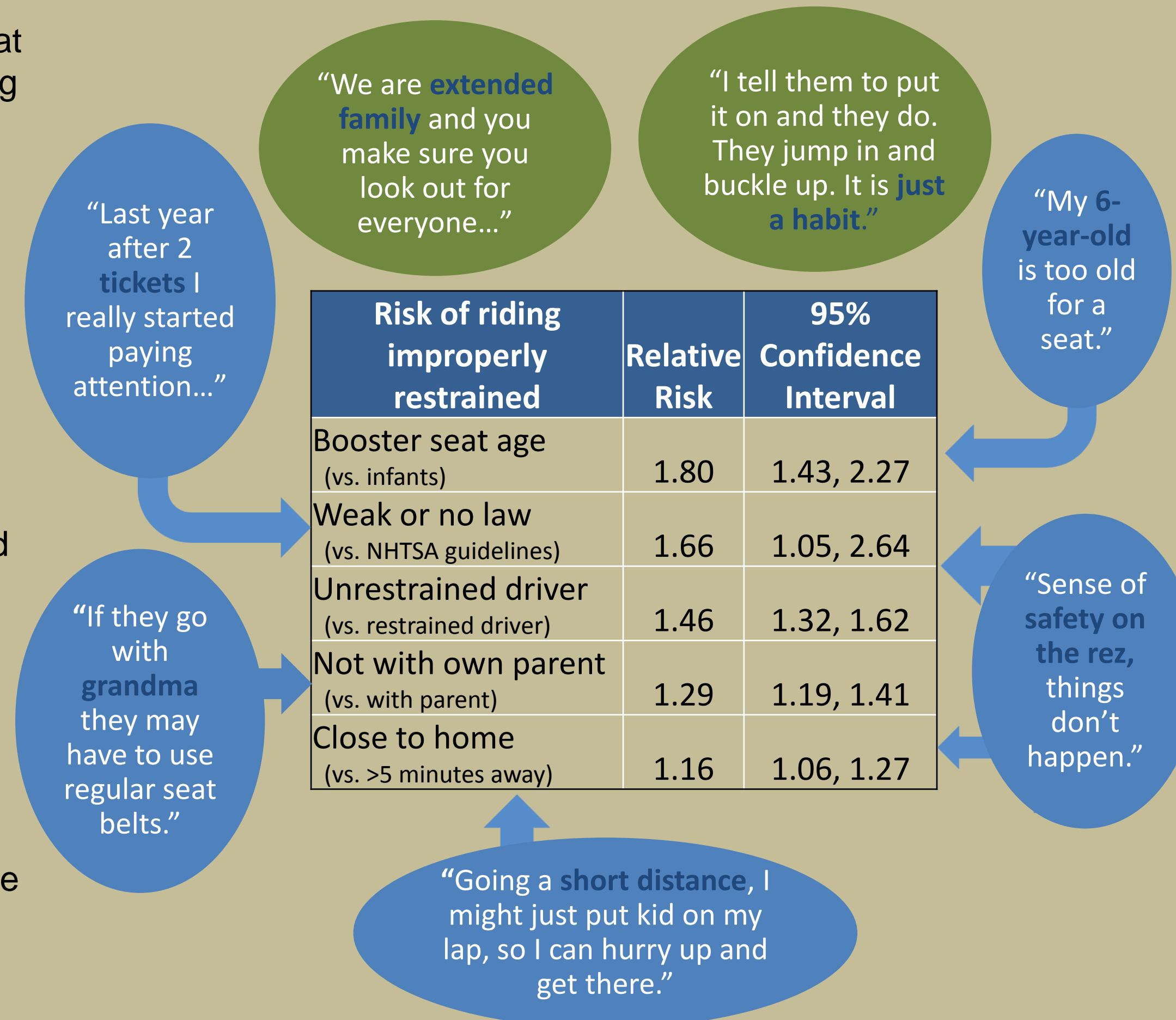
### FUNDING & PARTNERSHIP

Native CARS is a research study funded by the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities and is partnered with Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Harborview Injury Prevention & Research Center, and six Northwest tribes.



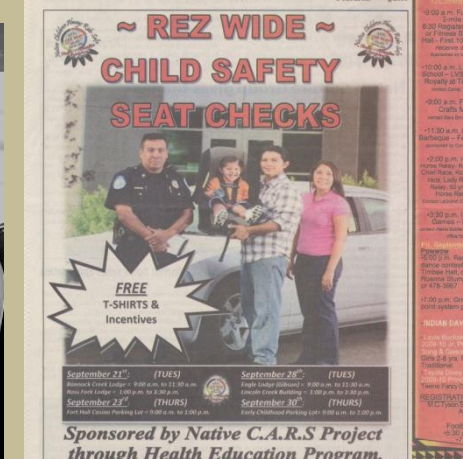
### INTERVENTION THEMES

Themes emerged from both quantitative and qualitative data.



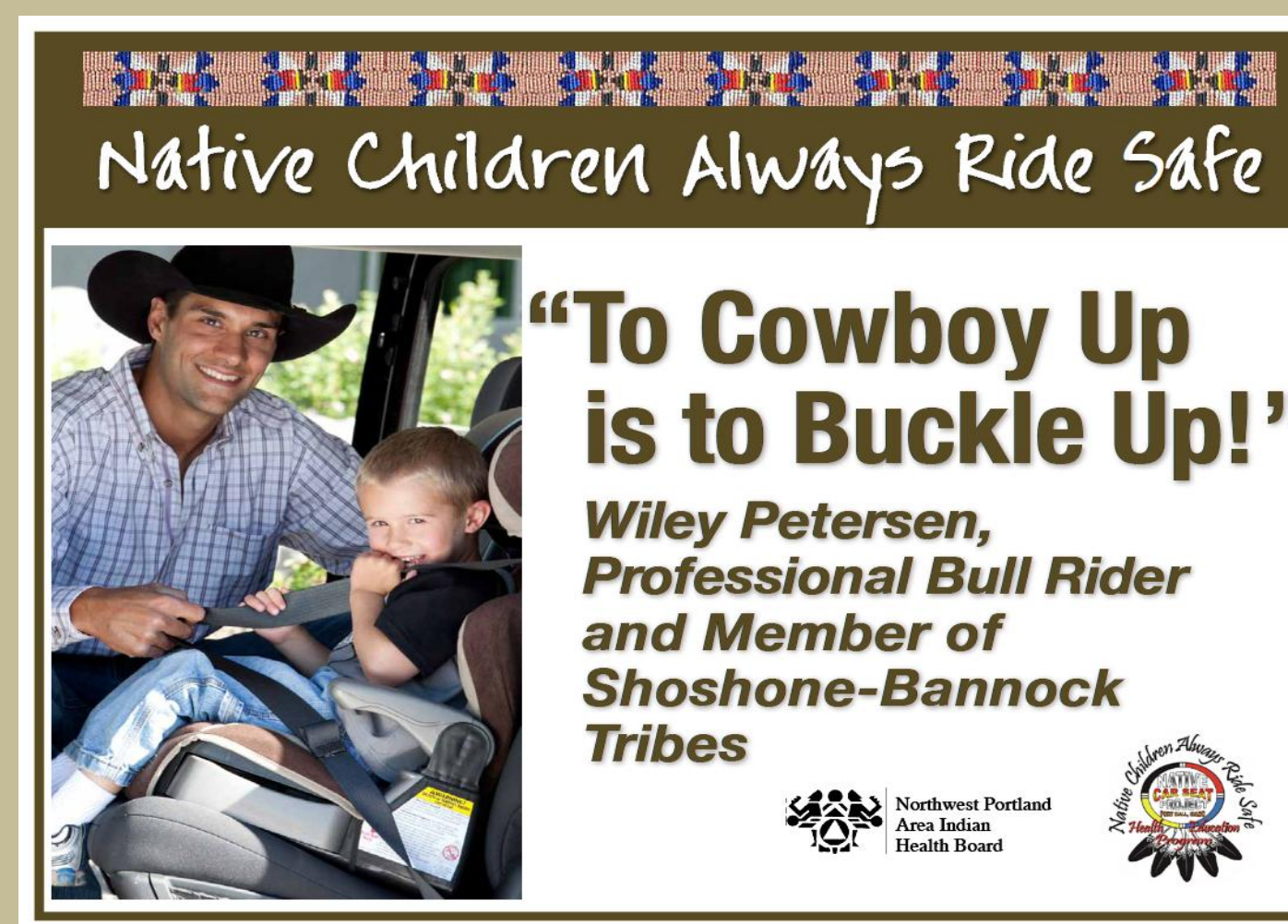
### INTERVENTIONS

Policy	2 tribes developed child safety seat laws 1 passed, the other has not passed yet
Media	Radio, television, billboards, posters, brochures All media featured members of the local community 561 Community members & professionals trained – modified Safe Native American Passenger (SNAP)
Training	10 Child Passenger Safety Seat Technicians trained
Car seats	467 Car seats distributed
Clinics	16 Child safety seat clinics & checkpoints held



### CHILD SAFETY SEAT LAWS

Location	Type of law	Specifics	Fine
Tribes A	Primary	<b>New law passed 2011</b> Infants ride rear-facing until 1 year & 20 lbs Forward-facing harness age 1-4 or 40 lbs Booster age 4 -8 or 4'9" 12 & under in back seat	\$100
Washington State	Primary	(Same as above)	\$101
Oregon State	Primary	Infants ride rear-facing until 1 year & 20 lbs Forward-facing harness age 1-4 or 40 lbs Booster age 4 -8 or 4'9"	\$142
Idaho State	Primary	Children age 6 & younger must ride in a child safety restraint	\$60



### INTERVENTION SUCCESS



**50.3% average increase in intervention tribes compared to 11.8% in control tribes**

- Intervention tribes demonstrated a statistically significant increase in proper child safety seat use compared to control tribes. (p=0.005)
- 77% of American Indian drivers from intervention tribes reported receiving media interventions
- 4 tribes asked about support for a tribal child safety seat law. 90%-98% of drivers said they were in favor of such a law.

### NEXT STEPS

Round 2 tribes are currently implementing interventions. The observational survey will be repeated in spring 2013 in all six tribes.

### CONCLUSIONS

Tribally driven interventions based on tribe-specific data led to community interventions that were well received and successful at improving child safety seat use.

