



### **REACH US Legacy Project**

Central Oklahoma Integrated Network System, Inc. (COINS) is a collaborative network of safety-net health care providers in Central Oklahoma. Its mission is to improve access to care for the uninsured and enhance the health status of the community. COINS vision is that all people receive culturally sensitive and appropriately coordinated health and social services. COINS is experienced in outreach and support of activities which are community and faith-based health promotion and disease prevention initiatives targeted to populations with similar health disparities as the American Indian population.

The REACH US COINS Legacy Project will partner with two American Indian faith-based organizations to begin the planning and implementation of a health & wellness ministry for each organization. COINS staff will provide technical consultation and training to the designated faith-based organizations, their partners as well as the community at large.

The two faith-based organizations will develop and conduct their health and wellness initiative in the neighborhoods where Americans Indians live and worship. A primary role of a health ministry is to emphasize health and healing within a faith community inclusive for embracing the spiritual dimension, 2) holistic health principles of prevention and care management, 3) encouraging strong preventive policies, 4) improving health literacy, and 5) incorporating the culture and diversity unique to the faith community.

COINS will assist the organizations in developing and conducting a health needs assessment amongst the church members to determine what are the perceived health needs of their congregation. Secondly, COINS will navigate a course of action and focus on specific health and wellness initiatives based on each assessment. A goal of the health ministry is to address and improve the levels of health literacy and adopt health behaviors as an immediate and intermediate outcome, and improve health status as a long term outcome.