

Khmer Health Advocates National Cambodian American Diabetes Project (NCADP)

Khmer Health Advocates (KHA) is a national non-profit organization founded as a Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (MAA) with a mission to care for the health needs of survivors of war, torture and genocide from Cambodia (specifically the Khmer Rouge Regime) through programs for outreach, treatment, data collection, health education and advocacy. MAA is defined as the requirement that more than half of the governing board comes from the community the organization serves. KHA operates national, regional and local programs.

The National Cambodian American Diabetes Project (NCADP) is supported by a cooperative agreement from the National Diabetes Education Program, a program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health.

Based on a community mobilization model, NCADP aims to promote diabetes awareness to 30% of the Cambodian community through intensive outreach, health education messages, and partnership building. It is the first collaboration of its kind, partnering Cambodian community-based organizations from across the United States. NCADP seeks to prevent and delay the complications of diabetes and the impact of serious psychological distress on chronic disease management. The project is implemented at a grassroots level through the work of a funded community health worker at each project site. One of the most innovative hallmarks of this project is that NCADP functions as one project using videoconferencing technology.

The five-year goals of the NDEP-funded program are as follows:

1. Develop capacity and a sustainability plan for promoting diabetes awareness on a national level.
2. Bring together 5 project sites (Long Beach, California; Hartford, Connecticut; St. Petersburg, Florida; Chicago, Illinois; and Portland, Oregon) to identify community needs, barriers to care and resources using community mobilization models for the purpose of program design, interventions and modifications.
3. Develop and implement strategies for promoting diabetes awareness and delivering diabetes education messages and products within the five project sites using culturally effective community-based approaches to increase and improve health utilization.
4. Develop and implement community-based intervention strategies to prevent or delay diabetes that can be used to improve the knowledge, attitude, beliefs of Cambodian Americans.



5. Establish coalitions and partnerships with community-based organizations, state Diabetes Prevention and Control Programs (DPCPs) and local health departments, and other national and regional organizations within the five affiliate chapter sites to expand on NCADP efforts and capitalize on current diabetes education efforts.
6. Develop strategies to strengthen relationships with health care providers and assist them in providing culturally and linguistically appropriate diabetes education and support for the Cambodian community.

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Project Sites:

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(562) 988-1863

Cambodian Association of Illinois
Chicago, Illinois
(773) 878-7090

Cambodian Family Health Forum
Clearwater, Florida
(727) 230-2196

Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization
Portland, Oregon
(503) 234-1541

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