



A Quick Guide

Seeking Travel Funding for IIDRN

As we navigate new funding challenges, we recognize that securing travel support may be more difficult than in past years. However, we've found that local communities understand and deeply value the work being done through the International Indigenous Dementia Research Network (IIDRN).

We encourage you to explore funding options in your community. Below are suggested steps and resources to help you secure support for yourself or an Elder in your community to attend IIDRN.



Step 1: Start Local—Find Funding

1. Reach out to your local community foundation:

Community foundations often prioritize local impact and may be able to support your attendance. Use the Council on Foundations locator to find your local foundation: [Community Foundation Locator](#).

Contact their giving officers, introduce yourself, and share why IIDRN is important for your work and your community.

2. Explore other local foundations: In addition to community foundations, many regions have family or organizational foundations that support community wellness, education, or Indigenous initiatives. Search your area using: [GuideStar Foundation Directory](#)

3. Connect with your Tribal Council: Set up a conversation with your Tribal leadership to share why this conference matters for your community. Emphasize how your attendance will support knowledge exchange and the well-being of your Nation.



Step 2: Make Your Case

- Once you've identified a potential funder, take time to review their mission, strategic plan, and funding priorities. Look for keywords like health equity, Indigenous-led, healthy communities, or cultural knowledge. These align well with IIDRN's vision, goals, and aims.
- Reach out to someone on their grants or charitable giving team. An email introduction is a great first step—but don't be discouraged if it takes a couple of follow-ups to hear back. Please see the following page for an email template you can use to contact potential funders.

Need support? We are here to help. Reach out to us below.



<https://www.iidrn.org/>



iidrn@d.umn.edu

Subject: Request for Travel Funding Support – Indigenous Health Research

Dear [Name],

I'm reaching out to inquire about the possibility of receiving travel support to attend the International Indigenous Dementia Research Network (IIDRN) conference. This gathering brings together Indigenous health leaders and researchers from across the world to share knowledge and strengthen connections that benefit our communities.

As federal funding becomes increasingly limited, I'm seeking creative and community-based avenues to continue advancing our shared goals of health equity and culturally grounded research. My work focuses on [briefly describe your research and community impact], and attending IIDRN would allow me to deepen my understanding, make meaningful connections, and bring new knowledge back to our local community.

I would be honored to share a short summary or reflection after the conference on what I learned and how it supports our collective goals.

Thank you for considering this request. I would be happy to speak further or share more details if helpful.

With gratitude,

[Your Name]

[Your Affiliation, if any]

[Contact Information]