

Dr. James Jarvis Advocates for Native American Children

Posted on 08/21/15 at 09:55 am



Dr. James Jarvis, UB Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, has worked tirelessly over the course of his career to improve the health and healthcare of American Indian and Alaska Native children. He uses state-of-the-art methods in his laboratory at the CTRC to study rheumatic disease and the effects of trauma and toxic stress among Native American children.

In his [recent testimony](#) before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, Jarvis supported allocating \$5 billion in discretionary authority to the Indian Health Service. The federal agency partners with tribal communities to provide health care for 2.2 million American Indian and Alaska Natives, more than a third of whom are younger than 15. Jarvis spoke on behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics, as chair of the Committee on Native American Child Health.

Dr. Jarvis played an instrumental role in the signing of an [historic agreement](#) between the Indian Health Service and UB Health Sciences Schools in 2013. Through the collaborative agreement, UB is working with tribal leaders to develop and offer public health programs.

The [recently funded CTSA grant](#) includes a significant commitment to integrating special populations into the clinical research activities of the Buffalo Translational Consortium. In particular, it is important to include groups that are underrepresented in clinical research as participants in clinical trials, including children, the elderly and underrepresented minorities. Dr. Jarvis is working as part of the CTSA effort to better engage Native Americans in the Western New York Community in clinical studies.