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SENATOR HOWARD: And that's a very good question, Senator Stuthman. And they would not be prevented from accessing programs in another community if they were able to travel the distance and were motivated to do this. I'm not aware of any programs per se on the reservation that are reaching out to them. There simply isn't funding. This simply hasn't been available to them. Not only is the issue of lack of programs a problem, but it's also the issue of a cultural belief that this is not a strange practice. When an individual is without hope and turns to alcohol, it's not thought to be a culturally unaccepted practice. The level of awareness of the damage of the alcohol is either not there, or denied. And in answer to your questions regarding the programs, there are programs that reach out to this group of mothers, such as any other group of unwed mothers. They're not as accessible to these individuals on the reservation, and they're not as effective for them.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: And the reason for this is mainly because it's a reservation, and you feel that there isn't providers going out to the reservation and providing it for distance reasons? And the thing that I'm concerned about is, what about people that, you know, have the same problem, you know, the...just the young woman, pregnant, you know, that has got an alcohol problem, in any part of the state of Nebraska? Do we need to make sure that everyone can access these services? It seems to me like we're either not providing them on the Indian reservations, or are we providing them the same as we're providing them for the rest of the state of Nebraska?

SENATOR HOWARD: I believe I could say that Senator Foley and I would be united in saying that each and every mother, pregnant woman, should be allowed, should be able to access the same services regarding fetal alcohol counseling, prenatal services. This should be available. What I am saying, what I am pointing out, is that the need is here. The unmet need is in this community, on these reservations. When you look at the information provided that one in three infants born to a mother on the reservation is diagnosed as having fetal alcohol syndrome, that's a jarring factor. That's an overwhelming number for a population. The services that were being provided