



**Indian Country**  
TODAY MEDIA NETWORK.com



Melissa Koester fits Jonathon One Feather with CROCS. (Crocs Cares)

## **Rockin' the Crocs! Wider, Aerated Shoes Given to Pine Ridge Diabetics**

ICTMN Staff  
August 02, 2013

Crocs Cares' shoes designed to benefit people with diabetes will be distributed at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation's pow wow grounds today in South Dakota during a health fair.

The shoes donated by [Crocs Cares](#) are wider and aerated, providing comfort for swollen diabetic feet. The extra width of the shoes can also accommodate diabetic socks. Melissa Koester, manager of Crocs Cares, was on hand to assist with the distribution at Pine Ridge.

"Giving back has always been a priority for Crocs," Koester said, "Crocs has donated millions of shoes in developing countries, and with great partners like National Relief Charities, Crocs can provide shoes throughout the U.S."

The partnership between Crocs and [National Relief Charities](#) evolved around National Relief Charities' ongoing relationship with the reservations.

National Relief Charities serves immediate, critical needs and supports permanent solutions that improve quality of life for one quarter of a million Native Americans each year. A national nonprofit, National Relief Charities serves 65-plus reservations year-round in the northern Plains and Southwest. The Native American communities served by National Relief estimate that 30 percent to 50 percent of tribal members suffer from diabetes. National Relief Charities' goal is to support positive change and make a difference for Native American people.

American Indian/Alaska Native adults are more than twice as likely as their white counterparts to get diabetes, and twice as likely to die from it, according to U.S.

Health and Human Services. The population's high risk of diabetes also increases their likelihood of suffering from health complications such as heart disease, hypertension, kidney disease, nervous system damage, gum disease, loss of limbs, and foot problems.

## **Read more**

[Crocs Cares](#)

[Diabetes](#)

[Pine Ridge Indian Reservation](#)

[Diabetes Complications](#)

# Indian Country Today

MEDIA NETWORK

*Serving The Nations / Celebrating The People*

All Content © 2013 Indian Country Today Media Network, LLC

Pub. at <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/08/02/wider-aerated-crocs-diabetics-distributed-pine-ridge-today-150699> and republished here with permission.