Why Evaluate?
Indigenous Evaluation Frameworks

2nd Annual Conference on Native American Nutrition
Prior Lake, MN
September 18, 2017

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Traditional View of Public Health
What is Public Health?

• “the fulfillment of society’s interest in assuring the conditions in which people can be healthy”\(^1\)

• Achieved through the application of health promotion and disease prevention technologies and interventions designed to improve and enhance quality of life\(^2\)

\(^1\)Institute of Medicine, The Future of Public Health
\(^2\)Association of Schools of Public Health
Ten Essential Services
PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTIONS SEEK TO CREATE OR FACILITATE POSITIVE BEHAVIORS

At the individual or community level

Policy, systems and environmental changes still seek to ultimately impact individual or community behavior
Intervention Design

Infrastructure + Processes = Outcomes
EVALUATION...

Helps us to understand the relationships and effectiveness of intervention design
Levels of Evaluation

- **Formative**
  - Takes place *before or during* a project's implementation with the aim of improving the project's design and performance

- **Process**
  - Assessment of how a program is being implemented

- **Outcome**
  - Assessment of the changes that have taken place

- **Impact**
  - Assessment of longer term changes
Process

• **Process Monitoring**
  – Describing who received your services and the resources it took
  – “How many…?”

• **Process Evaluation**
  – Seeks to understand if your intervention was delivered as intended and the quality of delivery
Outcome

• Outcome Monitoring
  – What changes took place after the conclusion of your intervention?

• Outcome Evaluation
  – Can changes be attributed to your intervention?
Evaluation in a Cultural Context

Helps us to understand the processes and effectiveness of intervention design.

Let Us Put Our Minds Together And See What Life We Can Make For Our Children.
~ Sitting Bull
MEDICINE WHEEL

NORTH

WEST

EAST

SOUTH
MEDICINE WHEEL

MENTAL

PHYSICAL

SPIRITUAL

EMOTIONAL
MEDICINE WHEEL & Determinants of Public Health

EDUCATIONAL

ENVIRONMENTAL  CULTURAL

SOCIAL
MEDICINE WHEEL

DECISIONS

ACTIONS VALUES

REACTIONS

16
MEDICINE WHEEL & Program Evaluation

PLAN
ENVISION
IMPLEMENT
EVALUATE
MEDICINE WHEEL & Program Evaluation
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ENVISION

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EVALUATE
MEDICINE WHEEL & Program Evaluation

Opportunity to document and share results.

Mitakutye Oyasin!
MEDICINE WHEEL & Program Evaluation

PLAN

ENVISION

IMPLEMENT

EVALUATE
Turning Point

PUBLIC HEALTH PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

VISIBLE LEADERSHIP

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
- Identify relevant standards
- Select indicators
- Set goals and targets
- Communicate expectations

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT
- Refine indicators
- Define measures
- Develop data systems
- Collect data

REPORTING PROGRESS
- Analyze and interpret data
- Report results broadly
- Develop a regular reporting cycle

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT
- Use data for decisions to improve policies, programs, outcomes
- Manage changes
- Create a learning organization

http://www.phf.org/resourcetools/pages/turning_point_project_publications.aspx
What Works in Public Health?

• **Evidence Based Practice**—using the best available evidence to make informed public health practice decisions.

• **Best Practice**—PH programs, interventions, and policies that have been evaluated, shown to be successful, and have the potential to be adapted and transformed by others working in the same field.
What Works in Public Health?

• **Emerging Practice**—Incorporates the philosophy, values, characteristics, and indicators of other positive/effective public health interventions.

• **Promising Practice**—Has strong quantitative and qualitative data showing positive outcomes, but does not yet have enough research or replication to support generalizable positive public health outcomes.
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

- Whose evidence is it?
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

• Whose evidence is it?

• Do current EBPs work in tribal communities?
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

• Whose evidence is it?

• Do current EBPs work in tribal communities?

• Examples from Tobacco Control and Diabetes Prevention.
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

Tobacco Control Strategies

• 100% Tobacco & Smoke Free
  • Is this culturally competent?
  • Does one-size fit all?
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

Diabetes Prevention Strategies

• What are they?
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

**Diabetes Prevention Strategies**

- Access to healthy food?
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

**Diabetes Prevention Strategies**

- Access to healthy food?
- Access to safe places to exercise?
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

Diabetes Prevention Strategies

- Access to healthy food?
- Access to safe places to exercise?
- Cultural factors?
Need for AI PH “Evidence-Based Practices”

How do we know what works in Indian Country?

• Research
• Evaluation
• How?
Promising Programs
Knowledge Building

- Build on existing research, evaluation, knowledge.
- Participatory framework
- Place matters! Social determinants of health/indigenous indicators
How do we Build an American Indian Evidence Base in Public Health?

• Research and Evaluation
  • Challenges? Opportunities?
• How do we identify potential programs?
• What are the priority areas?
  • Diabetes, tobacco, research, cancer…
• How do we disseminate information?
  • Publications? Conferences? (NIHB PH Summit?) Websites?
• Next Steps?