Evaluation of Tribal SHIP and Tribal Tobacco Grants in MN

AMERICAN INDIAN PUBLIC HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER
North Dakota State University
The Minnesota Legislature made available state SHIP funds (Minn. Stat. §145.986) to tribal governments for the following purpose:

- To address commercial tobacco use and exposure, poor diet, and lack of regular physical activity in the community, school, worksite or health care settings through a policy, systems and environmental approach.
The mission is to address American Indian public health disparities through:

- Technical Assistance
- Policy Development
- Tribal Self-Determination
- Education
- Research
- Programming

In partnership with tribal communities in ND, the Northern Plains, and across the nation.
TEAM-BASED APPROACH

• AIPHRC uses a four-pronged, team-based approach in providing TA around PH policy, education, research, and services.

• Technical assistance services include:
  • Grant Writing
  • Cultural and Tribal Public Health Capacity Building
  • Research and Evaluation
  • Stakeholder Group/Coalition Development and Recruitment
  • Facilitation Services
AMERICAN INDIAN PUBLIC HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER TEAM

Dr. Donald Warne *(Oglala Lakota)*, Director/Chair, Department of Public Health

Dr. Melanie Nadeau *(Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa)*, Operational Director

Ryan Eagle *(Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara Nation)*, Research Project Manager

Vanessa Tibbitts *(Oglala Lakota)*, Public Health Education Project Manager

Karla Checo, Public Health Coordinator

Gretchen Dobervich, Public Health Policy Project Manager

Pearl Walker-Swaney *(Standing Rock & White Earth Band of Ojibwe)*, INBRE Project Manager
AIPHRC TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT

• Tribal engagement is at the core of all of our activities.

• AIPHRC’s Tribal Advisory Committee is composed of representatives from each of the five tribes in North Dakota and two from the National Indian Health Board.

• Tribal Advisory Committee helps to ensure that AIPHRC activities are appropriately responding to the public health needs of our tribal communities and in identifying opportunities for future activities.
TRIBAL SHIP EVALUATION GOALS

1. Engage 10 Minnesota Tribes to develop evaluation plans for each Tribal SHIP and Tobacco Program.
2. Assist grantees in identifying data collection methods for their evaluation activities and assist with development of data collection tools, including qualitative and quantitative tools and methods.
3. Assist grantees with preparing individual evaluation reports, including progress reports and a final summary for each grantee.
4. Summarize grantee evaluation progress for legislative updates, to be used by MDH to brief state legislators.
5. Work in partnership with MDH, other technical assistance providers, and the statewide evaluation workgroup.
## EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

**Goal 1**
- Meet with each Tribal SHIP and Tobacco Grantees
- Work with Tribal Grantees to develop Communication Plan
- Schedule ongoing tribal site visits

**Goal 2**
- Work with Tribal Grantees to identify stakeholders
- Identify effective stakeholder engagement strategies
- Schedule stakeholder evaluation planning meetings with each Tribal Grantee

**Goal 3**
- Work with Tribal Grantees to develop Evaluation Plan(s)
- Assist Tribal Grantees and Stakeholders with prioritization of evaluation activities, identifying at least 1 focus area for more in-depth analysis

**Goal 4**
- Provide Evaluation Training to Tribal Grantees
- Create report templates, presentation templates, and consistent reporting methods
- Develop process for coordinating Evaluation Reports
- Provide Technical Assistance to Tribal Grantees on an ongoing basis

**Goal 5**
- Work with each Tribal Grantee to obtain Evaluation Progress Reports for SHIP Report
- Develop Evaluation Progress Reports for Legislative updates
FRAMEWORK CORE CULTURAL VALUES

- People of a Place
- Recognizing our Gifts
- Tribal Sovereignty
- Community and Family
PEOPLE OF A PLACE

• In *God Is Red*, Vine Deloria writes about sacred places:

  The vast majority of Indian tribal religions...have a sacred center at a particular place, be it a river, a mountain, a plateau, valley, or other natural feature. This center enables the people to look out along the four dimensions and locate their lands, to relate all historical events within the confines of this particular land, and to accept responsibility for it. Regardless of what subsequently happens to the people, the sacred lands remain as permanent fixtures in their cultural and religious understanding. -- Deloria, Jr., V., *God Is Red*, Fulcrum Publishing, Golden, CO, 1994, p. 67.
CULTURAL VALUES AND EVALUATION PRACTICE

• Exploring and naming our values is a first step in developing an Indigenous approach to evaluation.
• Our programs are place-based and must be designed and evaluated in ways that understand our connections to place.
• We recognize the unique gifts of everyone and cannot be limited to using only narrow measures of merit or achievement to assess learning.
• Community is central to our sense of ourselves as a people and should be considered in our evaluation practice.
• Sovereignty dictates that evaluation belongs to the tribe and community and should be practiced in ways that help us learn and move forward.
CREATING YOUR STORY

• A program is a story
• There is a proposed story and a story that unfolds through implementation
• **Evaluation tracks the journey between the proposed story and the actual story**
• Creating the story we hope to tell is the first step of evaluation
• Consider the values that are important in your community and which should be connected to evaluation

• Recognize the relationships in the program – people, activities, outcomes

• Put these within a model or metaphor that communicates within your community
OBSERVATION OF ENVIRONMENT

• Attendance
• Scores and ratings
• Criterion referenced measures
• Tallies of survey responses
• Rubric scores of demonstrations
• Retention scores
• Completion or graduation rates
• Formal observations
Indigenous Evaluation:

- Uses both qualitative and quantitative methods
- Measures experience over time
- Looks at information from multiple perspectives
WHAT ARE LEGISLATORS AND FUNDING AGENCIES LOOKING FOR?

• Why did this money need to be spent? What problem are you trying to solve and why is it a problem?
• How much state, federal, tribal, private foundation dollars did your project receive?
• How was the money spent?
• What approaches were successful?
• What approaches were not successful?
• How many people did you serve?
• What are the short and long term impacts of this investment?
• What is specifically needed to continue the success of the project? How will it become sustainable, if need be?
THANK YOU!

https://www.ndsu.edu/centers/american_indian_health/

Dr. Donald Warne – donald.warne@ndsu.edu

Dr. Melanie Nadeau – melanie.nadeau@ndsu.edu

Vanessa Tibbitts – vanessa.tibbitts@ndsu.edu

Ryan Eagle – ryan.eagle@ndsu.edu

Gretchen Dobervich – gretchen.dobervich@ndsu.edu

Karla Checo – karla.checo@ndsu.edu

701-231-6269