



University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health Projects

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Center *for*
Rural Health

University of North Dakota
School of Medicine and Health Sciences



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Where: Grand Forks, ND

When: Established over 20 years ago

Focused on Access, Financing and Quality Through:

- Health services research
- Health policy
- Education
- State and community health services development
- Information Resource

How: Through partnerships





Current Projects



National Resource Center on Native American Aging (NRCNAA)

- Funding Agency: Administration on Aging (AoA)
- Purpose: The NRCNAA's primary purpose is to work closely with tribal elderly providers throughout the nation to address the needs of Native elders through research, training, and technical assistance.
- Partner (s): 311 tribal nations from across the United States





Current Status of Cycles I & II

○ Cycle I

- 171 tribes from 89 different sites are represented in national file
- 9,403 Native elder participants have filled out the survey
- At least one tribe from 11 of the 12 I.H.S. Regional Areas is represented in the national file

○ Cycle II

- 244 tribes from 61 sites have completed their needs assessments
- 9,416 Native elders filled out the survey
- An additional 92 tribes from 39 sites have passed tribal resolutions and interviewing their elders
- All 12 I.H.S. Regions are represented



Identifying Our Needs: A Survey of Elders II

We Provide:

- Scannable survey instruments
- Technical Assistance
 - Advice on drawing a representative sample
 - Data collection procedures
- Statistical analysis - frequencies & tables
- Comparisons with national norms

The Tribes Provide:

- A tribal resolution granting permission to participate
- Locating a list and selecting names for the sample
- Data collection
- Receiving the findings and getting them to the right people
- Local implementation and coordination





The Impact of Health Insurance Coverage on Native Elder Health

- Funding Agency: Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, HRSA
- Purpose: To determine the type of health insurance coverage of Native elders, and to examine how different types or lack of insurance impacts access to health care services among Native elders residing in urban, rural, and frontier counties.
- Partner (s): University of Minnesota School of Public Health



Rural Assistance Center

- Funding Agency: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Rural Initiative
- Purpose: To assist rural communities and other rural stakeholders access the full range of available programs, funding, and research that can enable them to provide quality health and human services to rural residents.
- Partner (s): the Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI), Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP), and the University of Minnesota School of Public Health





North Dakota State Planning Grant

- Funding Agency: Office of Special Programs, HRSA
- Purpose: To increase access to health insurance for North Dakotans and develop policy options for increasing health coverage
- Partners: ND State Department of Health and Social Science Research Institute
- Note – Non-insurance for AI was 31.7% compared to 6.9% for non-Natives in ND.



North Dakota American Indian Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)

- Funding Agency: Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA)
- Purpose: To provide community and state level data and reports to tribes and the state health department to document disparities experienced by North Dakota's American Indian populations for the strengthening of grant proposals
- Partner (s): Three reservations and the Trenton Indian Service Area and UND Center for Health Promotion and Translational Research
- Note – Tribal community presentations and reports will be completed by late April.





Tribal and State Health Policy Forums

- Funding Agency: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Purpose: To develop and implement a series of North Dakota Health Policy Forums for both state and tribal governments that provide timely health policy briefs, presentations from experts, and the latest health research on key health and medical care issues.
- Partners: Because the information is to be delivered in an objective, nonpartisan manner in a neutral setting that features off-the-record discussions there are no partners on this project.
- Note – First tribal policy forum, held during UTTC conference, focused on the AI Healthcare Improvement Act.



Family to Family Network

- Funding Agency: Otto Bremer Foundation
- Purpose: To identify the needs of families with children who have disabilities, and to provide training and technical assistance to tribal disability providers.
- Partners: Head Start and Early Childhood Tracking Programs





Traumatic Brain Injury

- Funding Agency: Maternal and Child Health Bureau, HRSA
- Purpose: Develop an advisory committee that is inclusive of tribal and rural communities, and conduct a needs and resource assessment to develop an action plan.
- Partners: Tribal Injury Prevention Programs, Indigenous Peoples Brain Organization, I.H.S., Tribal Social Services, NDDoH, ND Division of Aging, and Dept. of Public Instruction – Special Education
- Note: Each of the five ND tribal communities are represented on the advisory committee.



State Office of Rural Health

- Funding Agency: HRSA
- Purpose: To assist rural communities to build their health care services through public and private partnerships and initiatives in rural health development.
- Partner (s): Rural and tribal communities throughout North Dakota
- Note – This project provides, grant writing training to ND rural and tribal communities, and time-sensitive grant opportunities, and state or federal legislative action related to tribal populations through the *Tribal Health Updates* publication.



● ● ● | Biological, Organic, Radiological
Disaster Education Response
(BORDERS)

- Funding Agency: HRSA
- Purpose: To provide bioterrorism preparedness training to health and safety professionals in North Dakota.
- Partner (s): Urban, rural, and tribal communities throughout North Dakota
- Note – International Summit is scheduled for September 2005 on the Fort Berthold reservation with the surgeon general (keynote) and Dr. Grimm invited to attend.



● ● ● | Student/Retention Experiences and
Rotations in Community Health

- Funding Agency: HRSA
- Purpose: To provide service-linked educational community experiences in underserved areas and to train health care professionals about rural communities
- Partner (s): Turtle Mountain Community College, Quentin N. Burdick Comprehensive Health Care Center, and Fort Berthold Community College





Collaborative Rural Interdisciplinary Service Training & Learning (CRISTAL)

- Funding Agency: Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA)
- Purpose: Build/enhance working relationships, implement a culturally appropriate interdisciplinary curriculum, and increase health profession student's interest in, and awareness of, rural health settings as career opportunity.
- Partner (s): Turtle Mountain Community College, Quentin N. Burdick Comprehensive Health Care Center, and Fort Berthold Community College
- Future proposed partner – Cankdeska Cikana Community College and Spirit Lake Health Center



3rd Annual American Indian Research Forum – April 7, 2005

- Funding Agency: Center for Rural Health and the Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center (GFHNRC)
- Purpose: To bring together researchers currently conducting research among American Indian communities in an effort to create networks and bring awareness to research issues regarding Native communities.
- Partner (s): GFNRC and the University of North Dakota Indian Association





Proposed Projects



Dakota Geriatric Education Center

- Funding Agency: Health Resource and Service Agency (HRSA)
- The purpose is to provide culturally sensitive geriatric education and interdisciplinary training to all levels of health and mental health providers.
- Partner (s): United Tribes Technical College & North Dakota State University





Mental Health First Aid Program

- Funding Agency: Bremer Foundation
- Purpose: This proposed project will increase understanding and reduce the stigma of mental health issues to assist in the prevention of suicide in Native communities.
- Partner (s): Aberdeen Area Indian Health Service



Depression Assessment Validation Study

- Funding Agency: UND Faculty Seed Grant
- Purpose: To determine if depression assessment instruments are valid and if culturally appropriate instruments should be developed.
- Partner (s): Aberdeen Area Indian Health Service





Diabetes Costs Study

- Funding Agency: UND Faculty Seed Grant
- Purpose: Analyze the cost of diabetes treatment in the Aberdeen Area to gain understanding of treatment costs vs. prevention costs of diabetes.
- Partner (s): Aberdeen Area Indian Health Service



North Dakota American Indian Veteran BRFSS

- Funding Agency: Bremer Foundation
- Purpose: To explore and report access to healthcare issues for ND AI veterans regarding the dis-coordination of services between I.H.S. and the Veterans Administration.
- Partner (s): Four ND tribes and Trenton Indian Service Area





Recently Completed Projects



Long Term Care Planning Tool Kit

- Funding Agency: Office of Rural Health Policy, HRSA
- Purpose: To assist tribes in using the long term care assessment data in the development of infrastructure and comprehensive services that respond to community needs and culture.
- Partner (s): 171 tribes participating in Cycle I of the Native elder needs assessment project.
- Final report and website resources completed in December 2004





Prevalence of Chronic Disease and Rurality of American Indian Elders

- Funding Agency: Office of Rural Health Policy, HRSA
- Purpose: To provide information about the relationship between chronic disease, functional limitation, health risk, and rural status of Native elders.
- Partner (s): 171 tribes participating in Cycle I of the Native elder needs assessment project.
- Final report and website resources completed in October 2004

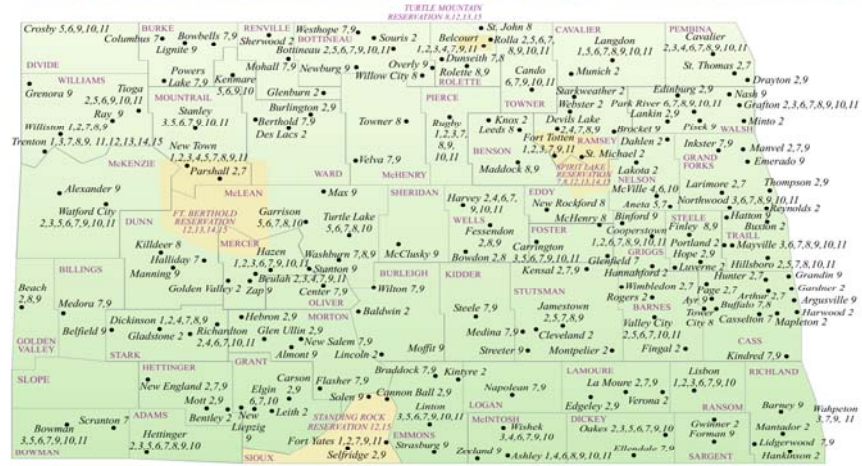


Rural Health Dialogues

- Funding Agency: Office of Rural Health Policy
- Purpose: To conduct site visits in rural communities across the state of North Dakota to identify health priorities among tribal, rural, and rural frontier populations.
- Partners: 8 rural and 5 tribal North Dakota communities
- Note – Reports generated from these visits were returned to all communities, and the results were implemented into the current CRH strategic plan.



What is the Center for Rural Health Doing in Your Community?



2001 - 2004 Center for Rural Health activities



1. Rural Health Dialogues
2. Family to Family Network
3. SEARCH Sites
4. Project CRESTAL
5. National Health Service Corps (H) Placements
6. Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (P)LEX Grant Program
7. The State Office of Rural Health Program (OCRH)
8. Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND Rural Health Grants
9. Rural Access to Emergency Devices (RAED)
10. Small Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP)
11. Polyclinic Placements
12. Needs Assessment Training
13. Elder Social and Health Needs Assessment Project
14. ND Native American HIV/AIDS Assessment Project
15. National Campaigner's Survey Indian Reservations

<http://medicine.nodak.edu/crh>



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