Native Center for Behavioral Health

IOWA



Native American Mental Heath

Ray Daw, Dine', MA May 17, 2023

Native Center for Behavioral Health

The Native Center for Behavioral Health is supported by The University of Iowa, College of Public Health. The content of this event is the creation of the presenter(s), and the opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Native Center for Behavioral Health, University of Iowa, or the College of Public Health.



Land Acknowledgement

We would like to take this time to acknowledge the land and pay respect to the Indigenous Nations whose homelands were forcibly taken over and inhabited.

Past and present, we want to honor the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations.

This calls us to commit to forever learn how to be better stewards of these lands through action, advocacy, support, and education.

We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced occupation of Native American territories, and we respect the many diverse indigenous people connected to this land on which we gather from time immemorial.

While injustices are still being committed against Indigenous people on Turtle Island, today we say thank you to those that stand with Indigenous peoples and acknowledge that land reparations must be made to allow healing for our Indigenous peoples and to mother earth, herself.

Dekibaota, Elleh Driscoll, Meskwaki and Winnebago Nations Ttakimaweakwe, Keely Driscoll, Meskwaki and Winnebago Nations Keokuk, Sean A. Bear, 1^{st.} Meskwaki Nation



American Indian & Alaska Native Mental Health Technology Transfer Center **SAAAAASA** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

The National American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Technology Transfer Center is supported by a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

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Today's Speaker

• I am Dine' (Navajo)From New Mexico. I'm currently a Native American behavioral health consultant. My career has been largely within and around the Navajo Nation, Native non-profits and most recently in rural Alaska, in both inpatient and outpatient settings. My work in behavioral health has been heavily towards developing Native trauma-appropriate approaches that are healing and effective in tribal behavioral health prevention, Intervention, and treatment services.

• My work includes extensive experience as a consultant with SAMHSA in program development and evaluation, culturally-based prevention and intervention services, public policy, grant reviewing, and American Indian/Alaskan Native modalities. I'm also trainer in motivational interviewing and historical trauma.





Objectives

- 1. Provide an historical overview the Native American lifestyle and cultures.
- 2. Provide an overview of Native American mental health disparities
- 3. Describe Native American cultural considerations for improved mental health
- 4: Traditional healing practices





Objective 1. Provide an historical overview Native American lifestyles and cultures.



Native land use practices



What is "A federally recognized tribe"?

- A federally recognized tribe is an American Indian or Alaska Native tribal entity that is recognized as having a government-to-government relationship with the United States, with the responsibilities, powers, limitations, and obligations attached to that designation, and is eligible for funding and services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs¹². Federally recognized tribes are recognized as possessing certain inherent rights of self-government and are entitled to receive certain federal benefits, services, and protections because of their special relationship with the United States³.
- The federal government recognizes 574 Native American tribes in the continental U.S. and Alaska

What are "State-recognized tribes "

- State-recognized tribes in the United States are organizations that identify as <u>Native American tribes</u> or heritage groups that do not meet the criteria for <u>federally recognized</u> <u>Indian tribes</u> but have been recognized by a process established under assorted <u>state government</u> laws for varying purposes. State recognition does not dictate whether or not they are recognized as Native American tribes by continually existing tribal nations.
- By 2008 a total of 62 Native American tribes had been recognized by states.

Yellow: states with federally-recognized tribes Red: states with staterecognized tribes Orange: states with both federaland state-recognized tribes Grey: states with neither federal- nor staterecognized tribe

sBy User:Bellerophon5685, User:Yuchitown updated version of File:Tribal recognition by state.png, CC BY-SA 3.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid= 46588727



What percentage of Native Americans live in cities?

 Approximately 70 percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives live in urban areas, with 25 percent of them residing in counties served by urban Indian health programs authorized and funded through Public Law 94-437, Title V.

- Urban Indian Health Program | Fact Sheets
- www.ihs.gov/newsroom/factsheets/uihp/

In Chat, respond to the question below

Which tribes have you interacted with professionally? <u>Respond in</u> <u>chat</u>

In chat, write your response. .





Objective 2. Provide an overview of Native American mental health disparities

Historical Trauma

 Historical Trauma – Result of "a legacy of chronic trauma and unresolved grief across generations," enacted upon them by the European dominant Culture. (Braveheart & DeBruyn, 1998, p. 60)





World's Deadliest Plagues

 Smallpox killed an estimated 90% of Native Americans, as Europeans landed in the Americas



alum Hapians University estimates

CDC, WHO, BBC.

Johns Hopkims University

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We now know that Trauma can be passed to descendants through the genes, biologically, but also psychologically through stories, the education system, the environment, such as other students or adults, and social means



"Kill the Indian, Save the Man."



The graduating class of 1898 at Carlisle was told to... "Let All That Is Indian In You Die."

Trauma

 American Indians appear to experience traumatic events at a higher rate than what was previously reported in the general population. (Beals, et al., 2005; Manson et al., 2005; Robin et.al., 1997)



Acculturation

 Assessing a patient's acculturation level can help to identify what treatment approach may be most beneficial to his or her recovery. A patient that is determined to be more assimilated may prefer Westernized treatment approaches; a patient who identifies with traditional practices may prefer more traditional healing approaches; conversely, a patient who is bi-cultural may prefer a mix of both types of treatment.



Native American life expectancy has dropped 5 years

- Major Disparities
 - Diabetes
 - Adult Obesity
 - Homicide
 - Alcohol-related deaths
 - Youth obesity
 - Influenza and Pneumonia

Moderate Disparities

• Suicide

Low Disparities

- Infant mortality
- Smoking
- Prenatal care
- Child vaccinations

Suicide Death Rates Per 100K – United States, 2013–2015

Characteristic	Large metropolitan	Medium/ small metropolitan	Nonmetropolitan/ rural
County Urbanization	12.72	16.77	19.74
Sex			
Male	20.20	26.68	31.62
Female	5.91	7.51	8.06
Race/Ethnicity			
White non-Hispanic (NH)	17.24	20.24	21.96
Black NH	6.56	6.89	6.07
American Indian/ Alaska Native NH	14.00	19.60	29.07
Asian/Pacific Islander NH	6.70	8.35	9.35
Hispanic	6.37	7.97	10.21

Source: Suicide Trends Among and Within Urbanization Levels by Sex, Race/Ethnicity, Age Group, and Mechanism of Death — United States, 2001–2015. MMWR Surveillance Summaries, 66(18);1–16, 2017





AI/AN Mental Health Disorders

- High depression rates
- High anxiety rates
- High substance use disorder rates







In Chat, respond to the question below

How is Native American history different from your ethnic history?

- * _ * _ * _ * _ * _ * _ *
- In chat, write your response.



Objective 3. Describe Native American cultural considerations for improved mental health

Mental Health: Euro-American &/OR Native American



AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION



INTEGRATING SPIRITUALITY INTO TREATMENT

RESOURCES FOR PRACTITIONERS

EDITED BY WILLIAM R. MILLER



Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



National American Indian & Alaska Native

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American Indian & Alaskan Native Spirituality • "The Lakota culture had specific rituals and practices for grieving that allowed for a year of publicly expressed mourning, followed by a ceremony to heal that grief. U.S. policies outlawing native ceremonies interrupted the process of grieving over events such as the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890, in which the U.S. Army killed between 150 and 300 Lakota men, women, and children."

TIP 61, Behavioral Health Services for American Indians and Alaska Natives, page 20

TIP 61, page 46

 Behaviors that mainstream providers might label as symptoms of mental illness may be seen among American Indians and Alaska Natives as the expression of special gifts (e.g., hallucinations, manic symptoms). Native peoples may also perceive physical conditions as sacred; for example, dementia may be viewed as a process or sign that the person's spirit has already crossed over into the next world. Although the body has remained behind as it prepares to leave, the person's spirit is already communicating in the spirit world, making it diffcult for those left behind to understand the person's language and behavior. Therefore, caring for individuals who are transitioning may be perceived as sacred work.

Raise your hand and react to the question below.

What cultural roots do you have? Provide your answer in chat?





Objective 4. Traditional healing practices

National American Indian & Alaska Native



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Traditional vs. Non-Traditional

• What is considered traditional?

- Tribe specific
- From another tribe
- Regional teachings
- From other spiritual ways
- Traditional healing practices can include, but are not limited to the use of herbal remedies, purification ceremonies, sweats, (Scurfield, 1995) dream interpretations, and empowering rituals (Krippner & Colodzin, 1989), as well as healing ceremonies, fasting, prayer, etc.



Many American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans may prefer to use Traditional healing and spiritual practices over Euro-American approaches to heal from emotional stress.



Traditional Healing practices

- Herb-Doctors
- Bone/Tube Doctors/Healers
- Paints/Markings
- Hand Shakers/Tremblers
- Hand healers
- Travelers
- Dreamers
- Interpreters
- Dancers
- Seers



What traditional approaches exist to deal with anxiety

- Prayer
- talking to a trusted relative
- asking for help
- Fitness
- Songs



Practicing beliefs



Medicine vs Medication

- Many Natives may not want to use pharmaculogicals, but would prefer traditional medicinal healing or Herbs.
- Traditional Medicine today is termed Non-traditional healing or herbs, which is different to Native Americans.
- Medicine is considered much more than medication to Native Americans, which comprises ceremonies, herbs, healing, knowledge, everything, or a way of life.





From Teachings

• Fear, Anger, Shame, Guilt, Jealousy, Greed, Envy, and etc., were meant to be fought and overcome.

 We often worry about things that don't even really matter







In Q&A, present questions.

Contact information



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