Equipping Public Health Leaders Who Can Address the Health Issues in American Indian Communities Through Culturally Congruent Approaches

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ABSTRACT

Presenter Disclosures
Donna M. Grandbols, RN, PhD
No relationships to disclose.
Cradle to Grave Inequities

- Our babies die at a rate almost double the non-native rate
- We have high rates of chronic disease with poorer health outcomes
- Unemployment is high: 14% to 3%
- 2.5 times as many AI's live below the federal poverty level
- We have high rates of disability at every age
- Lowest high school graduation rates in the nation
- Life expectancy is just 54.7 years in some communities

"CHALLENGES THAT CONFRONT OUR COMMUNITIES"

KEY PREMISES

- Educational attainment, socioeconomic status, & better health outcomes are intrinsically linked.
- Indigenous worldviews & culture are embedded in the curriculum and program.
- Faculty have previous experience working with AI communities & students; all have AI backgrounds
- A multi-disciplinary focus is evident in the faculty, curriculum & instructional approach.
- Partnering with tribal & urban communities is fully incorporated in public health capstone projects.
- These well-educated AI Public Health Professionals can be the change makers needed to address disparities in American Indian communities.

RESPECTIVE CORE VALUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Native</th>
<th>Main Stream Society</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Competitive</td>
<td>Competitive, Winning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group/Tribal Emphasis</td>
<td>Freedom, Progress, Efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended Family/We</td>
<td>Individualism, Emphasis on &quot;I&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patience/Passive</td>
<td>&quot;Getting Ahead in Life&quot;</td>
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<td>Generous/Non-Materialistic</td>
<td>Material Comfort</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respect for Age</td>
<td>Youthfulness, Youth Oriented</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spirituality/Universal</td>
<td>Religion/Denominations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connectedness</td>
<td>Direct Criticism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indirect Criticism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Harmony with Nature</td>
<td>Conquest of Nature</td>
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Core Curriculum

Fall
- SPH 770 Biostatistics
- SPH 771 Social & Behavioral Sciences in Public Health
- SPH 775 Leading & Managing Public Health Systems

Spring
- SPH 776 Environmental Health for Public Health Professionals
- Other Specializations: Health Promotion, Public Health in Global Systems, & Management of Infectious Diseases

American Indian Specialization

Upon completion of core courses:
- SPH 771 American Indian Health Policy
- SPH 772 American Indian Health Disparities
- SPH 773 Culturally Competent Indian Health
- SPH 774 Research Issues in Tribal Communities
- SPH 776 Case Studies in Indian Health

Electives
- Required Course work across disciplines
- SPH 780 Master's Paper
- SPH 790 Practicum

* Master of Public Health Curriculum

Intrinsic to Our Approach

* All instructors are emic to the culture, having an innate understanding of the Indian worldview
* The trauma experienced by Native people is acknowledged & incorporated into the work we do with students & their communities
* Access to assistance that includes public health services & programming, research, education & policy are provided
* A strong coalition of partnerships is created across the state, at every level of government & at the community level. We work to have a voice that is heard.
* Collaborative research projects occur that empower Indian communities to spearhead & solve their own problems, create their own data banks & set their own agendas

Our vision is engaging & partnering with tribes to improve the delivery of culturally appropriate public health services and functions in American Indian communities. The AIPHRRC is enabled by a multifaceted program and team approach to assist each tribe in their service priorities. At the heart of the Center's philosophy is respect for tribal authority, autonomy, and self determination.

* The Academic Program is Partnered with the AI Public Health Resource Center to Consistently Work Along Side Indian Communities
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME & ATTENTION:

NDSU
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"Home of the Bison Nation"