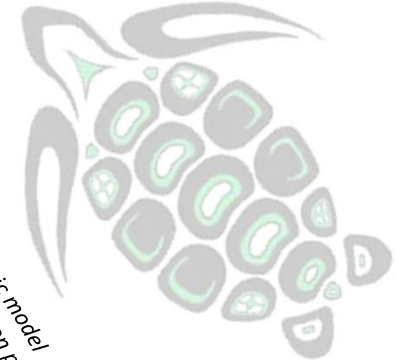


# Culturally Based Practices to Evidence Based Programs: A Medicine Wheel Approach to Evaluation Planning



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Using evidence-based programs and practices in prevention work is increasingly a requirement of funders.

However, very few evidence-based programs are relevant to American Indian communities. Rather, American Indian communities have a rich history of cultural practices that are successful in prevention to draw upon, but these are not recognized in the methodology of western science as evidence-based.

Engaging in program evaluation to become evidence-based can be intimidating. Using the framework of the medicine wheel, this process guides the development of an evaluation for culturally-based practices and programs to translate Indigenous knowledge into the western framework to begin the process of gathering data to document efficacy of culturally-based practices and programs.

