



Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH)

NARCH VIII Directory of Active Awards

Capacity Building Branch
Training, Workforce Development, and
Diversity Division NIGMS, NIH

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Map of NARCH VIII Recipient States



★ Zip Location of NARCH Institution

NARCH VIII

ALASKA

Grant No.: GM110784-01

Grantee Institution: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Project Title: NARCH VIII at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- NARCH VIII at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium-Administrative Core
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Timothy K. Thomas
E-mail: tkthomas@anthc.org
- Full A: Diabetes Incidence and Lifestyle Changes in Urban Alaska Native People
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIDDK
Project Leader: Kathryn Koller
E-mail: kkoller@anthc.org

Abstract

This study proposes a 10-year follow-up study with a pre-established cohort of more than 900 AN people living in the south central region to: 1. identify diabetes outcomes and associations with baseline risk factors, and 2. quantify incidence of metabolic syndrome components and associations between incidence and diet, physical activity, subsistence lifestyle at baseline, controlling for age and gender.

NARCH VIII

ARIZONA

Grant No.: GM106301-01

Grantee Institution: White Mountain Apache Tribe

**Project Title: NARCH VIII Program at White Mountain Apache Tribe and
Johns Hopkins University**

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- NARCH VIII - Administrative Core
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Mariddie Craig
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- NARCH VIII - Examining Social Network Influences on Suicidal Apache Youth
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIDA
Project Leader: Mary Cwik
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- NARCH VIII - Reducing STI Behavioral Risk Factors and Promoting Screening Among Apaches
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIAID, NIDA
Project Leader: Anne Rompalo

Abstract

The overarching goal of this proposal is to study how social networks underlie substance use and suicidal behavior among American Indian (AI) youth. The primary aims are: 1. to engage Apache key informants in developing a typology and assessment methods to identify social networks that underlie substance use and suicidal behavior among Apache youth (ages 10-19); 2. to assess social networks that underlie substance use and suicidal behavior in 75 Apache youth who have attempted suicide, compared with those of 75 "healthy" Apache controls; and 3. to engage key Apache informants in interpreting results from the assessment and designing a social network intervention to address alcohol, drug use and suicide risks.

The goal of "Reducing STI behavioral risk factors and promoting screening among Apaches" is to evaluate the impact of a paraprofessional delivered, culturally adapted, evidence-based intervention (EBI) on sexually transmitted infection (STI) and HIV/AIDS risk factors, substance use and mental/emotional health through a randomized controlled trial.

MONTANA

Grant No.: GM110777-01

Grantee Institution: Blackfeet Community College

Project Title: Blackfeet Community College Metabolic Research Center

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- Blackfeet Community College Metabolic Research Center - (Administrative Core)
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Billie Jo Kipp
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- Blackfeet Community College Metabolic Research Center (Capacity Building Project)
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Matthews, Betty
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Abstract

The major goal of this project is to make Blackfeet Community College (BCC) a conduit for tribal health research on the Blackfeet Reservation. To create a sustainable BCC-MRC, we will accomplish the following specific aims: 1. create a research culture at BCC, accomplished by increasing the critical mass of expertise and researchers by hiring new research faculty, developing expertise and capacity among existing faculty, and exposing students to Native researchers; 2. give BCC students the opportunity to participate in biomedical research internships in laboratory, behavioral, and social sciences, developing a pool of potential future researchers for BCC-MRC; 3. develop a sustainable Blackfeet Metabolic Research Center at BCC, accomplished with an innovative pilot project program and other research programs to encourage collaborations that will result in additional grants to BCC-MRC.

MONTANA

Grant No.: GM110771-01

Grantee Institution: Salish Kootenai College

Project Title: Center for the Native Environmental Health Research (NEHR) Network

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- Center for the Native Environmental Health Research Network - Administrative Core
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Douglas K. Stevens, Salish Kootenai College
E-mail: doug_stevens@skc.edu
- An Innovative Model for Addressing Native Environmental Health Research Needs
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIEHS
Project Leader: Douglas K. Stevens, Salish Kootenai College
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- Environmental Uranium Exposure of Sheep Living Around Mining Sites on Navajo /
Investigation of Chronic Uranium Exposure as a Health Risk
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIEHS
Project Leader: Jani Ingram, Northern Arizona University
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Abstract

The initial focus of first research project will be to first develop Environmental Health Research Steering Committees in each community to develop, oversee and direct the community-based research. A community arsenic exposure assessment is anticipated to be the first joint research project of this proposal, as arsenic contamination of drinking water from private wells is one of the health issues common and of concern to both tribes. Other issues of interest include contamination of traditional foods by PCBs and DDT/DDE.

The second project will test the hypothesis that sheep, a traditional food, are a source of environmental uranium exposure for the Navajo people. The specific aims for the proposed work are: Specific Aim 1 - Compare uranium levels in tissues and organs from sheep grazing in mining versus non mining areas on Navajo Lands. Specific Aim 2 - Determine the extent to which sheep wool and/or hoof clippings are markers of exposure to environmental uranium.

NORTH DAKOTA

Grant No.: GM110778-01

Grantee Institution: Cankdeska Cikana Community College

**Project Title: Cankdeska Cikana NARCH (CCN): Health and the Environment Center
Overview**

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- Cankdeska Cikana NARCH (CCN): Health and the Environment Administrative Core
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Cynthia A. Lindquist
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- Cankdeska Cikana NARCH (CCN): Health and the Environment Student Development
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Cynthia A. Lindquist
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- Cankdeska Cikana NARCH (CCN): Health and the Environment Capacity Building
NIH Funding Partner(s): IHS, NIGMS
Project Leader: Cynthia A. Lindquist
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- Cankdeska Cikana NARCH (CCN): Health and the Environment Pilot Research Project
NIH Funding Partner(s): NCCAM, NHLBI
Project Leader: Cynthia A. Lindquist
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Abstract

It is a major goal of the "Cankdeska Cikana NARCH: Health and the Environment" (CCN) to place the majority of financial resources at the Tribal Colleges and not at the Research Intensive Partner Institutions. As part of this process, the CCN has proposed a major role for the Research Intensive Partner to be the provision of mentors for student development and faculty development in support of the pilot research project grants.

In line with this goal, the CCN will develop a Request for Applications to solicit pilot research grants from each of the 5 Tribal Colleges. The amount of the award will be \$70,000 and one award will be selected at each Tribal College.

NARCH VIII

OKLAHOMA

Grant No.: GM110786-01

Grantee Institution: Cherokee Nation Health Service

Project Title: Cherokee NARCH

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- Administrative Core
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: James Williams Cooper
- Understanding Rheumatic Disease and Autoantibodies in Oklahoma Tribal Members
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIAMS
Project Leader: Judith James
E-mail: judith-james@omrf.org
- Cherokee NARCH - West Student Development Project (OUHSC)
NIH Funding Partner: NIGMS
Project Leader: Christopher West

Abstract

Continued funding through the NARCH VIII mechanism will allow us to help train additional tribal health care providers, assess autoantibody and other soluble mediators in AI rheumatic disease patients, develop algorithms for diagnosis and elevated disease activity, uncover the targets of AI-specific autoimmune responses which have been identified as unidentified lines or ANA-only specificities, and apply principles of community based participatory research to address self-management issues for our tribal participants.

NARCH VIII

OREGON

Grant No.: GM106339-01

Grantee Institution: Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

Project Title: Advancing American Indian/Alaska Native Health: Northwest NARCH Program

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- Administrative Core
Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Thomas Becker
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- Project 1: TOTS to Tweens: Long-term Effect of Early Childhood Caries Prevention in Tribes
Partner(s): NIDCR
Project Leader: Tam Lutz
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Abstract

To broaden our understanding of caries occurrence among tribal children, we will use a sequential explanatory mixed methods approach. We will conduct dental assessments and knowledge, attitudes and behavior surveys among mothers of participants. Qualitative data will include key informant and community assessments related to sugared beverage availability and other oral health risks, and will assist in interpreting and explaining our primary data. Our study is unique and innovative in tribal communities, and will inform a later series of grants that will culminate in a clinical trial to reduce caries in AI/AN children.

WASHINGTON

Grant No.: GM111071-01

Grantee Institution: Confederated Tribes of Colville Reservation

Title: Haus Maremsum (Good Medicine) Colville Research Center - Overview

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- Haus Maremsum (Good Medicine) Colville Research Center - Administrative Core
NIH Funding Partner: NIGMS
Project Leader: Alison J. Boyd-Ball, Craig Moen
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- Haus Maremsum (Good Medicine) Colville Research Center - Capacity Building Core
NIH Funding Partner: NIGMS
Project Leaders: Alison J. Boyd-Ball, Kyle Desautel, Kelvin Frank
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- A Culturally Tailored Intervention to Prevent Diabetes in American Indian Men
NIH Funding Partner: NIDDK
Project Leader: Ka'imi Sinclair

Abstract

The primary objective of the Colville Capacity Building Core (CBC) is to support and develop tribal involvement in research. The CBC will include: 1. establishing a CBC Data Analysis Office to provide quantitative data analysis and basic training in data collection techniques and practices to Colville health and wellness programs; 2. developing CBC roles and training procedures, including coordination of tribal staff activities, establishing and maintaining partnerships and training activities, operationalizing day-to-day roles, policies and procedures, and establishing a CBC manual; 3. distributing and monitoring small grants, facilitating mentoring relationships, and support secondary data access to and for American Indians and Alaska Native (AI/AN) master's and pre-doctoral students, as well as junior faculty; 4. establishing a competitive small grants program targeting AI/AN graduate students to provide funding for conference travel, books and supplies, and purchase of datasets for master's theses and dissertations; and, 5. conducting a process evaluation for the existing Colville research permit process.

To reduce modifiable diabetes risk factors' in overweight and obese AI men residing on the Colville reservation through a community-based, culturally informed intervention, the study specifically aims to: 1. conduct focus groups and interviews with adult members of Colville tribe to inform the adaptation, manualization and implementation of a culturally informed diabetes prevention

program among overweight and obese AI men; 2. evaluate the effectiveness of a community-based, culturally informed diabetes prevention intervention by assessing between group changes in: Primary Outcomes: weight, dietary fat and caloric intake, vegetable consumption, and physical activity; Secondary Outcomes: physical fitness, blood pressure, lipids, self-reported quality of life; and, 3. evaluate the sustainability of the diabetes prevention intervention by assessing participant perceptions of program component fit through focus group discussions with participants in the intervention and telephone interviews with those who left the program.

WASHINGTON

Grant No.: GM110789-01

Grantee Institution: Healing Lodge of the Seven Nations

Title: Promoting Cultures of Recovery in Tribal Communities

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- Promoting Cultures of Recovery in Tribal Communities - Administrative Core
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- Promoting Cultures of Recovery in Tribal Communities: Research Project
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIDA
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Abstract

Long-term support after treatment for addiction is crucial to recovery. This type of support is lacking in many US communities, but little is known about support within AI/AN communities. This multi-part research project will address this gap in knowledge by conducting systematic strengths and needs assessment study of the recovery environment within the Tribal communities represented by the Inter-Tribal Consortium. The specific aims of the proposed research are: 1. develop lasting partnerships between the Healing Lodge of the Seven Nations, Division on Addiction, the Tribal Communities, and local Universities through Tribal Participatory Research methods and inclusion of service-learning components for local AI/AN college and university students; 2. develop a culturally appropriate strengths and needs assessment survey instrument and methodology; 3. assess and summarize key informants' (i.e., educators, health professionals and youth in recovery) perceptions of available and potential post-recovery support systems within each of seven Tribal communities.

NARCH VIII

WISCONSIN

Grant No.: GM110782-01

Grantee Institution: Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc.

Project Title: GLNARCH VIII Identifying Community Needs and Building Upon Success

Principal Investigator

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Sub-Projects

- GLNARCH Administrative Core
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
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- Expanding and Evaluating Indigenous Student Development Opportunities
NIH Funding Partner(s): NIGMS
Project Leader: Mary Madsen

Abstract

The Great Lakes Native American Research Center for NARCH VIII (GLNARCH VIII) application has developed from interest in tribally-driven health research programming. This need was first identified during a strategic planning session held between the Wisconsin Tribal Health Director Association and the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC) Indian Health Program in Fall of 1999. During that session, 11 member tribes identified a long-term goal to establish health research initiatives that would help reduce tribal health disparities while building tribal health sciences capabilities. GLNARCH research will continue to emphasize CBPR linked to reducing American Indian health disparities as indicated in AIM 1. Continued GLNARCH support of AI/AN students who are interested in health sciences remains a key priority for the center as specified in AIM 2. Through training, education and research, GLNARCH VIII will reduce American Indian health disparities while increasing tribal research capacity to ensure long term development. The ongoing educational outreach programs will prepare the next generation of professionals while continuing to increase the number of AI/AN students. Activities to encourage AI faculty and students to participate in AI/AN health disparities research have been incorporated into all previous GLNARCH initiatives via GLNARCH Student Development Program activities. GLNARCH VIII will implement a comprehensive evaluation and outreach program as stated in AIM 3. Comprehensive assessment and community engagement are key components to the Community-Based Participatory Research approach that we intend to revitalize with NARCH VIII PUBLIC HEALTH RELEVANCE: GLNARCH VIII will expand upon collaborations and student development. We will continue to seed pilot programs that gain support (including financial) from external organizations. The new evaluation and assessment process will provide crucial feedback as well as synergy with external

organizations. This process will effectively report the progress of GLNARCH VIII and contribute to the assessment of national NARCH progress.