BOARDING SCHOOLS

HEALING LESSONS for TOMORROW

April 6, 2023
2-3 p.m. EST

ncuih.org/events
Healing Prayer
The National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH) is the national non-profit organization devoted to the support and development of quality, accessible, and culturally-competent health and public health services for American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) living in urban areas.

NCUIH is the only national representative of the 41 Title V Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) under the Indian Health Service (IHS) in the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA). NCUIH strives to improve the health of the over 70% of the AI/AN population that lives in urban areas, supported by quality health care centers.
Disclaimer

This event is made possible by the Indian Health Service Cooperative Agreement Funds Award #HHS-2022-IHS-UIHP3-0001 FAIN # H723IHS0007 Federal Award Date: 05/24/2022

This event is solely the responsibility of the National Council of Urban Indian Health and does not necessarily represent the views of Indian Health services or the Department of Health and Human Services.
Audio and Visual Recording

Please note that this session will be recorded for educational and quality improvement purposes.
Housekeeping

• Turn on Video

• Please Mute Your Microphone When Not Speaking

• Please Enter Your Name and Organization in the Chat Box
ASK A QUESTION OR COMMENT

First, select “Chat” at the bottom of your ZOOM screen

Then type your question or comment into the chat box that will appear on the right
How to Ask for Social/Emotional Support

First, select “chat at the bottom of your ZOOM screen

Then, press on the downward arrow and pick on NCUIH’s social/emotional staff Antoinette Ascencio and let her know you would like to go in a wellness breakout room
Guest Presenters

Alexandra Payan, NCUIH

Jeremy Grabiner, NCUIH

J. Carlos Rivera
Generation Red Road
Federal Boarding School Policies: Background

**Timeline of Federal Boarding School Policies**

- Civilization Fund Act of 1819
- Peace Policy of 1869
- Carlisle Indian School founded in 1879
- 1891, Congress authorized Commissioner of Indian Affairs to make rules to ensure attendance, and provided funding for the transportation of children from reservations to boarding schools
- By 1926, nearly 83 percent of AI/AN school-age children were enrolled in Indian boarding schools
- 1968, President Johnson ends federal Indian boarding school practice
- 1972, Congress passed the Indian Education Act

**Consequences of Federal Boarding Schools**

- Discouragement or forbiddance of Native language, cultural practices, and religion
- Harsh punishment for failure to follow strict rules
- Physical, sexual, and emotional abuse
- Malnourishment
- Over crowding
- Lack of adequate healthcare
Present Day

Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act (H.R. 5444/S.2907)
• Bipartisan Introduction on 9/30/2021
  • Representative Sharice Davids
  • Senator Elizabeth Warren
• Created a commission tasked with:
  • Investigating and documenting Indian boarding school policies
  • Understanding the resulting historical and ongoing trauma

Federal Boarding School Initiative
• Announced: June 2021

“I know that this process will be long and difficult. I know that this process will be painful. It won’t undo the heartbreak and loss we feel. But only by acknowledging the past can we work toward a future that we’re all proud to embrace”

– Secretary Deb Haaland
Subpoena Issue

• Subcommittee Hearing (5/12/2022)
  • On H.R. 5444
    • Rep. Obernolte said there would be a lack of support if the commission is granted subpoena power to obtain witness testimony, and produce evidence which he called “adversarial to the goal of healing”
  • Out of 160 congressional commissions since 1989, only 12 posses subpoena authority
Re-Introduce Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act

• **NCUIH Action**
  • Work with members of Congress to re-introduce bill

• **What You Can Do**
  • Contact your Representative to ask them to support this legislation
  • Find your Representative at [House.Gov](https://www.house.gov)

[Find Your Representative](https://www.house.gov)
Federal Action: DOI Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative

• On June 22, 2021, DOI Secretary Haaland issued a memorandum directing DOI to prepare a report addressing the “intergenerational trauma, cycles of violence and abuse, disappearance, premature deaths, and other undocumented bodily and mental impacts.”

• In her announcement of the memo Secretary Haaland stated that “[t]o promote spiritual and emotional healing in [AI/AN] communities, we [DOI] must shed light on the unspoken traumas of the past...no matter how hard it will be.”

• In May 2022, Volume 1 of the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report was published.
Federal Action: NCUIH’s Role

• Government-run boarding schools have been identified as having long lasting and intergenerational effects on the physical and mental well-being of AI/AN populations living in urban settings.

• UIOs are uniquely situated to partner with the DOI in addressing the effect of boarding school policies on urban AI/AN populations as they work to provide culturally competent health care, including mental health care, to the over seventy percent (70%) of AI/ANs living in urban areas.

• NCUIH has urged the DOI and the Administration to address the ongoing effects of Indian boarding schools on AI/AN health and to partner with AI/AN organizations, including UIOs.
Federal Action: NCUIH’s Role Continued

- NCUIH made the following recommendations in the comments to DOI:
  - Partner with AI/AN organizations, including UIOs, to fully study and understand the impact of boarding school trauma and assist survivors in healing from this trauma.
  - Study the lasting impact of boarding school policies, including intergenerational trauma, on the social determinants of health of contemporary AI/AN communities, including those in urban areas.
  - Include the UIOs in DOI’s process through urban confer.
  - Ensure a comprehensive assimilation of data by making all AI/AN communities true partners in the Initiative.
Urban Areas with Indian Boarding Schools

A few examples of Indian Boarding Schools locations where there are now UIOS:

- **AZ** – Phoenix Indian School, 1891-1990
  - UIO: NATIVE HEALTH, est. 1978; Native Connections, est. 1972
- **KS** – Shawnee Indian Mission, 1839-1862
  - UIO: Kansas City Indian Center, est. 1971
- **NM** – Albuquerque Indian School, 1881-1981
  - UIO: First Nations Community Health Source, est. 1976
- **CO** – Good Shepherd Industrial School, 1886-1914
  - UIO: Denver Indian Health and Family Services, est. 1978
- **CA** – St. Anthony’s Industrial School for Indians, 1886-1907
  - UIO: San Diego American Indian Health Center, est. 1979
Services UIOs Provide to Address Intergenerational Trauma

**Behavioral Health Services:**
- Mental health counseling
- Psychiatry
- Substance abuse counseling
- Education and prevention services
- Anger management
- Domestic violence counseling

**Social & Community Services:**
- Youth camps and programs
- Elder services
- Domestic violence services and classes
- Prevention and education services
- Job placement
- Traditional diet and nutrition services and classes
- Arts and crafts
- Pot luck/soup kitchens

**Traditional Medicine:**
- Sweat lodge and smudging ceremonies
- Men's, women's, and elder's talking circles
- Prayer ceremonies
- Relationship gatherings
Culture Is Healing

Presented by, J. Carlos Rivera, Chief Cultural Officer at AIHS/Founder at Generation Red Road, Inc.
Then something happened to us that changed our lives forever, We have never been the same again.

We went from this............
Alcohol & Drug Abuse
Domestic Violence
Suicide among adults and youth
Incarceration
“Old People”
Lateral Violence
Drug Overdose
Family Separation
Depression & Anxiety
Mental Illness
Survivors of Homicide
Child Protective Services
Physical Health Disparities
Bullying
Separation Thinking
Drug & Sex Trafficking
Prison Camps for our kids
Suicide
Juvenile Hall
Abuse
Gangs
Homicide
Overdose
Teen Pregnancy
Poverty
Bullying
Sex Trafficking
Drug Trafficking
Healed People

Heal People
Circle Peacemaking
Intergenerational Healing
Natural vs. Un-Natural Worlds
Values, Beliefs & Lifestyles
Sacred 8 Directions
4 Directions of Wellness
Your Story
Conflict Resolution
Self-Care in a Medicine Wheel
Sense of Safety
Everyone has a Purpose
Helpers helping helpers
Understanding
Compassion
Love
Uniqueness
Sense of Belonging
Accepting
Hope
Openness
Solution Thinking
Healthy Relationship
Red Road Recovery
Mental Health
Women Leading
Men Supportive
Freedom
Identity
Abraham Maslow also remarked on the social “security” among Northern Blackfoot children during his fieldwork at the Alberta Blood Nations reserve (1938).

Like Erikson, Maslow found that the foundation of security established by Indigenous parenting practices in early years provided a basis for healthy human development.

In his studies, Maslow documented First Nations teachings of the Lodge or “tipi”, which outlines an Indigenous system for growth of a human being within a collective society.

From Discussions with First Nations Elders around there model of social development, Maslow interpreted this model from a Western perspective in his Hierarchy of Needs.

A key difference in Maslow’s model focuses on the actualization of an individual, while the Indigenous model focuses on multi-generational actualization of the community.
Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

- Physiological
- Safety
- Love/Belonging
- Esteem
- Self-Actualization
Indigenous Concept

Physiological

Safety

Love/Belonging

Esteem

Spirituality
Congruency: is an agreement or harmony; compatibility.
Trauma is an event. It can be any event that causes psychological, physical, emotional or mental harm; such as a death or abuse. A traumatic event can also be called a loss. If someone dies, that’s a loss. If someone was abused, that is a loss. A loss of trust. Whether you want to call the event a trauma or a loss is okay, BUT THE RESULT OF THE TRAUMATIC EVENT IS GRIEF.
Grief is the normal and natural response to loss. It’s the conflicting emotions that result in the end of, or change in, a familiar pattern or behavior. Grief is the feeling of wishing things would have ended different, better, or more. Grief is the normal and natural feeling after trauma.
Interconnectedness

Past  Present  Future

Eternity
The Present is the Eternity
Evaluation

THANK YOU!

https://ncuih.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eLFv6M2IsEictJI
Upcoming NCUIH Events

- 4/12/2023: Growing Strong Together: Creating 2SLGBTQIA+ Inclusive Health Care Services
- 4/13/2023: Indigenous Wellness: Helping Our Veterans Heal
- 4/18/2023: P2PSC: HIT Technical Assistance
- 4/19/2023: Growing our Workforce: Opportunities and Challenges
- 4/20/2023: P2PSC: HIT Technical Assistance
- 4/26/2023: STI Community of Learning
- 04/27/2023: The Journey of Healing: Domestic Violence 101 Training (MMIP)

**SAVE THE DATE: NCUIH 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
- Monday, May 15, 2023 - May 18, 2023