ENGAGING THE WIND RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION IN WYOMING’S TITLE V NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs Needs Assessment Training

January 7, 2014
Wyoming Needs Assessment Processes
Phase One

• Gathering of existing data
• Statewide Stakeholder Survey
• Community Meetings – Counties selected to be representative of the state
  • Wind River Indian Reservation within a county that was selected, but treated as a unique location
A Few Definitions

- **Engage**: to begin and carry on an enterprise or activity; to do or take part in something; to give attention to something.

- **Stakeholder**: An entity that can be affected by the results of that in which they are said to be stakeholders, i.e. that in which they have a stake.
MCH Health Inequity in Wyoming – What’s at stake

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Native American</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prenatal care in 1st trimester</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
<td>72.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking during pregnancy</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Birth Rate (per 1,000)</td>
<td>81.5</td>
<td>38.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>6.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Death Rate (per 100,000 children 1-17)</td>
<td>61.2</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Wind River Indian Reservation

- The only Indian Reservation in Wyoming
  - Northern Arapaho
  - Eastern Shoshone
- 2.2 million acres - 7th largest American Indian Reservation in the U.S.
  - ~4,000 Eastern Shoshone
  - ~9,600 Northern Arapaho
Individualistic Culture

- More emphasis on ME than WE
- Task orientated
- Emphasis is on individual accomplishments, competitive, strive to win
- Short term relationships, fast paced job, “Keeping up with the Joneses”, quick results
- Task outcomes are the priority

Slide credit: Charles Aragon, Jr
Collectivist Culture

- We is more important than Me
- Relationship orientated
- Emphasis is on group, rather than the individual
- Long term relationships, personal, maintaining good relations, Focus on what is right and based on trust.
- Not worrying about tasks, process & outcomes are priority

Slide credit: Charles Aragon, Jr
Community Perspective on State Identifying Health Issues

• Relationship is primary
  • Identifying past issues, approaches, relationships
  • Active listening, listening without judgment
  • Circle (learning, exploring, participating)
  • Meeting people where they are
  • Identifying strengths within the community
Community Perspective on State Identifying Health Issues

• Data and issues are secondary
  • Concerns are localized, what’s important to community
  • Cultural awareness/language (ex. risks, factors, death)
  • Sharing stories (more to the story)
  • Solutions are a blank page
Community Meetings

• 2 meetings each located on the Wind River Indian Reservation
  • Casino in meeting space
  • Community buildings
  • Asked tribes where to host the meetings and when

• Meetings held at noon - working lunch
  • Food helps build relationships 😊
Getting the Word Out

- Personal networking explaining the meeting purpose ask for help in gaining participation
- Partners able further reach out for improve attendance
- Flyer designed by member of the community
Community Meeting Set Up

- Overview of the purpose of both needs assessment and of meeting
  - Clear statement that at this point we were listening—not addressing problems
- Smaller groups, not assigned seating/groups
- Semi-circles
Community Meeting Process

• Facilitator asked 2 questions about each population group (women & infants, children, adolescents, CSHCYN)
  • Barriers to health
  • Community strengths
• Took notes on flip charts – confirmed that the notes were reflective of statements
• Transcribed notes requested
Necessary Ingredients, Values for Community Engagement

• Development of strategies is community based
  • Community Input
  • Community Answers

• Coming in with an idea to develop the framework
  • Not handing over the manual as the framework
Follow Up

- Indicators presented will include section racial disparities
- Data shared with Tribal Health Departments and Tribal Epidemiology Center
- Tribal representation on population advisory groups to select final priorities and for strategic planning
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