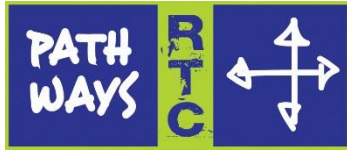


Questions for Working with Native American Youth

The following questions are designed to help you think about how you could apply the ideas from Terry Cross's video on working with Native American youth in your work. We encourage you to discuss these questions with a supervisor or coworker, or if unable to, reflect on them individually.

1. There is extensive research on the centrality of **positive cultural identity** in healthy development and this is especially important for Native youth who have experienced marginalization.
 - What have you done to support Native American youth to develop a **positive cultural identity**?
 - What else could you do to support the development of **positive cultural identities** among youth you work with who come from Native American and/or other cultural backgrounds?
2. Mr. Cross focuses on the importance of **healthy interdependence** in youth transitions to adulthood.
 - How do you navigate the current emphasis in the U.S. on independence as a goal for transition age youth with the need for young people to achieve healthy interdependence?
 - What could you do to promote interdependence in your work with Native youth?
 - Where might it be difficult for you to promote interdependence and where could you seek help?
3. Mr. Cross introduces the **Relational World View** and highlights the importance of **balance** across all dimensions for wellness.
 - How could you do incorporate this framework in your work with Native youth?
 - What else do you need to know about balance as a guide to wellness, and where would you seek to learn more?
4. For non-Native service providers, there may be limits to the trust that youth may place in them. Therefore, Mr. Cross encourages non-Native providers to **connect youth with members of their own tribal community** who can introduce them to traditional teachings and facilitate the formation of relationships with tribal members so that youth can spend time in their cultural context.
 - What do you see as the needed steps to facilitating connections with a youth's tribal community?
 - What might be some barriers that you or the young person might encounter?
 - How would you need to educate yourself to be able to overcome barriers?



Resources for Working with Native American Youth

Alonzo, D. & Echo Hawk, H. *Culture matters: Indigenous perspectives on behavioral healthcare* (video 27 minutes).

https://www.facebook.com/CultureMatters/?hc_ref=ARRkuMoYVUoAT7MwnxylAArXFrNerIEgx7jXPK0E8ttnO_0HrM78O8rZToUb2HQ9O4&tn_ =kC-R

Boys and Girls Clubs of America Native Services: Promote positive youth development and Native cultural identity. <http://naclubs.org/our-mission/>

Center for Native American Youth: A national advocacy organization working to improve the health, safety, and overall well-being of Native American youth ages 24 and under.

<http://www.cnay.org/>

Cross, T.L. *The Relational World View*.

<https://www.google.com/search?q=Relational+World+View&oq=Relational+World+View&aqs=chrome..69i57j0l5.5984j1j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

Cross, T.L. (2014). *The Relational World View: A tribal and cultural framework for improving child well-being*.

<https://www.sprc.org/sites/default/files/resource-program/Relational-Worldview-Model-Slides.pdf>

Generation I network map to connect with youth ambassadors and organizations.

<http://www.cnay.org/gen-i/network-map>

IHS Generation Indigenous Initiative: Resources and activities to build resiliency and promote positive youth development through partnerships and support of programs.

<https://www.ihs.gov/nativeyouth/resources/>

National Congress of American Indians: Resources and programs to support connections and leadership among Native youth.

<http://www.ncai.org/native-youth/about>

National Indian Child Welfare Association <https://www.nicwa.org/our-work/>

National Partnership to End Disparities.

<http://www.npa-rhec.org/in-the-spotlight/culturallyappropriatementalhealthcaretoaddress>

Pathways Transition Training Partnership. (2016). *Module 3: Increasing Cultural Awareness and Building Community Support*. (online training module featuring Terry Cross).
<https://www.pathwaysrtc.pdx.edu/pathways-transition-training-modules>

UNITY: Mission is to foster the spiritual, mental, physical, and social development of American Indian and Alaska Native youth and to help build a strong, unified, and self-reliant Native America through greater youth involvement. <https://unityinc.org/>

WERNative: Comprehensive social and health resource for Native youth, by Native youth, working together to prevent suicide. <https://www.wernative.org/>