

Tribal Nations Research Group

"To improve the quality of life for all tribal members through culturally-competent, custom-fit research"

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Tribally Chartered
501c3
Non-Profit
Organization

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DATA MATTERS CONFERENCE

Working Together Better

Tribal Nations Research Group was established in early 2013 with a vision to create an organization that would assist the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in regulating research on the reservation or with the citizens of the Tribe. Since its inception, TNRG has expanded its mission to serve as a Tribal Data Center, the only center of this type throughout Indian Country.

In March of 2017, TNRG hosted an event that showcased the excellent work and expertise of our Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indian citizens. Our senior associates, staff, and volunteers planned for an exciting 2-day event in which citizens of TMBCI would learn about data and research and the importance of both to our community.

The goal of this year's conference was to share information and best practices about data collection, data use, and data analysis, including research, and its importance to TMBCI.

TNRG would like to thank the outstanding volunteers, presenters, and TNRG staff who worked endlessly to make this year's conference an experience to remember and the excitement for future conferences.

You can read more about the conference on page 2 of this volume's newsletter.

Data Matters Conference

Conference Highlights



The Tribal Nations Research Group hosted a Data Matters Conference at the Sky Dancer Event Center on March 29th and 30th. Our conference was very successful in its first of many more annual conferences.

Looking through the evaluations, all the people who attended were very pleased with our conference. We had a great audience, 150+ attendees, each day. We had guests from many well-known organizations from out of the area like the BUSH Foundation, Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH), and Sanford Health, just to name a few. Our audience also consisted of TMBCI citizens and tribal council members, project directors/managers, liaisons, coordinators, educators, nurses, doctors, specialists, and college students. The conference was

streamed live on Facebook for people that couldn't make the conference.

We had an awesome range of speakers each day, sharing with us their accomplishments on research



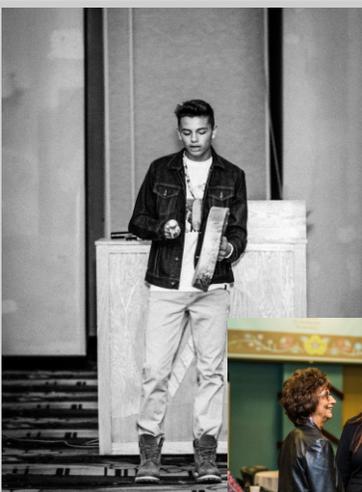
and how data is used in their daily tasks.

Our Purpose for this conference was to Build Tribal Communities with the Power of Data and Research to build capacity and how tribal citizens are using "Data" to shape the future of our community.

The crowd was very pleased with all the useful information that was given from Tribal Nations Research Group President, Anita Frederick and the various speakers.

The conference opened up the floor for many individuals to ask the questions they have been wanting to ask related to data and learn about research from community members all over the U.S.

The Data Conference was a big accomplishment in the Turtle Mountain area and we cannot wait for the Conference in 2018. Stay tuned!



Looking Forward

Community Food Sovereignty Assessment

The Tribal Nations Research Group (TNRG) located in Belcourt, North Dakota, recently received a grant from the First Nations Development Institute of Longmont, Colorado. This award will support the efforts of the Tribal Nations Research Group to Conduct a Community Food Sovereignty Assessment.

Food sovereignty assessments examine a broad range of food-related opportunities and challenges. This assessment is important in helping tribal, and community leaders evaluate local food sovereignty assets, including opportunities of needs, so that eventually we can identify strategies related to food sovereignty in our communities. Community support, involvement, and input will play a significant role in the project.

Tribal Nations Research Group is charged with the research and planning for collecting and analyzing data on the community's local food systems. With careful planning and preparation, combined with community membership, the assessment will provide TNRG and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa's community with the baseline data to build sustainable food systems and support the efforts as food cooperatives, commercially-licensed kitchens, farm-to-school programs, healthy eating, and numerous other agricultural projects related to food-systems controls.



FIRST NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

If you are interested in being involved in the project, please contact Anita Frederick, Project Coordinator, at TNRG 701-477-5526 or email neeta_frederick@hotmail.com.

National Science Foundation

The Tribal Nations Research Group is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a planning grant of \$178,311 from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The project will result in a proposal for a study that will determine whether an outreach project that has been supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP) has impacted math learning among Native Americans.

The objectives are to 1) define what constitutes success of the outreach project; 2) identify short-term and long-term outcome; 3) identify rubrics to measure outcomes; 4) identify an approach methodology; 5) identify instruments to measure the outcomes; 6) identify data sources and methods to gather data; 7) identify ways to measure the impact of the Native American cultural component. Additionally the proposed planning project will explore ways to explain the role the NSF Tribal College Rural Systemic Initiative (1994-2005) had in establishing the necessary and preliminary environmental and academic atmosphere for the Sunday Academy project at the participating tribal colleges and the American Indian communities being served.



For more information please contact TNRG at 701-477-5526 or Anita Frederick, TNRG President, at neeta_frederick@hotmail.com.

Looking Forward

2017 Advancing Ethical Research Conference

Anita Frederick, TNRG President, has been invited to speak with a panel of experts, Terry Powell and Bobby Saunkeah and Sarah Hull as the moderator, at the AER conference regarding ethical research in San Antonio, Texas. *Sovereignty in Research* is the title of the panel and will be scheduled for Monday November 6 from 10:45am-12:00pm.

The history of research with Indigenous populations in America includes important advances with respect to specific topics (e.g., vaccines, diabetes) and research approaches (e.g., community-based participatory research). Instances of egregious ethics violations, however, tend to dominate the narratives about tribal research both within and outside of tribal communities. For example, the

Nutritional Studies in Residential Schools in Canada during the 1940s, the Study of Alcohol Abuse in a Northern Alaska community during the 1980s, and studies of Havasupai biospecimens in Arizona during the early 2000s, are three frequently cited examples of research harms that often drive present-day conversations about tribal research to start from a place of fear. The sovereign status of American Indian and Alaska Native nations, however, provides an opportunity for tribes to steward research in a way that reflects cultural values and benefits and protects their citizens and communities. In the context of changing federal and institutional



2017 Advancing Ethical Research Conference
November 5-8 ★ San Antonio, TX

research policies, it is increasingly important to move narratives about tribal research beyond fear toward conversations that acknowledge points of tension and possible benefit, respect tribal sovereignty, and identify the practical needs necessary to support tribal research oversight. This session will provide an overview of historical experiences of tribal research, convey the importance tribal sovereignty in guiding research for the benefit of tribal peoples, and review implementation needs associated with rapidly evolving research technology and interest in research oversight among tribal nations.

PRAMS North Dakota



ND Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) was initiated in 1987 as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) initiative to reduce infant mortality and low birth-weight. The overall goal of PRAMS is to reduce infant morbidity and mortality and to promote maternal health by influencing maternal and child health programs, policies, and maternal behaviors during pregnancy and early infancy. It is an ongoing, population-based surveillance system designed to identify and monitor selected maternal experiences and behaviors that occur before and during pregnancy and during the child's early infancy among a stratified sample of women delivering a live birth. It was also initiated

to help state health departments to supplement data from vital records and to generate data for planning and assessing perinatal health programs in each participating state. Findings from PRAMS are meant to be used to enhance understandings of maternal behaviors and their relationship with adverse pregnancy outcomes. PRAMS data can also be used to aid in the development and assessment of programs designed to identify high-risk pregnancy and reduce adverse pregnancy outcomes and to inform policy in each participating state. North Dakota was selected as a PRAMS site in 2016 and data collection is to be started in April of 2017. TNRG has partnered with PRAMS to ensure that the TMBCI community is adequately represented in the study.

Recognition Award Received



Frederick receives award from the National Indian Health Board at the 2016 Annual Health Conference in Phoenix Arizona

Anita Frederick, President of Tribal Nations Research Group (TNRG) a 501(c) nonprofit Tribal organization that has been groundbreaking in enhancing Tribal public health and developing research infrastructure within Turtle Mountain and North Dakota. Anita has lead the work of TNRG and their sustained growth in the past 3 years. Anita shines in her passion, commitment, and work in her community. Anita was one of twenty-four National Indian Health Board Heroes in Native Health Local Impact Awardees. The awards are a way for the National Indian Health Board to honor and recognize outstanding individuals and organizations from across the United States whose service and selfless work has resulted in major contributions to improving American Indian and Alaska Native Health. Our people often work in anonymity, yet deserve to be honored for their sacrifice and commitment. Anita and the Tribal Nations Research Group organization were nominated for the award by the staff of the NDSU American Indian Public Health Research Center and was supported by the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribal Council.

Partnership With TMBCI Promise Zone

Tribal Nations Research Group is pleased to announce our strategic partnership with the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians Pride of the Great Plains Promise Zone.

TNRG's role will be

- ◇ to continue to build the Data Center,
- ◇ provide data to assist in the needs of the community,
- ◇ assist in developing a strong Promise Zone plan,
- ◇ work with evaluators and share data and success stories of our efforts.
- ◇ work closely with the Tribes and Pathways to Prosperity to develop, track, and report on the data requirements associated with programs under the Promise Zone Plan implementation.
- ◇ continue to maintain a research structure at Turtle Mountain to assist with the Promise Zone effort
- ◇ continue to develop and conduct community needs, health disparity, and food security assessment to establish a baseline for Promise Zone implementation and focus.
- ◇ provide community, program, and tribal data for the Promise Zone Plan implementation.

Congratulations Turtle Mountain, we look forward to documenting and following the success of the promise zone plan!



Highlighted Associate Member

Dr. Misty Wilkie

Over its decades of existence, the National Alaska Native American Indian Nurses Association (NANAINA) has evolved — but it hasn't been a steady upswing. Its progress chart looks more like an active heart-beat that flatlined and is now being shocked back to life.

“With changes in leadership, it's fluctuated,” said Dr. Misty Wilkie, NANAINA's president since summer 2015. “When I was a [NANAINA] member as a graduate student in the early 2000s, it was a very strong organization that had a lot of members.”

NANAINA currently counts about 40 members. It previously claimed a few hundred. Across the country, there are “thousands” of American Indian and Alaska Native nurses among the 3.6 million nurses nationwide who comprise the largest sector of the health profession.

Wilkie is urging Native nurses, educators, students and practitioners who work in Native health care to renew their NANAINA memberships

and to encourage their friends and co-workers to join the association. “We need a strong membership to make us successful again,” she said.

NANAINA has been around in various capacities, and under a different organization name, since the mid-1980s. The nonprofit was born with its current title in 1993 in North Dakota. Its primary purpose is to unite and support American Indian and Alaska Native nurses and students.

Wilkie's involvement with NANAINA stretches back nearly two decades. While a nursing student, the association served as a great source of inspiration and support to her. “To me, it was an opportunity to connect with nurse-leaders whom I aspired to be. They'd earned their PhDs, they were conducting research, they were the heads of major government organizations,” said Wilkie, an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in North Dakota.

“To be able to interact with these nurses was really pivotal and integral for me as a graduate student — to be able to see myself in that position someday,” she added.

Wilkie earned her associate degree in

nursing in 1997 (Hibbing Community College), her bachelor of science in nursing in 2001 (Bemidji State University), her master of science in nursing in 2003 (University of North Dakota), and her PhD in 2009 (University of Minnesota-Twin Cities). She started working in higher education in 2005, and currently serves as an assistant professor at Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minnesota.

In her relatively new role at NANAINA, she is dedicated to reviving the organization that she valued so dearly during her professional development. Wilkie envisions NANAINA as an association that contributes to federal policies and helps to improve health care for Native people and communities. She sees NANAINA as a tool to connect and engage nurses in Indian country.

“We need to make it known to people that we are reorganizing and rebuilding our organization, and [to do that] we need more members,” she emphasized.

Reprinted from Indian Country Today, June 19, 2017.



Newest Associate Members



Dr. Amber Mathern

Doctorate of Business Administration
Attended Anderson University
TMBCI Tribally Enrolled



Jona Peltier

Master's of Social Work
University of North Dakota
TMBCI Tribally Enrolled



Monique Vondall

Juris Doctor
University of North Dakota
TMBCI Tribally Enrolled

Recently Approved Research

“Genetics and Pre-eclampsia Study”

Project PI/Co: Lyle Best

“The Promise of Tribal Self-Determination in American Indian Education Policy: A study of the transition from No Child Left Behind to the Every Student Succeeds Act

Project PI/Co: Meredith McCoy

“Identifying our Needs: A Survey of Elders VI”

Project PI/Co: Paula Morin-Carter

“Safe Children Immunization Project”

Project PI/Co: Linda Littlefield

“North Dakota Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)”

Project PI/Co: Grace Njau

“Food Sovereignty Assessment”

Project PI/Co: Rhonda Gustafson

“Evaluation of Training for Regional Energy in North Dakota (TREND) program”

Project PI/Co: W. Douglas Evans

“Native American and Alaska Native Children in School (NAM) Program Study

Project PI/Co: Courtney Tanenbaum

“North Dakota Partnerships for Success (ND PFS) Youth Survey”

Project PI/Co: Eric Canen

“Impacts of Commercial Tobacco Marketing on American Indian Reservations - Tribal Retail Environment (TREE) Study”

Project PI/Co: Kristine Rhodes

For more information regarding the following research protocols, please visit our website www.tnrg.org

TMBCI Research Protection Act

The TMBCI Research Protection Act was signed into law by TMBCI resolution on July 31, 2014. All research conducted on the TMBCI Reservation and TMBCI Tribal Lands are required to adhere to the Act.

All comments and/or need for additional information should be directed to Anita Frederick-Research Liaison at 701-477-5526 or anitafrederick@gmail.com, mailing address PO BOX 1906 Belcourt, ND 58316.

You can find an application for initial review for research on the TNRG website, www.tnrg.com

NO RESEARCH MAY PROCEED ON THE TMBCI RESERVATION UNLESS APPROVED BY THE TMBCI RRB.

Submission Deadline for Agenda Materials	Regular Session Meeting
Sunday, May 28, 2017	Wednesday, June 14, 2017
Wednesday, June 28, 2017	Wednesday, July 12, 2017
Friday, July 28, 2017	Wednesday, August 9, 2017
Monday, August 28, 2017	Wednesday, September 13, 2017
Thursday, September 28, 2017	Wednesday, October 11, 2017
Saturday, October 28, 2017	Wednesday, November 8, 2017
Tuesday, November 28, 2017	Wednesday, December 13, 2017
Thursday, December 28, 2017	Wednesday, January 10, 2018
Sunday, January 28, 2018	Wednesday, February 14, 2018
Wednesday, February 28, 2018	Wednesday, March 14, 2018
Wednesday, March 28, 2018	Wednesday, April 11, 2018
Saturday, April 28, 2018	Wednesday, May 9, 2018
Monday, May 28, 2018	Wednesday, June 13, 2018
Thursday, June 28, 2018	Wednesday, July 11, 2018
Saturday, July 28, 2018	Wednesday, August 8, 2018
Tuesday, August 28, 2018	Wednesday, September 12, 2018
Friday, September 28, 2018	Wednesday, October 10, 2018
Thursday, October 28, 2018	Wednesday, November 14, 2018

You may be chosen to receive a survey

SHARE YOUR STORY

Help Improve the Lives & Health of North Dakota Mothers & Babies



North Dakota PRAMS

Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System

FOR MORE INFORMATION

1.800.472.2286 ndhealth.gov/prams

 NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

Sponsored By
North Dakota Department of Health
NDSU Center For Social Research
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Coming Soon!

TMBCI

Community Health Assessment

The TMBCI Community Health Assessment Survey Period is complete and the results are being analyzed. The report will be available to the community Fall of 2017!

First Nations

Food Sovereignty Survey

The Food Sovereignty Assessment survey period will be coming to an end August 31st and a report will also be available to the community shortly after!

OUR PARTNERS



FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE



BUSH FOUNDATION