Pow Wow Video
Partnering with Tribes in Wisconsin: Value in Cultural Competencies

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Welcome

- Boozhoo
  - "Hello" in Anishinaabe, also called Ojibwe
- Boozhoo Giinawaa
  - “Hello All”
- Posoh
  - Hello
Wisconsin created the concept of an Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) in 1996.

Wisconsin identified a need to reform the long-term care system, and ADRCs became part of the solution.

The U.S. Administration on Aging, now the Administration of Community Living, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have supported the start-up of ADRCs in all 50 states.
A Customer Focused System to Access Information and Assistance

- Wisconsin’s ADRCs provide a model for objective and unbiased options counseling.
- Offering reliable and objective information to help elders and adults with disabilities understand and evaluate available service choices.
- People can get information about long-term care in their community, conveniently and seamlessly.
- ADRCs serve as the entry point for publicly-funded long-term care services.
Services Provided at the ADRC

- Information and Assistance (I&A)
- Long-term care options counseling
- Benefits counseling and assistance
- Access to publicly funded long-term care
- Functional eligibility for publicly funded long-term care
- Short-term service coordination
- Prevention and early intervention
- Assistance in relocating to the community from a nursing home
Wisconsin Aging and Disability Network

- 72 county & 11 Tribal Aging Units
- 45 Aging & Disability Resource Centers
- Seven Tribal Aging and Disability Resource Specialists (ADRS)
- Two Tribal Benefit Specialists
- Three Tribal Dementia Care Specialists
- ADRC & Tribal ADRS Contacts: 512,413 (2016)
Models of Tribal Partnership with ADRCs
History of Partnering with Tribes in Wisconsin

- The Wisconsin Tribal Aging Unit Association (TAU) formed in 2004.
- TAU Leadership questioned Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) on the county-based structure of ADRCs.
- In 2007-08 the State provided a one-year planning grant to Tribes through Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC) to determine how the ADRC concept could work within tribal communities.
- Federal match is claimed for ADRC services within tribal communities to maximize available resources.
History of Partnering with Tribes in Wisconsin

Tribes recommend three approaches

- Full Partner (county and tribal)
- Tribal Specialist
- Multi-tribal ADRCs
History of Partnering with Tribes in Wisconsin

ADRCs in the state must:

- Serve tribal members in a culturally sensitive manner
- Understand how tribal members receive benefits

Tribal ADRS positions must have staff who:

- Know policies, procedures & regulations of ADRCs
- Are available to tribal members
- Are trained
- Know tribal community & culture
History of Partnering with Tribes in Wisconsin

- Facilitate Local Access:
  - ADRC Office/Branch in all tribal communities
  - Locally hired staff
- Respect Tribal Sovereignty – services and referral procedures outlined in contracts or memorandums of understanding between the ADRC and tribe
- Provide Support
  - Department supported best practice sharing and training
  - Database with statewide and local information
The Red Cliff Reservation was created through a series of treaties between the U.S. Government and the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians (Red Cliff Band), most recently in 1854.

The reservation is approximately one mile wide and 14 miles long, located at the top of the Bayfield Peninsula, on the shores of Lake Superior in northern Wisconsin, adjacent to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.
History of Red Cliff
History of Red Cliff

- The number of Enrolled Tribal Members are:
  - 1254 On-Reservation (Bayfield County)
  - 529 Off-Reservation in Bayfield County
  - 5238 Off-reservation not in Bayfield County
- 7021 Total Enrolled Tribal Members
Students’ experiences at the Hayward Indian School are still very relevant today.

Opened in 1901 in Northern Wisconsin, the Hayward Indian School enrolled mainly Ojibwe students from reservations in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

The vast majority of the school's population came from the Lac Courte Oreilles reservation, which was only ten miles east of the school.

Over the course of three decades, thousands of Indian children passed through the school.
History of Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
The Menominee Indian Tribe’s rich culture, history, and residency dates back 10,000 years in the area now known as the State of Wisconsin, and parts of the States of Michigan and Illinois.
The Tribe finally received federal recognition in 1973 through a long and difficult grassroots movement that culminated with the passage of the Menominee Restoration Act, Public Law 93-197, on December 22, 1973.
The Reservation shares nearly coterminous geopolitical boundaries with Menominee County, and is situated on the ancestral homelands of its 8,551 tribal members, and includes five main communities:

- Keshena
- Neopit
- Middle Village
- Zoar
- South Branch
History of Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
History of Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
Today, the Tribe remains a proud and resilient people living on the most beautiful lands to ever grace this earth.
History of Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
How Red Cliff Partners with their local ADRC

Red Cliff has a Tribal Aging and Disability Resource Specialist (ADRS)

• Tribal ADRS is the primary contact for tribal members and is involved at every step
• Tribal ADRS provides options counseling
• ADRC provides access to publicly funding long-term care

Why is the Tribal ADRS position important?

• Historical Trauma
• Trusted source for tribal members
How Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Partners with their local ADRC

LCO’s Tribal ADRS works with their ADRC to have:

- Job Fairs, Health Fairs and Memory Screens
- Evidence Based Learning Workshops
  - Healthy Living with Diabetes
  - Stepping On
  - Powerful Tools for Caregivers
- A Community Loan Closet for Medical Equipment
- Wellness Checks for Rural Elders
The Menominee Tribal ADRS partners with the ADRC by:

- Shadowing staff at the ADRC of the Wolf River Region to learn and share best practices
- Attending ADRC monthly staff meetings
- Coordinating with ADRC staff working within our county on services to individuals the Tribal ADRS is also working with.
- Attending trainings held with the ADRC of the Wolf River Region.
Sugar Camp!

Supporting tribal members in accessing long term care services is a lot like Sugar Camp!
Communicate

Sugar Camp
- Communicating throughout the year about Sugar Camp.
- Finding out from family and friends who want to help.
- Keeping family and friends informed as to when the time is right for Sugar Camp to start.

Tribal ADRS
- Having outreach throughout the year.
- Getting familiar with people in the community.
- Letting tribal members know that the Tribal ADRS is available to help find long term care services and support when the time is right for them.
Organize

- Be prepared for what a tribal member might need
- Organize materials and share only what is helpful
When the Time is Right

Sugar Camp
- Trees are tapped when the time is right
- Each year, the right time is different

Tribal ADRS
- First meeting is timely, but cannot rush assistance
- Tribal members control the timeline
- The member needs to trust the Tribal ADRS
- Familiarity with members’ family helps
Small Steps Each Day

Sugar Camp
- Collect sap every day
- Pour into pan to cook

Tribal ADRS
- Patience is important.
- Find out the needs of the customer
- Decide with the customer on next steps
- Make a new appointment to return
Processing

Sugar Camp
- Cook collected sap

Tribal ADRS

Some Tribal ADRS work is processing documents:
- Finalizing functional eligibility by gathering supporting health documents
- Assisting with Medicaid applications
- Assisting with Disability Determinations
Transfer

Sugar Camp
- Transfer syrup to pot on stove

Tribal ADRS
- Provide warm transfers to community resources
- Transfer information to partner agencies:
  - Functional Eligibility and Medicaid application to Income Maintenance
  - Disability Determination information to Disability Determination Bureau
Getting ready to be served

Sugar Camp

- Jars are ready for syrup

Tribal ADRS

- Developing partnerships with community organizations and local agencies is important; so partner organizations know what to do with a referral or information transfer.
The Finished Products!

Sugar Camp

Tribal ADRS

Support for the tribal member’s long term care needs
Government to Government Relationships

- Wisconsin’s Secretary of the Department of Health Services holds biannual meetings with the tribes
- Tribes are also invited to Aging and Disability Resource program meetings to make sure there is inclusion at all levels
  - ADRC Director meetings
  - Tribal ADRS Supervisors’ meetings
  - Tribal ADRS meetings
  - Tribal Aging Director meetings
  - Dementia Care Specialist meetings
Tribal Providers

- Tribal Economic Support Units
- Tribal Disability Benefits Specialists
- Tribal Disability Determination Workers
- Tribal Personal Care Agencies
- Wisconsin Tribal Transportation for Elderly Assistance 85.215 grants for federally recognized Tribes
- Self Direction – Wisconsin’s community based long term care programs, Family Care and IRIS, allow trial members to hire any qualified individual to be a provider
- In development – a tribal, community based, long term care option to better meet the needs of tribal people
Successful Communication Strategies

- Words are hard
- Many tribal members have a different perspective towards time than other cultures - time moves differently
- Every tribe is different
- Face-to-face meetings are good
- Face-to-face meetings with food are better
Questions
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