AIHEC Institute
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Priscilla R. Sanderson, Ph.D., CRC (Diné)
Associate Professor and Principal Investigator
Health Sciences Department
College of Health and Human Services

An Exploratory Center of Excellence (P20)
National Institutes of Health-National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities
Grant Number: 1P20MD00687
Overview

• Mission: To partner with American Indian communities to promote health and resilience.

Vision: Strong, healthy and resilient American Indian communities
Ha:san Preparatory and Leadership School: Resilience Through Culture

• [https://vimeo.com/99678512](https://vimeo.com/99678512)

Director: Kurt Lancaster, Ph.D.
Co-Producers: Shelley Smithson and Kurt Lancaster
Ha:San Director and CAIR CAB: Robin Kauakahi
CAIR Project Director: Priscilla Sanderson, Ph.D.
Visible Signs of Tribal Resilience
CAIR Resilience Definition

• The ability to move forward like a willow with renewed energy, with a positive outlook with attainable goals to achieve one’s dreams, and overcome negative life experiences from current and past political and historical events, with the goal to reduce health disparities among American Indians.
CAIR Goals

• Examine community assets
• Document health strategies and positive behaviors oftentimes
• Transfer and integrate tribal elders’ wisdom, knowledge and experience into contemporary public education and health promotion intervention
Center for American Indian Resilience
NIMHD Exploratory Center Of Excellence
Support Personnel: Kerata (NAU), Whitewater (UA) and Assini (UA)

Executive Advisory Board (EAB)
Paul Dutton, Chair

CORE Directors
Priscilla Sanderson, Nicky Teufel-Shone,
John Ehiri, Mark Bauer, Octaviana Trujillo,
Anna Schwartz, Tara Chico

Community Advisory Board (CAB)
Brenda Gene, Chair

**Administration**

Directors
Sanderson, PhD (NAU)*
Teufel-Shone, PhD (UA)*

Aim: Provide the administrative structure, coordination and resources for a trans-disciplinary, multi-institutional team to collectively advance resilience research, education and application for their purpose of reducing health disparities specifically in American Indians.

**Research**

Directors
Teufel-Shone, PhD (UA)*
Schwartz, PhD (NAU)

Aim: Use a community-based participatory research approach to identify, assess, translate and apply models of resilience associated with positive outcomes in American Indians.

Sub Research Projects
Hardy, PhD & Begay, PhD (NAU)
Attakai & Reinschmidt, PhD (UA)

New Investigators
11 university & community partners

**Research Training & Education**

Directors
Bauer, PhD (Dine College)
Ehiri, PhD (UA)
Trujillo, PhD (NAU)

Doctoral Grad Assistant
Joseph (NAU)

Aim: Use a summer research enhancement program that provides intensive research coursework and field experiences, graduate research assistantships and seminars to guide and cultivate the exploration and application of resilience models among American Indian undergraduate and graduate students at NAU, UA and Diné College.

**Community Engagement & Outreach**

Directors
Sanderson, PhD (NAU)*
Chico (UA)

Coordinators
Nosker and Attakai

Undergraduate Assistants
Cody and

Aim: Leverage existing and new tribal and institutional partnerships to establish an advisory board with expertise in community-based American Indian public health practice to build local capacity to integrate evidence-based models of resilience in 9-12 science education, health promotion and practice and health policy.

**Evaluation**

Laurila and Rogers (NAU)
First Cohort: CAIR 2014 Investigator Partnerships

**Title: Each One, Reach One: Hualapai Youth Radio Project**
Partners: Tara Chico, MPH (UA), Athena Crozier (Hualapai) and Miranda George (Hualapai)

**Title: Southwest Tribal Heart Mind Project**
Partners: Francine Gachupin, PhD (UA), Deborah Gustafson, PhD (SUNY), and Rita Jojola (Isleta Pueblo)

**Title: Resilience and Culture through Sport**
Partners: Alisse Ali-Joseph, PhD (NAU) and Aaron Secakuku, Pathways Program (NACA)

**Title: Resilience and Persistence Factors of American Indian and Alaskan Native Youth with Disabilities: Developing Healthy Social and Cultural Identities that Mitigates the Impact of Developmental Disparities**
Partners: Darold Joseph, MEd (NAU) and Kellen Polingyumptewa (Hopi)

**Title: Community Participation in Addressing Contaminated Traditional Foods and the Uranium Stakeholders Workshop**
Partners: Tommy Rock, MS (NAU), JoAnn Armenta, PhD (Forgotten People, Navajo) and Raymond Yellowman (Forgotten People, Navajo)
2nd Cohort, CAIR 2015 Investigator Partnerships

**Title: Resilience and Culture through Sport**  
**Partners:** Alisse Ali-Joseph, Ph.D. (NAU), Aaron Sekakuku (Native American Community Action)

**Title: Developing Resilience among an Inter-Tribal Cancer Survivor Group-A Return to Health**  
**Partners:** Cornelia Santos, Ph.D. (University of Colorado, Denver), Linda Burhansstipanov, Dr.PH (Native American Cancer Research Corporation)

**Title: Educational Program to Build Resilience for Caregivers, Family and Community Members in the Care of Elder Native Americans who are Experiencing Memory Loss and Cognitive Decline**  
**Partners:** Dorothy J. Dunn, Ph.D. (NAU), Linda A. Myers (Adopt-A-Native-Elder Program)

**Title: Hualapai Prevention Intervention Program (HIPIP)**  
**Partners:** Zeenat Mahal (UA), Lyndee Hornell (Hualapai Tribe)

**Title: Hualapai Youth Resilience through Cultural Engagement**  
**Partners:** Amanda Urbina (UA), Emmeline Powskey (Hualapai Tribe), Nikieia Johnson (Hualapai Branch of Boys and Girls Club of Greater Scottsdale)

**Title: Red Feather**  
**Partners:** Lisa Hardy, Ph.D. (NAU), Joe Seidenberg (Red Feather), Lorencita Joshweseoma (Hopi Tribe)
### Summary of CAIR Progress

| Increase # of Resilience Research projects developed by community partners | ▪ Collaborative grant writing supports Tribal needs (N=31)  
▪ New Investigators working on 5 CAIR projects (9 community partners, 3 new university partners) |
|---|---|
| Increase # of publications & grant proposal submissions by faculty, community & health program partners | Manuscripts: In Development (N=13); In Review (N=1); In Revision (N=3); Published (N=3)  
Grant Proposals: In Development (N=2); In Review (N=1); In Revision (N=1); Funded (N=4); Declined (N=4) |
| Increase # of Native students, faculty & community partners working on CBPR research projects | 79% (54/68) of all students participating in CAIR Programs are AI/AN (includes Y3 NAU, UA, SREP and students mentored).  
Student statistics for NAU/UA  
▪ 41 students have been mentored through CAIR NAU & UA □ 65.85% (27/41) of the students are AN/AN  
Student statistics for Diné College/SREP  
▪ 100% (27/27) of SREP participants are American Indians (years 2-3)  
▪ 59.25% (16/27) of SREP participants are female while 40.74% (11/27) are male (years 2-3) |
| Measure Strength of Institutional collaborations through community outreach & technology transfer | ▪ Collaborations or partnerships developed with CAIR (N=31)  
▪ Disseminated of CAIR research findings to Tribal communities (N=30)  
▪ 29 presentations at professional conferences (Y1-3) |
Published CAIR Manuscripts


CAIR Partnership: Institutional
EAB, CAB, NAU, UA, & Diné College
Resilience Strategies CAIR Students

• Health Literacy
• Education
• Getting elders and youth together
• Knowing roots/history
• Conferences
• Camps
• YouTube
• Digital Storytelling
Thank You

Thank you to communities, collaborators, and students who have explored the concept of AI resilience.

Thank you AIHEC and Dr. Deborah His Horse Is Thunder for the invitation.