



Photo: First Faces from the Omak training

CIRCLE-NARCH March 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to the *Center for Indigenous Research Collaboration Learning & Excellence* (CIRCLE) NARCH March 2024 newsletter! We have provided xaʔtús (pronounced hah-toos) training to communities within the Colville Confederated Tribes, Spokane Tribe of Indians, Kalispel Tribe, Nez Perce Tribe, Kootenai Tribe, Coeur D' Alene Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation since September 2023. We will be providing additional trainings across these seven Tribes through the summer of 2024.

Opportunity

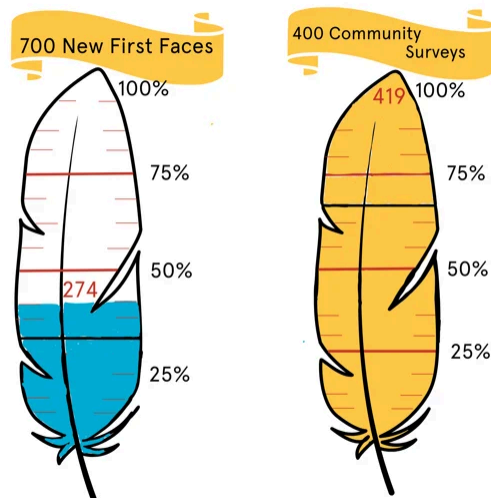
We are hiring! The NARCH team is looking to hire another Native American Training and Research Coordinator. The minimum qualifications are AA/BA in a related field or 5-7 years experience working in the mental health field and/or Native American culture. To find out more information or apply for this position click [here](#).

Here's what we've been up to lately:

- This month we enjoyed visiting the Colville Tribe. We provided First Face trainings in Nespelem on March 5th and 6th at the Lucy Covington Center.
- The Training & Research Coordinators facilitated trainings for the Coeur d'Alene tribe on March 12 and 13th.
- Training & Research Coordinator Hannah Tomeo presented to Lewis & Clark High School students on March 11th for Career Day.
- Sarah Nelson, Ph.D., who is leading the evaluation of First Face community trainings, visited the Healing Lodge and traveled with the team to Coeur d'Alene training.



Photo: First Face trainees in Nespelem working on their basket weaving activity. Photo Below: is TRC Raisa Jones tabling for community surveys in Nespelem.



Our Impact at a Glance

We proudly report that the Training and Research Coordinators (TRCs) have completed First Face trainings at all seven partner Tribal communities! We aim to have 700 participants as part of our current [NARCH grant](#). So far, we've trained 274 new First Faces. This spring and summer, we will return to all 7 Tribal communities to conduct a second round of trainings.

Our NARCH grant is also funding a multi-wave survey to assess the community-wide impact of First Face training. We aimed to collect 400 community impact surveys, but we exceeded that goal and collected 419!! We thank all participants for sharing their time and insights with us.

Upcoming Events

- We will return to the Kalispel on March 26th for our second round of trainings.
- During April, the Training & Research coordinators will begin training the Healing Lodge staff on how to be a First Face.
- First Face will also be returning to Wellpinit for our second round of trainings within the month of April. To register for [April 16th click here](#). To register for [April 23rd click here](#).



Meet The Team

This month we are pleased to have interviewed Dr. Debi LaPlante, a First Face team member, and co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Martina Whelshula on the grant supporting First Face.

Debi says, "I am a daughter, wife, mother to two boys, and sister to one brother. Also, I am a book nerd who enjoys quiet walks with her beagle, Emily. I am the Director of the Division on Addiction at Cambridge Health Alliance and an Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School. More than a decade ago, I had the pleasure and honor of meeting Dr. Martina Whelshula, who wondered whether there might be an opportunity for the Healing Lodge and the Division on Addiction to collaborate. We spent some time getting to know each other and our respective organizations and decided that this was something that we would pursue. We were lucky enough

to secure funding to make our shared dreams of building cultures of health a reality. I couldn't be happier to contribute in even a small way to this work. I look forward to how it will grow and change over time and continue to serve tribal youth in recovery and their home communities. My hope is that First Face will be a useful tool to promote cultures of health and recovery in tribal communities. I also hope that the work we are doing can set a positive example for tribal participatory program development and research activities. Ultimately, I'd like everything that we are doing to have a positive impact, promoting lives filled with meaning, happiness, and psychological richness.”

Prevention Corner

Did you know that the 18-24th of March is National Drugs and Alcohol Facts Week? When you first hear the term “substance misuse,” you might think of the illicit drug market. However many prescription medications must be closely monitored by a health care provider to prevent dangerous non-medical use. An estimated 3.2 million people meet the criteria for a prescription drug use disorder in the past year. Before beginning a new prescription, it's important to know the risk factors and discuss any concerns you might have with your doctor. Click [here](#) to review a series of screening questions to ask if you or someone you know might be experiencing a prescription use disorder.

Culture Connections

March celebrates Women's History Month and recognizes women who have contributed to making big changes throughout history. Actress Lily Gladstone from the Blackfeet Nation in Montana made history as the first Indigenous person to win a Golden Globe for her role in the movie “Killers of the Flower Moon.”



In her acceptance speech, Lily introduced herself in her Native language and shared that this win was for all the Native kids out there who want to see themselves represented.

To learn more about Lily Gladstone and her other contributions to the representation of Native American culture in film click [here](#).

Check out this [video](#) of Scott George and the Osage Singers performing “Wahzhazhe” (A Song for My People) live at the Oscars. This song was nominated

for best song.



Follow us on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for even more updates!

The Healing Lodge of the Seven Nations, 5600 E 8th Ave, Spokane Valley, WA 99212, United States,
509-795-8344

[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage preferences](#)