



# Building Sustainable Partnerships With Tribal & Indigenous Communities

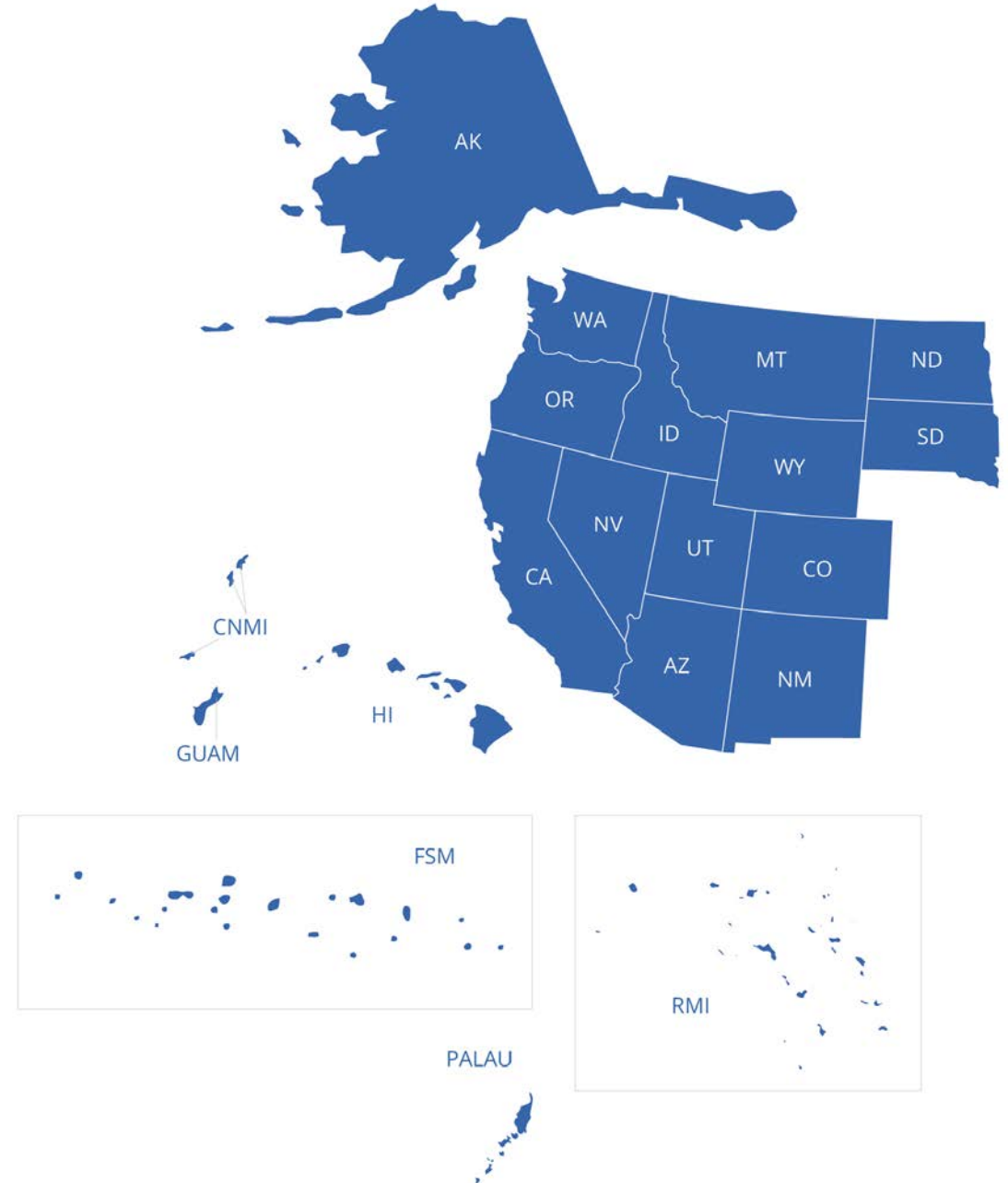
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# WICHE's Mission

- ▶ Expanding educational access and excellence for all citizens in the West.
- ▶ Promote innovation, cooperation, resource sharing and sound public policy.
- ▶ Support public mental health system improvement and the preparation of a skilled workforce.





# Food for Thought

- ▶ **There are 574 Recognized American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Entities**
- ▶ **The majority of AIAN people do not live on Reservations**
- ▶ **Just like the majority of Veterans do not receive their healthcare from the VA, the majority of AIAN people do not get their care exclusively from the IHS**
- ▶ **Indigenous/Tribal people and communities are diverse, if you've worked with one Tribal community...you've worked with one Tribal Community**



# Three Main Paths to Success





# Some WICHE Examples of Partnership

## ▶ **Alaska Psychology Internship Consortium**

- Began development in 2009
- Accepted first intern cohort in 2011
- To date has graduated over 125 doctoral psychology interns
- 60% of graduates have remain in practice in Alaska

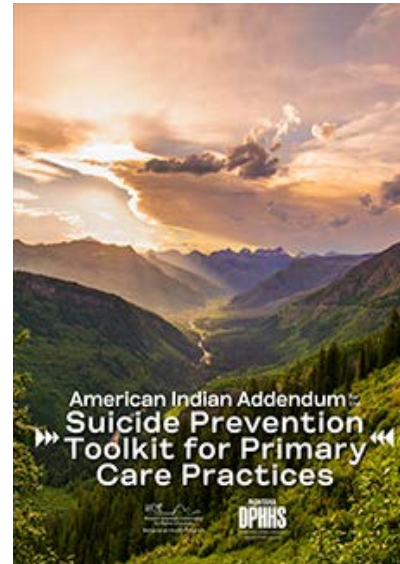
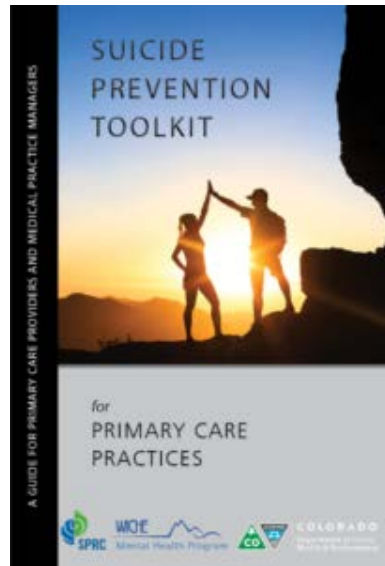


## ▶ **Consortium includes both Tribal Health Systems and Non-Tribal Health System Partners**

- Norton Sound Health Corporation
- Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association
- Alaska Psychiatric Institute
- Providence Health Systems – Alaska Family Practice Residency Program



# Suicide Prevention Training for Tribal Health Systems in Montana



- Tribes in Montana reached out to State BH Division to Support Training for Tribal Health Providers/Clinics
  - WICHE met with local Tribal representatives about using Toolkit developed for Primary Care
  - Based on local input, WICHE developed addendum to existing toolkit to enhance fit with Tribal settings
    - Informed by local voice and approved for use prior to doing training
    - Funded by State of Montana, Delivered by WICHE, Informed/enhanced through input from local Tribal community providers and leadership



# Mountain Plains MHTTC – HHS Region 8

- ▶ **32 Recognized Tribes**
- ▶ **3 IHS Areas (Great Plains, Billings, Albuquerque)**
- ▶ **MP-MHTTC is a partnership between Univ. of North Dakota and WICHE**
- ▶ **Early on the needs of Tribal Communities became paramount area of focus**
  - Multiple suicide clusters emerged in region
  - Engagement with community leaders on Rosebud, Pine Ridge, and Rocky Boy illuminated desire to focus training with schools to enhance local capacity to create trauma informed classrooms and build resiliency



# Building Capacity of School Personnel to Promote Positive Mental Health in Indigenous Children and Youth

- Community of Practice with 3-6 interdisciplinary team members; 3-4 schools per cohort.
- 2 cohorts per year (Year 2-5) – 28 Schools total in Region 8

## ND

Dunseith Public School  
Dunseith Day School  
Turtle Mountain Community School  
Parshall School District  
Warwick Public Schools K-12 all teachers  
Turtle Mountain Elementary  
Dickinson – Prairie Rose Elementary  
Grafton- Century Elementary  
Wil-Mac Special Education Unit -Williston  
Northern Plains/Divide County School District  
Edgeley School District

## WY

FCSD 14 Wy Indian  
WY Indian Schools-Ethete  
Fremont County School  
Uinta County School District -Evanston

## MT

Rocky Boy elementary  
Box Elder  
Harlem Public Schools District #12  
Boulder Elementary  
Fred Moodry Intermediate School-Anaconda Longfellow  
Elementary- Great Falls  
Loy Elementary- Great Falls

## SD

Todd County He Dog School  
Pineridge Girls School  
Todd County- Spring Creek  
Hartford West Central Middle School  
Lennox Elementary and Worthing Elementary  
Redfield Elementary





# Partnership: It's a Journey





# Thank You!

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