NIEJI Update

- Increased Elder Abuse Codes from 40 in 2011 to 100 in 2019
- Developed 8 online educational training modules
- 16 tribes received 1-year, $20K elder abuse innovation grants to develop or expand programs
- NEMS completed by 373 participants representing 27 tribes
National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative

If this is an emergency, call 911. To report elder abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation, view the State/Tribal Hotlines page.

Most cases of elder abuse are undetected, under reported, and unresolved resulting in injury, financial declination, and even death. The National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative (NIEJI) was created to address the lack of culturally appropriate information and community education materials on elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in Indian Country.

COVID-19 Resources

These COVID-19 Tribal Elder Resources will help to inform your communities on how to prevent the spread, protect your elders and loved ones, and prevent falling for scams.

Elder Abuse Warning Signs

- Learn more about the types of abuse and the warning signs.

ABUSE

News

June 15 was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD).
- Watch Protecting Our Elders During COVID-19 Presentations

Certificate Program

The National Adult Protective Services Certificate Program has training materials that will improve the safety of vulnerable adults and persons with disabilities who are victims of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

NIEJI Website Continued

Native Elder Protection Team Toolkit

A step-by-step guide for developing a successful model for addressing elder abuse in Indian Country. The Toolkit is designed to help you identify and implement a tribal elder protection team.

Online Interactive Education

- Caregiving
- Elder Abuse
- Financial Information
- Healthcare
- Legal
- Policy
- Social Services

Learn more

Funder

NIEJI is funded by the Administration for Community Living to provide research, education, and training for the identification and prevention of elder abuse in Indigenous communities. This program serves American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian elders in an effort to improve their quality of life. The project is housed at the
Training Modules

Elder Abuse Grants

Native Elder Abuse Innovation Awards
Map of Grantees (Cycle 1 & Cycle 2)
**Native Elder Maltreatment Study NEMS**

- Approval from UND IRB and each tribe provides tribal approval before participating.
- Tribally-based participatory research
- Tribe’s role
  - Provide tribal approval and own the data
  - Collects survey data
- NEIJI’s role
  - Provides training and technical assistance
  - Analyzes the data
  - Provides information on interpretation

**NEMS Demographics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N: 373</td>
<td>HS, 70, 19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range: 50-101 years</td>
<td>HS: 187, 51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majority: 59-76 years</td>
<td>HS/GED: 110, 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean: 66.9 ± 8.4 years</td>
<td>Marital Status: 121, 32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship Status</td>
<td>Married/Life Partner: 121, 32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single/Divorced/Widowed/Separated: 248, 67%</td>
<td>Married: 119, 33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## NEMS Subscales

**N=373**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subscale</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>Cronbach α</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H/S EAST</td>
<td>5.65</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>0.698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NELS-FE</td>
<td>29.00</td>
<td>10.80</td>
<td>0.741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NELS-N</td>
<td>11.40</td>
<td>5.60</td>
<td>0.640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NELS-PP</td>
<td>7.30</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td>0.435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTS</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td>0.295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hwalek-Sengstock Elder Abuse Screening Test (H/S EAST; 27); Native Elder Life Scale (NELS) – Financial Exploitation (FE; 9); NELS-Neglect (N; 12), NELS-Psychological and Physical (PP; 6), and Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS; 12).
NEMS Selected Data

Neglect

- Left alone when need help: 25%
- Need help with bills: 35%
- Don’t eat well: 5%
- Drink a lot of alcohol: 10%
- Don’t get medical help when needed: 20%

NEMS Selected Data

Physical

- Make you do things you don’t want to do: 30%
- Force to do things you don’t want to do: 15%
- Hurt you to make you do things you don’t want to do: 5%
The most commonly endorsed items concerned:
- “helping to support someone” (49.5%).
- “family borrows money and doesn’t give it back” (41.7%).

Conversely those quite uncommon were:
- “threatened with knife or gun in the past year” (1.3%).
- “kicked, bit, or hit with a fist in past year” (3%).
About 1 in 4 adults reported being left alone when they needed help.

1 in 12 adults indicated someone had taken personal property without permission.

- 1 in 6 indicated family takes their possessions without permission and sells or pawns them.

1 in 7 indicated they have run out of food or medication due to family use of money for something else.

NEMS Summary

This was a 2-year pilot study

Most comprehensive collection of elder abuse data for Indigenous people that has been undertaken.

Includes American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and Hawaiian homesteads.

Continuing to partner with tribes that are interested, however; CoVID has impacted that process.

Innovative ways of data collection have developed!
National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative

For more information go to the NIEJI Website:  Http://nieji.org
Or contact Jacque Gray, PhD at
Email:  Jacqueline.gray@und.edu
Phone:  701-777-0582

Wado (Thank You)