A Collaboration between UTA and the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas:
Assessing the needs of the American Indian Population in Texas - Phase I
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BACKGROUND
Seventy-eight percent of all American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) now live in cities, rather than on reservations. The Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area illustrates this history of urbanization with its population of more than 60,000 American Indians. Community organizations focusing on the needs of this community face a number of challenges, including limitations on available data to fully assess community needs.

The Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas (UITCT) is a key community organization that provides limited social services and health care services to clients representing 174 federally recognized tribes. Data limitations have impeded it from obtaining funding to expand services or to fully assess the medical, social and cultural needs and interests that may exist. UT-Arlington faculty, UITCT staff, and community members collaborated in the development and conduction of a community-based needs assessment of the American Indian Population of North Texas.

PURPOSE OF PHASE I
Develop a replicable, culturally appropriate measurement tool to be used to assess community needs of the American Indian population across several domains on a periodic, ongoing basis

DESIGN
Participatory community research design

METHODS

Recruitment Flier

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED
Help improve services for American Indians in North Texas. Focus groups to take place at the Urban Inter-tribal Center of Texas, in Dallas Saturday, October 29th at noon Sunday, November 1st at 6:00 p.m. (Each participant will receive a $20.00 gift card to Walmart)

• 3 focus groups
• October - November 2016
• 41 persons: 31 women and 10 men

General needs Information received from the focus groups:
• Transportation
• Medication-better and different
• Access to specialist and health insurance
• Access to specialist - 75% are not insured
• Education on how insurance works = ACA Barrier of information, navigation to get insurance
• Affordable insurance

The focus groups informed the categories for the survey instrument. Researchers distributed surveys at the 3 venues in DFW:
• Pow Wow at UTA
• Santa Fe Days
• Urban Inter-Tribal Center

SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Please rate each of the identified areas of need below using the following scale:
Critical need area = 4
Moderate need area = 3
Low need area = 2
Not a need area = 1

Mental Health Services for Youth
Mental Health Services for Adults
Substance Abuse Treatment for Youth
Substance Abuse Treatment for Adults
Sober Living Alternative Housing for Youths
Sober Living Alternative Housing for Adults
AI/AN Specific Domestic Violence Shelters
AI/AN Specific Child Care
After School Programs for Children/Youth
AI/AN Specific Parenting Classes
Access to Specialist for Medical Reasons
Access to Eye Care
Access to Eye Glasses
Access to Medications
Access to Birth Control
Access to Health Insurance
Availability to AI/AN recreational Activities
Availability to AI/AN Cultural Events
Employment
Transportation
Affordable Housing
Rent Assistance
Food Assistance

NEXT STEPS
In Phase II, data will be analyzed and presented at The Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas and UTA community.

Funding Source: The Interdisciplinary Research Program at UTA 2016 - 2017