Building Assets for Health Equity and Diabetes with Native Communities (Building AHEAD)

Expanding & Enhancing Research Addressing Diabetes in Native Communities

TeamLITeS Presentation – December 3, 2021
The Building AHEAD Team

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Addressing Diabetes in Native Communities

AI/ANs have highest rate of diabetes of any US racial/ethnic group. 2011, Dr. Spero Manson funded to establish Center for American Indian and Alaska Native Diabetes Translation Research

• translate interventions & treatments of proven efficacy,
• promote excellence in translation research, &
• expand capacity for diabetes translation research.

Support a Research Base of diabetes researchers at CU-AMC & 6 Satellite Centers as well as external partners (e.g., researchers, clinicians, policy makers, community members).
Multiple Components & Leaders

Center for American Indian and Alaska Native Diabetes Translation Research
S. Manson, A. Brega

Translation Research Core
A. Brega, Director
6 Content Area Leads

National Resource Core
J. Steiner, Director

Community Outreach & Engagement Core
M. Fort, Director

Pilot & Feasibility Program
A. Brega, Director

Enrichment Program
S. Stotz, Director

6 Satellite Centers
6 Directors

Colorado School of
PUBLIC HEALTH
Important Transitional Period

Center was renewed for a 3rd 5-year project period in August. In preparation for his eventual retirement, Project Director expanded project leadership for renewal period:

• New Multiple PI
• New Directors for 3 of 5 cores & programs
Opportunities, Challenges, & Goals

Opportunities & Challenges
1. New renewal period gives us the opportunity to think fresh
2. Complex structure – numerous cores/programs & leaders
3. Some new leaders

Goals of the Building AHEAD Project
1. Strengthen communication & integration across Center
2. Build the leadership skills of new leaders
Goal 1: Strengthening Communication & Integration

In doing the work of the Center:

1. Routine meetings of the Building AHEAD Team
   a. Using time to collaborate on project planning & evaluation

2. Developing project plans & evaluating cores & program
   a. Soliciting & incorporating input from the Building AHEAD Team & other leaders (e.g., Satellite Center Directors)
   b. Explicitly consider how work can be integrated across cores

3. Identify & pursue additional opportunities to collaborate with each other (e.g., identification of publication opportunities)
Goal 2: Building Leadership Skills

Allow new leaders to learn by doing, with regular input from team
Coordinate didactic leadership training opportunities, e.g.:
• Meeting management, decision making, leading from one’s strengths, balancing strengths across a team
Facilitate regular Leadership-in-Progress meetings
• For example: Participants describe leadership structure of prior project, what went well/what didn’t, solicit feedback from the group
Identify resources for individual leadership coaching
Addressing the Leadership Needs of Women & Underrepresented Investigators

Investigators who are female or from minority racial/ethnic backgrounds are underrepresented in leadership of diabetes research.

Incorporate content on unique leadership challenges of these groups

• Learn more about these challenges & explore existing programs (e.g., Ludeman Family Center for Women’s Health Research, Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine for Women)

Pilot test on our Team & then expand to Satellite Centers, Research Base, external partners.
Expected Progress

By the end of the LITeS Program, we anticipate having:

– Finalized & implemented plans for each core & program
– Identified & begun work on high-priority collaborative projects
– Finalized plan for didactic leadership training & conducted 1st activity
– Developed plan for & hosted 1st Leadership-in-Progress meeting
– Identified resources for individual leadership coaching
– Explored important topics & leadership training opportunities for women & underrepresented investigators