

**Center for Rural and Community Behavioral Health (CRCBH)
University of New Mexico, Psychiatry Department
Activities and Services Evaluation and Research Portfolio (2006 - 2008)**

RESEARCH EFFORTS INITIATED BY CRCBH

Strengthening Native Families

Principal Investigator: Lt. Governor Stanley Tafoya

Lead Contact: Deborah Altschul, Ph.D.

Funding Source: SAMHSA

Goal: To evaluate the implementation of an expansion and enhancement of the behavioral health services in Santa Clara Pueblo through the development of a mobile team to deliver alcohol and substance abuse treatment and a home-based family therapy program using Functional Family Therapy.

Early Assessment and Resource Linkage for Youth (EARLY)

Principal Investigator: Steven Adelsheim, M.D.

Funding Source: Mind Research Network

Goal: The EARLY program is a treatment and research initiative with the mission of reducing the incidence of psychotic illness (such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder) in young people in Albuquerque, New Mexico. A partnership between the Mind Research Network and the University of New Mexico, Center for Rural and Community Behavioral Health, Department of Psychiatry, EARLY provides education and treatment for young people and their families, and conducts research about the benefits of early identification and intervention for psychosis related symptoms.

Rural Residency Evaluation

Principal Investigator: Helene Silverblatt, M.D.

Funding Source: Partial Behavioral Health Services Division Funds used

Goal: To assess participant satisfaction associated with being a resident in UNM Department of Psychiatry's Rural Residency Program. To learn from graduates of the program what are the incentives and barriers to practicing psychiatry in rural/frontier New Mexico, and how the program addresses—and could address better—these issues.

Cultural Competency Focus Groups

Principal Investigator: Deborah Altschul, Ph.D.

Funding Source: State of New Mexico, Department of Health and Human Services, ValueOptions

Goal: To conduct focus groups with behavioral health providers and consumers throughout New Mexico in an effort to ascertain from community members the ways in which cultural competency is currently integrated into the behavioral health services throughout the state and ways in which cultural competency could be better fostered throughout the system. Focus groups resulted in the development of a NMIBHPC Cultural Competency Strategic Plan.

Pueblo of San Felipe Children's Mental Health Systems Development Project

Principle Investigator: Kristen Orestevich

Lead Contact: Deborah Altschul, Ph.D.

Funding Source: SAHMSA Circles of Care

Goal: To increase access to mental health care by removing barriers, optimizing mental health and substance abuse services for children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances (SED), insuring culturally appropriate care, and developing a seamless delivery system with other providers using SOC model. The CRCBH will conduct a needs assessment of current services, and lead the project evaluation.

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**RESEARCH EFFORTS IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER UNM DEPARTMENTS AND NON UNM RESEARCH
CENTERS**

Mental Health Stigma Survey

Principal Investigator: John Oetzel, Ph.D., Chair of the UNM Department of Communications and Journalism

Lead Contact: Melina Salvador

Funding Source: State of New Mexico, Department of Health and Human Services, Value Options

Goal: To assess the general public of New Mexico's views about behavioral health and behavioral health stigma in an effort to inform the development of a state-wide behavioral health anti-stigma campaign. A stigma is an attribute that shames or discredits.

STOAP- Screening and Treatment of Opiate and Alcohol Dependences in Primary care

Principal Investigators: Florian Birkmayer M.D., Andrew Sussman Ph.D.

Funding Source: UNM Clinical Translational Science Center pilot grant

Goal: A unique interdisciplinary collaboration between CRCBH and RIOSNet of the UNM Department of Family Practice to determine the barriers of implementing screening and treatment protocols for opiate and alcohol dependences in primary care using qualitative methods, an important topic in translational research for substance abuse.

Project TRUST

Principle Investigator: Jessica Goodkind, Ph.D.

Lead Contact: Ernest Coletta, BS

Funding Source: New Mexico Department of Health, Office of School and Adolescent Health

Goal: To develop and share a model/guidelines for culturally-appropriate, client-centered approaches to behavioral health care for Native American youth and their families.

Refugee Well-being Project

Principal Investigator: Jessica Goodkind, Ph.D., UNM Department of Pediatrics

Lead Contact: Brian Isakson, Ph.D.

Funding Source: Con Alma Foundation, St. Joseph's Community Health

Goal: The Refugee Well-being Project (RWP) seeks to promote the health of refugee children in New Mexico by addressing the social factors that create health disparities and by mobilizing health resources. Refugee health is impacted by many social factors related to resettlement, including lack of meaningful social roles, poverty, discrimination, and language and cultural differences. Objectives are accomplished by involving refugee families and undergraduate students in mutual learning and advocacy for six month periods.

Developing Community-Based Interventions for American Indian Mental Health

Principal Investigator: Jessica Goodkind, Ph.D.

Lead Contact: Richard L. Hough, Ph.D., Primary Mentor

Funding Source: National Institute of Mental Health – Career Investigator Development Award (K01)

Goal: To provide mentorship for Dr. Goodkind as she develops a research program that addresses disparities in mental health services for marginalized, traumatized and underserved populations through conducting community-based services intervention research that results in evidence-based and culturally – relevant interventions.

Multi-Method Ethnographic Assessment of Behavioral Health Reform in New Mexico

Principal Investigator: C. Willging, Ph.D., Behavioral health Research Center of the Southwest

Lead Contacts: Richard Hough, Ph.D., Steve Adelsheim, M.D., Deborah Altschul, Ph.D.

Funding Source: National Institute of Mental Health

Goal: To evaluate the effects of New Mexico's statewide reorganization of mental health services on help-seeking and health care delivery for seriously mentally ill adults, especially in rural and frontier areas.

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**RESEARCH INITIATED BY NEW MEXICO CBHTR: CONSORTIUM FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING,
EVALUATION, AND RESEARCH AND LED BY CRCBH FACULTY**

Total Community Approach

Principal Investigator: Steven Adelsheim, M.D.

Funding Source: State of New Mexico, Department of Health and Human Services, Value Options

Goal: The Total Community Approach seeks to involve all key local stakeholders (e.g., consumers, families providers, law enforcement, DWI Councils, courts, probation and parole, schools, faith based organizations, minority consumer and provider groups etc.) in the planning, design, implementation and evaluation of substance abuse programs. New Mexico CBHTR (Center for Behavioral Health Training and Research), a statewide collaborative effort to enhance partnerships and information sharing among New Mexico institutions of higher learning, is providing the evaluation component of the TCA program.

Veteran and Family Support Services

Principal Investigator: Deborah Altschul, Ph.D.

Funding Source: State of New Mexico, Department of Health and Human Services, Value Options

Goal: To evaluate the implementation of a program designed to assist veterans, active military professionals, reservists, and their families in accessing behavioral health services throughout Sandoval County. Also, to continue evaluation of the program as it is extended to other counties throughout New Mexico.

Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale

Principal Investigator: Steven Adelsheim, MD

Funding Source: State of New Mexico, Value Options

Goal: The Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) is a rating scale which assesses functional impairment in youth attributed to behavioral, emotional, psychological or substance abuse disorders. Assessment is broken down to evaluate level of impairment ranging from "No Impairment" to "Severe Impairment," in categories of School/Work, Home, Community, Behavior Towards Others, Moods/Emotions, Self-Harmful Behavior, Substance Use, and Thinking. CRCBH has undertaken the role of third party data warehouse, and as such will assemble data, generate reports and disseminate agency-specific data back to participating agencies, as well as statewide aggregated reports to the CYFD, BHIPC, and other interested parties.

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CRCBH PROPOSALS UNDER REVIEW as of July 2008

Impact of Braiding Behavioral Health Funds on Services for Diverse Populations

Principal Investigator: Linda Roebuck and Richard Hough

Lead Contact: Deborah Altschul, Ph.D.

Submitted: August 01, 2008 to NIMH

Goal: The overall goal of the current proposal is to use four years of pooled state administrative data to examine the impact this braided funding and interagency collaboration has on disparities in behavioral health service delivery patterns across ethnicities, geographic settings, and age groups in New Mexico and, comparatively, in Colorado.

**Center for Rural and Community Behavioral Health
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Training and Community-Based Capacity Development**

NATIVE AMERICAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING

Native American Trainings

Lead Contact: Charlene Poola, LISW

Funding Source: Indian Health Services, ValueOptions, and Co-Occurring State Incentive Grant

Partners: Native American Behavioral Health Workgroup, Behavioral Health Services Division, Indian Health Service (IHS), and Value Options.

Goal: To provide culturally relevant training by teaching Traditional and Western approaches to clinical interventions. To create cultural awareness of the various tribes that exist in New Mexico so providers can provide culturally competent care and create a network of Native American consultants to assist providers in New Mexico.

Best Practices Project with Native American Communities

Lead Contact: Charlene Poola, LISW

Funding Source: Behavioral Health Services Division

Partners: Behavioral Health Services Division, Tewa Women United, and the Zia Pueblo.

Goal: To do focus groups with the serving population to address what is working in their community for behavioral health services and what needs to be improved.

Native American Community Academy (NACA)

Lead Contact: Charlene Poola, LISW

Partners: University of New Mexico School Based Health Centers and NACA

Goal: To provide clinical services and support to the Behavioral Team at NACA to create a culturally informed behavioral health system of care with NACA students, faculty, and staff.

Native American Behavioral Health Needs Assessment

Lead Contact: Charlene Poola, LISW

Funding Source: The Center for Rural and Community Behavioral Health

Goal: CRCBH did a needs assessment in 2006 with tribal behavioral health and IHS behavioral health departments to identify what current substance abuse, mental health, and prevention services are being provided; opinions and needs regarding implementation of evidence based practices; service, support, and training needs; current staffing patterns (including disciplines represented and available supervision); and availability of telehealth and computer technology. The goal was to determine current resources and additional needs in Native communities and to bring all behavioral health stakeholders to a meeting to discuss the findings and prioritize training needs.

CADAC to LADAC informational training sessions

Lead Contact: Charlene Poola, LISW

Funding Source: Behavioral Health Services Division

Partners: Behavioral Health Services Division, New Mexico Counseling & Therapy Practice Board, and Albuquerque Area Intertribal Council on Substance Abuse

Goal: To provide information to substance abuse providers about the CADAC to LADAC grandfathering clause that was effective July 2007 until June 30th, 2008. The informational session outlines steps on how to apply for a CADAC license and how to be “grandfathered” to receive a LADAC license before June 30th, 2008 in order to increase workforce development in Native American communities.

Tribal Data Workgroup

Lead Contact: Charlene Poola, LISW

Funding Source: New Mexico Department of Health

Partners: Nadine Tafoya & Associates, New Mexico Human Services Department, and New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative.

Goal: To create a document that outlines protocol how to collect and disseminate data when working in Native American communities. The partners will meet with Native communities to draft a protocol document and receive feedback to make changes to the document and share it with the Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative and hopefully adopt the document as a policy with the tribe's support and endorsement.

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TRAINING

Rural Residency Program

Lead Contact: Helene Silverblatt, M.D.

Partners: New Mexico Human Services Department—Behavioral Health Services Division; Rural and Community Psychiatry Network of New Mexico; New Mexico Health Resources.

Goal: To provide a rural rotation/track for Adult Psychiatry Residents and Child Psychiatry Fellows. The program serves as a one-of-a-kind training program as well as a recruitment and retention tool to place and keep psychiatrists practicing throughout rural New Mexico.

Rural Child Psychiatry Training Program

Lead Contact: Steven Adelsheim, MD

Partners: Children, Youth and Families department, multiple state behavioral health and primary care agencies

Goal: This program builds on the nationally award winning adult resident rural track to create opportunities of child psychiatry trainees to work 2 days per month in a rural community of New Mexico. Trainees have the opportunity to learn about the challenges and rewards of providing behavioral health in rural and frontier communities and how to be effective partners in this unique practice setting.

Social Work Internship

Lead Contact: Charlene Poola, LISW

Partners: New Mexico Highlands University

Goal: To have social work students do a community internship with the Center to work with Native American communities around systems development and training needs. To provide support to Native American Behavioral Health agencies to enhance their current service delivery system and to assist social workers in finding a social work placement of employment once they graduate from the university.

Psychology Internship-Major and Minor Rotations

Lead Contact: Deborah Altschul, Ph.D.

Goal: In conjunction with the APPIC accredited Psychology Internship Program at the UNM Department of Psychiatry, the CRCBH offers public behavioral health major and minor rotations. Projects completed during these rotations to have an emphasis on child, adolescent, and adult public behavioral health; and include activities such as grant writing, public policy development, services research and evaluation, and clinical/consultative services. The goal is to provide interns with the opportunity to engage in activities that directly enhance the public behavioral health system in New Mexico.

Social Work Internship

Lead Contact: Deborah Altschul, Ph.D.

Partners: New Mexico Highlands University & CBHTER

Goal: As an entity of CBHTER, Social Work students from Highlands University will participate in a yearlong internship on services research in relation to public behavioral health services and public policy in New Mexico.

Native American Trainings

Lead Contact: Charlene Poola, LISW

Funding Source: Indian Health Services, ValueOptions, and Co-Occurring State Incentive Grant

Partners: Native American Behavioral Health Workgroup, Behavioral Health Services Division, Indian Health Service (IHS), and Value Options.

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TELEHEALTH ACTIVITIES

Value Options

Lead Contact: Steven Adelsheim, M.D.

Funding Dates: 7/08-6/09

Partners: ValueOptions New Mexico, NM Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative, New Mexico Telehealth Commission

Goal: This program provides funding to expand support to increase child, adolescent, adult and addictions psychiatry support to behavioral health and primary care programs throughout New Mexico. In addition, this partnership serves to coordinate statewide behavioral telehealth efforts throughout New Mexico.

Indian Health Services

Principal Investigator: Steven Adelsheim, M.D.

Funding Dates: 7/08-6/09

Partners: Indian Health Service (IHS) Albuquerque Area, New Mexico department of Health and NM Behavioral Health Collaborative

Goal: This program provides weekly child, adolescent, adult and addictions psychiatry support to IHS service units and tribal behavioral health and substance abuse programs. Direct service, consultation, supervision and training, along with systems consultation are all components of this partnership.

Suicide Prevention

Lead Contact: Avron Kriechman, MD

Funding Source: New Mexico Department of Health

Partner: Department of Health Office of School and Adolescent Health

Goal: To facilitate the collaborative efforts of health care providers, behavioral health care providers, and educators to prevent, screen for, assess, and treat suicidal behavior and related disorders in youth and their families and communities by telehealth trainings, consultations, and interdisciplinary patient/family/community/provider interviews.

Sangre de Cristo: Screening, Brief Intervention, and referral to treatment program (SBIRT)

Lead Contact: Avron Kriechman, MD

Funding Source: SBIRT

Partners: SBIRT

Goal: To support the screening, assessment, and brief treatment of substance use disorders by SBIRT providers through multi-site telehealth trainings, consultations and patient/family/community/provider interviews.

Project ECHO

Lead Contact: Avron Kriechman, MD

Partners: Project Echo

Goal: To Provide child/adolescent, general, and addiction psychiatry consultation and training to primary care providers, and to provide group supervision and co-consultation for psychoanalytic psychotherapy via telepsychiatry.

Carlsbad Mental Health Center

Lead Contact: Steven Adelsheim, MD

Funding Source: Carlsbad Mental Health Center

Partners: Carlsbad Mental Health Center, ValueOptions New Mexico

Goal: This program provides weekly child, adolescent, adult and addictions psychiatry support to Carlsbad Mental Health Center consumers, families and staff. Direct service, consultation, supervision and training, along with systems consultation are all components of this partnership. Efforts are also underway to expand rural training partnerships through this program.

Partnerships Uniting Schools & Health (PUSH)

Lead Contact: Ernest Coletta, BS

Partners: Celeste Bonds, School Based Health Services Director, Region IX Education Cooperative

Funding Source: Grants to Improve the Mental Health of Children Program, US Department of Education – Integrate Schools and Mental Health

Goal: To assemble a statewide network of partners to coordinate resources, provide technical assistance and build capacity to increase student access to quality mental health care services. The project will build on (a) the rapid expansion of School-Based Health Centers in New Mexico; (b) the capacity of Regional Education Cooperatives to provide intense, ongoing technical assistance and make critical linkages to schools; and (c) the potential for telehealth to break down barriers of distance and increase access to resources to professional development, technical assistance and direct services.