

Bay Mills Indian Community
Brimley, Michigan 49715

**Grand Traverse Band
of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians**
Suttons Bay, Michigan 49682

Hannahville Indian Community
Wilson, Michigan 49896

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858

**Little Traverse Bay
Bands of Odawa Indians**
Harbor Springs, Michigan 49740

**Nottawaseppi Huron
Band of The Potawatomi**
Fulton, Michigan 49502



Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Baraga, Michigan 49908

**Lac Vieux Desert Band
of Lake Superior Chippewa**
Watersmeet, Michigan 49969

**Sault Ste. Marie
Tribe of Chippewa Indians**
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783

**Pokagon Band of
Potawatomi Indians**
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

**Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish
(Gun Lake Tribe)**
Dorr, Michigan 49323

ITC is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.

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For Immediate Release

REACH-Journey and MPHI host Michigan Tribal Health and Wellness Quality Improvement Workshop

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. – The REACH-Journey to Wellness, administered by Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, hosted a Tribal Health and Wellness Quality Improvement Workshop led by Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) from the Grand Traverse Resort on June 28-29, 2016.

According to *Quality Improvement in Public Health*, Quality Improvement is defined as “the use of a deliberate and defined improvement process, such as Plan-Do-Study-Act, which is focused on activities that are responsive to community needs and improving population health. It refers to a continuous and ongoing effort to achieve measurable improvements in the efficiency, effectiveness, performance, accountability, outcomes, and other indicators of quality in services or processes which achieve equity and improve the health of the community.”

The workshop was led by MPHI to help the tribal public health programs of REACH Journey to Wellness, UP Breast Health, and OMH Colon Cancer.

During the first day, MPHI lead the attendees through assembling their team, creating a charter, and developing their Initial Aim Statement. MPHI then lead the teams in process mapping; establishing a baseline; and collecting, compiling, and summarizing data. The first day concluded with MPHI leading the teams in performing Root Cause Analysis.

On the second day, MPHI lead the teams to focus on identifying potential solutions including brain storming and learning how to use affinity diagrams. The teams then moved to develop an improvement theory, tested the theory, and then updated a completed an initial draft of their team charter. After the networking lunch, teams worked on planning how to collect data, planning for the do stage, and studying their results. The final day concluded with MPHI leading the teams to standardize the improvement or develop a new theory and how to establish future plans.

Shannon Laing, Associate Director of Center for Healthy Communities from MPHI commented “MPHI designed a facilitated a hands-on training workshop that provided teams of staff from 10 tribal health agencies with a deeper understanding of Quality Improvement and the use of the Plan-Do-Study-Act cycle. Workshop participants will use

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the tools and methods they learned, with coaching from MPHI, to improve processes that will ultimately lead to better health outcomes for tribal community members.”

Agencies that were in attendance included Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians (UP Breast Health), Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (REACH Journey to Wellness and OMH Colon Cancer), Hannahville Indian Community (REACH Journey to Wellness and UP Breast Health), American Indian Health and Family Services (REACH Journey to Wellness), Bay Mills Indian Community (REACH Journey to Wellness), Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (REACH Journey to Wellness), Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi (REACH Journey to Wellness), Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe (REACH Journey to Wellness and OMH Colon Cancer).

The REACH Journey to Wellness is a cardiovascular disease prevention program for Native Americans. The program administered by Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan specifically serves the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa and Chippewa Indians, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Hannahville Indian Community, and American Indian Health and Family Services in Detroit.

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The Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) award is part of a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) initiative to support public health efforts to reduce chronic diseases, promote healthier lifestyles, reduce health disparities, and control health care spending. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) administers the grants which run for 3 years, subject to availability of funds.

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. (ITCM) is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation duly organized under a State Charter filed April 16, 1968. The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. is located at 2956 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. It represents eleven of the twelve federally recognized tribes in Michigan. Those being; Bay Mills Indian Community, Hannahville Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish (Gun Lake Tribe), Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, and the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi.

Our Agency is divided into several different divisions, which include Health Services, Behavioral Health, Environmental Services, Child, Family, and Education Services, and Administration. The Agency employs approximately 160 employees, 35 of these employees are based in the Agency’s central office in Sault Ste. Marie, while member tribes have offices and staff on site.

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