Rosebud Sioux Tribe
Health & Healing Center Project
Introduction

RST WWHHC is a Tribal Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Project plan targeting children and youth (ages 10-24) on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation within 20 communities.
WWHHC Project

- Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act
- 3 year funding (2008-2011)

Funding Source:
(SAMHSA) Substance Abuse & Mental Health Service Administration.
Rosebud Sioux Tribe Reservation Boundaries
Purpose

- Develop
- Advocate
- Coordinate a comprehensive Cultural
- Community based approach to reduce suicidal behaviors
Goal

- **Awareness:** Increase awareness of signs of suicide among community, parents and youth.
- **Intervention:** Implement training for recognition of at-risk behavior and deliver effective treatment.
- **Prevention:** Reduce the rates of suicide on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation.
- **Methodology:** Research-support research on suicide and suicide prevention.
Objective

- Healthy students/ safe schools.
- Decrease risk factors: bullying, violence, alcohol, drugs, arrests, incarceration and imprisoned.
- Suicide recognition and treatment.
- Planning.
- Education training in providing on various cultural and linguistic service delivery issues.
- Assisting with RST Suicide Task Force.
Role of the RST Wiconi Wakan

- Facilitate communication and collaboration among agencies/tribal programs.
- Develop protocols for service providers to identify response teams, orientation, scheduling logistics of resource to communities.
- Ensure active suicide surveillance system is in place throughout the reservation.
- Establish program standards for community suicide prevention.
Assumption

• Systematic approach needed to ID and refer youth/young adults at risk.
• Evidence-based, multilayered interventions will reduce suicides and suicidal behavior.
• Collaboration effort with all tribal programs.
• QPR training increases personal efficacy & skills.
• Local Support is needed.
Barriers

- Project started February, 2009 (Late Start).
- MOA with Indian Health Service/ Mental Health Service was not done until June, 2009.
- Need more counselors and additional Administrative Personnel.
- Bad weather (South Dakota).
- New Facility (additional Personnel).
Culture

- Connect with families, elders and our children.
- Use of medicine men/culture to work with our children.
- Culture is practice within our Tribe.
- Community and parent involvement.
- Celebrate Life.
- Have respect.
- Talk about our history of the culture to the children.
Accomplishments

- As of April, 2009 the staff meet with Dr. Dan Foster, Indian Health Service, and Behavioral Health to provide information regarding the Rapid Response Concept. Austin Keith, Behavioral Health Specialists has been delegated the responsibility to implement this phase of the project. Dr. Dan Foster is the clinical director for RST Wiconi Wakan Health & Healing Center.
- Developing a First-Responder team for immediate response for surviving family members of those who complete suicide in each outlaying communities.
- Teleconferences with SAMHSA cross-site evaluator once a month.
- Completed cross site evaluation Webinar for the grantee of summary report (GSR) data reporting for 3rd quarter June, 2009 and 4th quarter September, 2009.
- Collaboration and communication with RST programs and SGU Reclaiming Futures and working with the program evaluator, Mr. Burdette Clifford, which completed a local evaluation data for RST WWHHC.
- Collaboration with state, tribal, Indian Health Services and agencies.
Cont. Accomplishments

- QPR training, ASIST T4T and Safe Talk T4T.
- 34 Trained GONA Facilitators
- Providing services to youth.
- Social Marketing for WWHHC.
- Protocol (informal).
- Prevention, Intervention and Post-vention.
Cont. Accomplishments

- Website [www.wiconiwakan.org](http://www.wiconiwakan.org).
- Survivors of Suicide.
- Implement MOA’s (Memorandums of Agreement).
- GONA (Gathering of Native Americans) events in communities.
- Coordinated youth activities in schools.
- RPMS (Indian Health Services/Mental Health Services).
- Provided cultural healing for youth and their families.
- PSA Weekly readings on suicide prevention (local radio station) and newspaper Ad.
Cont. Accomplishments

- RST Wiconi Wakan Health & Healing Center has Facilitator for Survivors of Suicide to incorporate training healing groups to SOS, once a month.

- RST Wiconi Wakan Health & Healing Center counselors having QPR trainings at the schools, RST Tribal Programs and various programs within the Rosebud Sioux Reservation.

- The Wiconi Wakan Health & Healing Center has received a grant for one year in the amount of $476,000 for a Wellness Project. The Wiconi Wakan Wellness Project will provide conferences and healthful activities for our youth. This project will contribute goals of suicide intervention, prevention and post-vention. The WWHHC and WWWP will strengthen and develop culturally and linguistically services for the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Youth across the RST Reservation.
GONA Participates Sept. 27-29, 2010
DATA

Male & Female Patients - Suicide Ideation

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## Cont. DATA

### Male & Female Patients - Suicide Attempt/Gesture

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## Male & Female Patients - Suicide Completed

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Thank You!

WWHHC Staff:
Cecelia (Biz) Spotted Tail, Project Director
Luti Davis, Administrative Assistant
Veronica Nadeau, Outreach Counselor
Valene Hawk, Outreach Counselor
Harley Sazue, Outreach Counselor
Burdette Clifford, Evaluator (contract)