Solution Meeting Brings Ideas Together for Blackfeet CHIP

The Blackfeet Tribal Health Department is conducting a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which is a comprehensive plan to address specific issues that the community identified as top health priorities in the 2017 Blackfeet Community Health Assessment. On Wednesday, February 21, 2018 over 30 community members and health professionals came together to discuss issues on Blackfeet around mental health and substance use; child abuse and neglect, anxiety and depression, substance use in pregnancy, suicide, and adult and youth drug use. In small groups, they discussed ways to both prevent these public health issues, as well as ways to support people who do experience them.

Over the next few months, Tribal Health will hold more meetings with health professionals from organizations across Blackfeet. Together, they will create specific plans to guide how organizations will work together over the next three to five years to fully address these issues to improve the lives of the people living in the Blackfeet Nation.

Rosemary Cree Medicine, Blackfeet Tribal Health Director, said, “It’s so inspirational to hear the ideas of people who work in programs I oversee as well as the professionals in the schools, BCC, the hospital, Southern Piegan... We have a lot of great ideas right here and we know what kinds of things will work well for our community. The CHIP is helping us to be deliberate about working together to make it all happen.”

The Center for Health Equity, Education, and Research at Boston Medical Center is providing the TA needed to help conduct the CHIP. If you are interested in learning more about the CHIP process or would like to be included in meetings like the one described above, please email Kirsten Krane at kkrane@bu.edu.

Blackfeet CHA Link: https://www.cheerequity.org/community-health-assessments-blackfeet.html
CHEER Equity Website: https://www.cheerequity.org