



Tribal Community Health and Opioid Abuse: An Integrative Action Plan

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan
Tribal Court

2017



Tribal Community Health and Opioid Abuse: An Integrative Action Plan

- ◆ Patrick Shannon, JD, Ed.D., MPH - Chief Judge, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court
- ◆ Carol Jackson - Magistrate, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court
- ◆ Karmen Fox, MSA - Health Director, Nimkee Clinic
- ◆ Cathy Matthews - Probation Officer, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court
- ◆ Joseph V. Sowmick, Ph.D. - Tribal Court Healing to Wellness Coordinator
- ◆ Phoebe Goldberg, MPH, CHES - Michigan Public Health Training Center, University of Michigan School of Public Health



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- ◆ What we saw as problems at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court
 - ◆ Increasing overdoses resulting in death (over 50,000 nationally)
 - ◆ Substance misuse of prescription drugs (Part D)
 - ◆ Heroin, Fentanyl, etc.
 - ◆ Lack of a coordinated treatment regiment
 - ◆ Lack of provider education
 - ◆ No coordinated effort at local, state, federal or Tribal levels
 - ◆ Sole reliance on law enforcement for solution
 - ◆ Reliance on abstinence as the primary remedy for opioid abuse
 - ◆ Lack of treatment for the dual diagnosed client



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- ◆ How did we broaden the scope of remedies for the clients? (2016)
 - ◆ Required medical and dental examinations
 - ◆ Required behavioral health evaluations
 - ◆ Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) training for all interested staff and public
 - ◆ Reviewed training available on Public Health Training Center website
 - ◆ Contacted the Michigan Public Health Training Center (Phoebe Goldberg)
 - ◆ Targeted Medical and Nursing providers
 - ◆ Invited SCIT Behavioral Health, ACFS and other providers
 - ◆ Limit pain medication prescriptions to 7 days



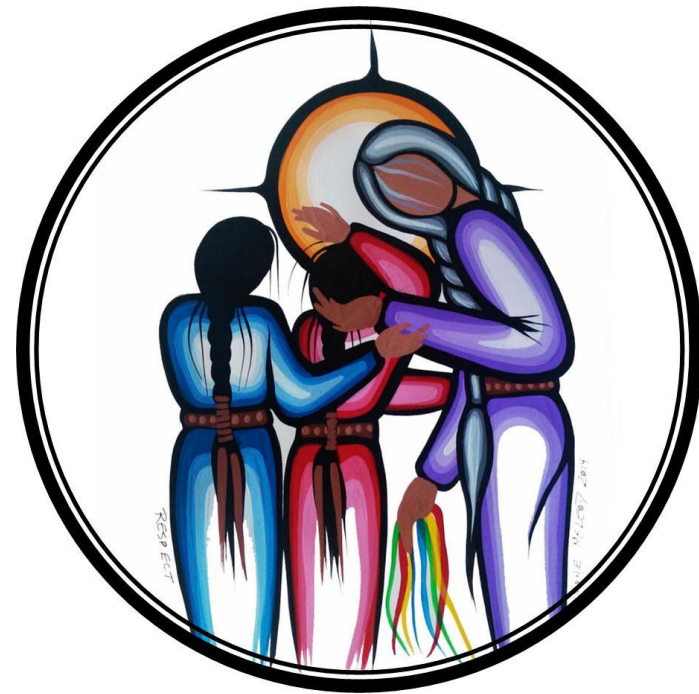
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- ◆ What we did
 - ◆ Created a Healing to Wellness Program
 - ◆ Continually integrating medical, dental, behavioral health, and spiritual health
 - ◆ Established a Families Against Narcotics chapter
 - ◆ Educate providers as to medical alternatives to abstinence
 - ◆ Broaden alternatives to pain management
 - ◆ Embrace Seven Grandfather Teachings



Seven Grandfather Teachings

- 💧 Honesty
- 💧 Truth
- 💧 Wisdom
- 💧 Bravery
- 💧 Love
- 💧 Respect
- 💧 Humility



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- ◆ What we need to do as a community (Prevention, Interdiction, Treatment)
 - ◆ The problem must be addressed at the local level
 - ◆ Integration with surrounding communities (FAN)
 - ◆ Outreach to 12 Step and faith-based programs (AA, NA, Celebrate Recovery, Restoration Fellowship, Peer 360, etc.)
 - ◆ Educate communities, families, friends, officials
 - ◆ Coordinate treatment and break down silos of care
 - ◆ Safe communities



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- ◆ What we need to do as a community (continued)
 - ◆ Eliminate the stigma of addiction
 - ◆ Payment for services
 - ◆ Detox centers with mental health services
 - ◆ Strong and healthy families
 - ◆ Break the cycle and heal the circle



Medicine Wheel Teachings

- Physical Wellness
- Mental Wellness
- Emotional Wellness
- Spiritual Wellness
- Find your Sacred Fire
- “The honor of one is the honor of all.”



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- ◆ What can our government do?
 - ◆ Limit prescription authority
 - ◆ Limit prescription access points
 - ◆ Require PDMP use
 - ◆ Remove pain as one of the 5 vital signs
 - ◆ Increase regulation of pain clinics
 - ◆ Increase Medicaid reimbursement for addiction care
 - ◆ Adult Suspicious Death Review Teams
 - ◆ Coordinate cause of death criteria

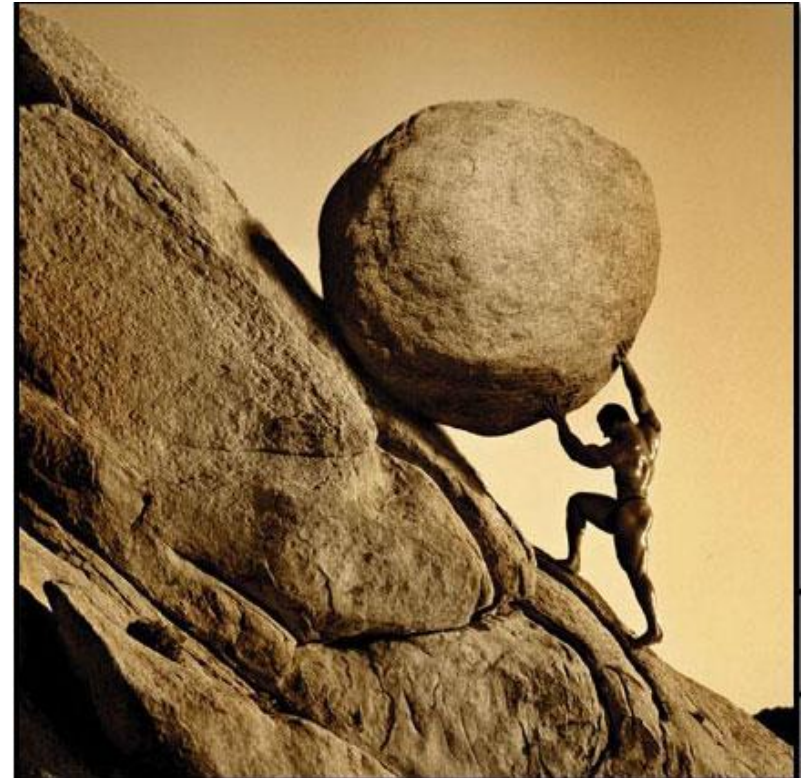


Community based Healing to Wellness

“We are all in this together”

Sisyphus – Greek Mythology

- ◆ King of Ephyra
- ◆ Punished to an eternity of rolling a boulder up the hill
- ◆ Metaphor for tasks that are laborious and futile
- ◆ One person can't do it alone



Freedom from Opioid Abuse



Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court

Chi – Miigwetch!
(Thank you very much)

Any Questions?

