Deconstructing Racism NM: Racial, Health, Equity Impact Assessment and Community Engagement

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DRNM Strategies

• Statewide racial, health and economic impact analysis
• Anti-racism trainings
• Decolonization and demilitarization
• Having the governor and other decision makers declare racism a public health crisis
What is Health Impact Assessment (HIA)?

HIA’s are nationally recognized community engagement policy tools.

The HIA brings together data, health expertise and community input to identify the potential health effects of a new proposal and to help craft policy recommendations that minimize risks and capitalize on opportunities to improve health. The HIA also serves to create narrative change.

HIA’s give federal, tribal, state and local leaders information they need to make better decisions today to prevent health problems in their communities tomorrow.

Graphic by Erica Bota
HIA's are...

Meaningful Community Engagement

Community-Driven Research

Through the HIA, community advocates learn how to ask research questions, collect and utilize data to inform policy change, and hold decision makers accountable for public policies. HIA's elevate values while empowering often unheard voices.

HIA’s...

✓ Bring health and wellness into the conversation

✓ Build leadership. Community members learn to navigate political systems, becoming knowledgeable about policy, decision-making, and public speaking

✓ Create a process for building community power, and for community members to reclaim their narratives

✓ Command attention from decision makers and lead to the adoption of policy recommendations

✓ Foster communication and collaboration among disparate groups that previously did not have good relationships
INDIGENOUS HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Convene Community Members
Present Research
Foster Input and Feedback from Community
Create Action Plans
 Uphold Tribal Rights and Sovereignty
Incorporate Suggested Changes
Planning for the Future
Offer Gratitude
Action and Giving Back
Keeping the Community Informed
Continue Advocacy Efforts
Present Final Report

Values & Grounding
Gratitude for All Things
Land Acknowledgement
Balance

Harvesting & Preparation
Conduct Data Collection
Analyze Data
Methodology & Data Sources
Create a Summary of Existing Data, Conditions, and Analysis of Potential Factors
Gather/Culture

Indigenous Wisdom and Traditions
Fire Meeting
Council Meeting
Advisory Committee
Self Care, Community Care

Cultural Humility

Pathways/Systems Analysis
Stressors and Potential Impacts to the Community
Builds Understanding of Policy and Historical Contexts
Why is this important to Community? Consider an Indigenous Lens: "All My Relations"

Intention & Motivation
What questions should we ask in the community?

New Mexico Health Equity Partnership - Indigenous Health Impact Assessment, 2021
Recent HIA Successes:

- Language and cultural access
- Free bus passes
- Reduced wage theft
- Housing and anti-gentrification
- Increased IHS funding and accountability
- Stopped a CO2 Pipeline in Moriarty
- Shined a light on health inequities from our legacy of uranium mining and contamination
- Built more parks and trails
- Built a new reintegration center

View a list of HIA reports [here](#).
Case Study – Together for Brothers

As part of the HIA, the young men developed and administered surveys in English, Dari, Persian, Spanish, Swahili, and Turkish to more than 300 individuals.

They collected qualitative narratives via focus groups at videogame tournaments, pool parties and other community events.

T4B used zines, photovoice, and videos to tell their stories and advocate for policy change.

T4B presented their research results to city-level decision makers. Because of the young men’s organizing, the City of Albuquerque piloted a “free bus pass” program for youth during summer 2018.

The young men were featured on New Mexico In Focus PBS due to their policy impact and Mayor Keller highlighted the successful summer bus pass program in his newsletter.

In Albuquerque, free bus for youth was permanently passed in early 2021.

After four years of organizing Together for Brothers (T4B) is proud to announce that starting July 1, 2021 all ABQ Ride buses and SunVan will be free for everyone! Organizing made this happen with young men of color and community partners at the center.

Free Universal Bus Passes for Youth

Beginning in 2017, Together for Brothers conducted a Health Impact Assessment to analyze the health impacts of free bus passes on young people in Albuquerque in the International and Westgate districts.
Case Study – Global 505

Beginning in 2017, the New Mexico Asian Family Center, via Global 505, conducted a Health Impact Assessment focused on language and cultural access policies which need to be implemented on a city-wide level to advance the success of immigrants and refugees in Albuquerque.

To ensure trust, it was essential that community owned the data.

- Global 505 worked with the City of Albuquerque's Equity and Inclusion Office to implement the HIA recommendations.

- The City did an internal analysis of language access policies that exist within all city departments, and has moved to provide model policy development, implementation, and enforcement with support of Global 505 for those entities under city purview, including the ABQ Police Department.

- Additionally, they will look more deeply at cultural access policies for the city, which includes re-examining how access to education, transportation, and job training programs are structured to be more inclusive and accessible for immigrant and refugee populations.

- Global 505 serves as the main steering committee member that provides guidance to the City through the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs.

Language and Cultural Access Policies on Immigrants and Refugees

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Declaring systemic racism a public health crisis

• Governor & NMDOH
• County
• City/Town/Village
• Other (schools & more)
Contact Information

• For more info about DRNM check out https://www.deconstructingracismnewmexico.org or https://www.facebook.com/NMHEWG

• For more information about the RHEIA contact Christopher at christopher@togetherforbrothers.org or Jessi at jjensen@nmhep.org.

• You can view the Indigenous HIA toolkit here.

• You can view HIA reports here.