

American Society for Circumpolar Health
Annual Meeting
March 27th, 2015

65,000
VOICES

The Southcentral Foundation
Nuka System of Care:
*Perspectives and Experiences
of an Alaska Native Investigator*

Denise A. Dillard
Director of Research



Alaska Native People Shaping Health Care



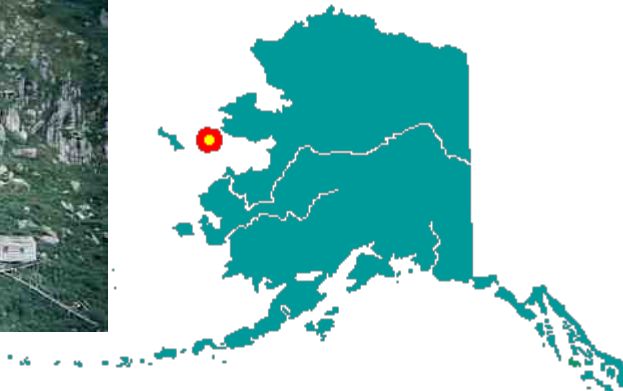
Objectives

- Describe my career journey
- Show how research conducted by Southcentral Foundation (SCF) is driven by Alaska Native people and Tribal leadership
- Provide examples of how Tribal and scientific communities are working together to develop meaningful research projects

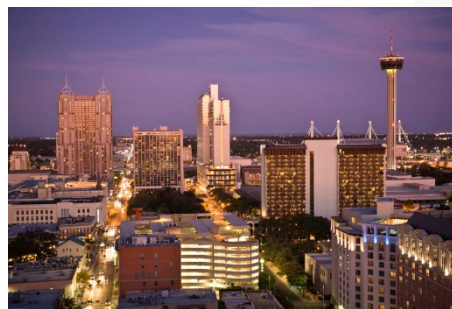


Alaska Native People Shaping Health Care





San Antonio



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Early Education & Experiences

- Pre-undergraduate
- Undergraduate education
- Graduate education and externships
- Psychology Intern then Instructor, American Indian/Alaska Native track, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center
- White Mountain Apache tribe



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Career at SCF

- Psychologist
- Clinical Supervisor
- Program Manager
- Division System Administrator & Postdoctoral Scholar
- Improvement Specialist
- Researcher
- Research Director



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Vision

A Native Community that enjoys physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness

Mission

Working together with the Native Community to achieve wellness through health and related services



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Goals

Shared Responsibility
Commitment to Quality
Family Wellness



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Operational Principles

- Relationships** between customer-owner, family and provider must be fostered and supported
- Emphasis** on wellness of the whole person, family and community
(physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness)
- Locations** convenient for customer-owners with minimal stops to get all their needs addressed
- Access** optimized and waiting times limited
- Together** with the customer-owner as an active partner
- Intentional** whole-system design to maximize coordination and minimize duplication
- Outcome** and process measures continuously evaluated and improved
- Not** complicated but simple and easy to use
- Services** financially sustainable and viable
- Hub** of the system is the family
- Interests** of customer-owners drive the system to determine what we do and how we do it
- Population-based** systems and services
- Services** and systems build on the strengths of Alaska Native cultures



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Core Concepts:

Work together in relationship to learn and grow

Encourage understanding

Listen with an open mind

L laugh and enjoy humor throughout the day

Notice the dignity and value of ourselves and others

Engage others with compassion

Share our stories and our hearts

Strive to honor and respect ourselves and others



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Historical Research in Alaska

- Long history of research in Alaska Native communities
 - 1950s Air Force Aeromedical Laboratory Thyroid Function Study (Radioactive Iodine-131)
 - 1979 Barrow Alcohol Study



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SCF Research Approval

SCF review and approval of research is required ...

- When Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI) participants are recruited at any SCF facility or on the Alaska Native Medical Center campus.
- When research conducted will use information from the Alaska Native Medical Center health record.
- When SCF employees are engaged in the research.



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SCF Research Review Criteria

- Alignment with SCF vision, mission, key points, goals, and objectives.
- Appropriate depiction and involvement of AN/AI people.
- Appropriate topic selection and handling.
 - Sensitive topics
- Quality of research design.
- In compliance with SCF Guidelines for Researchers



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Research Review Process

- SCF review and approval must occur before any recruitment or data collection begins.
- Review and approval is required prior to any dissemination of findings.
- Review and approval is required for:
 - Research concept
 - Protocol
 - Presentation of preliminary findings
 - Final reports and manuscripts



SCF Research Department

- Guided by three factors:
 - Health priorities and interests of the customer-owner population.
 - Guidance and direction from the board of directors and senior organizational leadership.
 - Funding opportunities.



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Past SCF Research Projects

- Screening, Detection, and Management of Depression Among Alaska Native People in Primary Care
- Depression Prevalence and Associated Factors Among Alaska Native People: The Alaska Education and Research Towards Health Study
- Depression and Diabetes Among Alaska Native People



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Current SCF Research Projects

- Engaging Stakeholders to Improve Depression Management in a Tribal Health System
- Screening, Detection, and Management of Trauma among Alaska Native People in Primary Care



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Past SCF Research Projects

- Ethical and Cultural Implications of Specimen Banking Among Alaska Native People
- Tobacco Free Alaska Native Families



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Current SCF Research Projects

- Pharmacogenetics Among Alaska Native People
- Genetics & Tobacco Cessation in an Alaska Native Community



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Past SCF Research Projects

- Transforming Primary Care



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Current SCF Research Projects

- Nurse Home Visitation Program Formative Evaluation
- Text Messaging to Support Colorectal Cancer Screening



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Current SCF Research Projects

- Southcentral Foundation Research Center for Alaska Native Health
- University of Washington Patient Centered Outcomes Research Partnership



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Questions?



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Thank You!

Qaġaasakung
Aleut

Quyanaq
Inupiaq

'Awa'ahdah
Eyak

Mahsi'
Gwich'in Athabascan

Igamsiqanaghalek
Siberian Yupik

Háw'aa
Haida

Quyana
Yup'ik

T'oyaxsm
Tsimshian

Gunalchéesh
Tlingit

Tsin'aen
Ahtna Athabascan

Quyanaa
Alutiiq

Chin'an
Dena'ina Athabascan



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SAVE THE DATE!

**Southcentral Foundation
2015 Nuka System of Care
Conference
June 15-19, 2015**

For more information, contact:

Southcentral Foundation

Nuka Institute

(907) 729-8608

or visit

www.southcentralfoundation.com

Twitter: @SCFNuka



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