Indigenizing Love: A Toolkit for Native Youth to Build Inclusion

June 9th, 2021, 10:00-11:30 am PST
Let us Start with a Blessing

“You are the change your ancestors called for.”
Yá'át'ééh! Keshi! Hello!

Josie Raphaelito, MPH
Navajo (she/ her)
I love my wife and my cat Virgil.
From Ramah, NM
Living in Buffalo, NY
Queer Diné Woman
jraphaelito@gmail.com
Live Virtual Training Logistics

Logistics
- You are muted
- If comfortable, share video

Engagement
- Padlet Activity
- Chat box
- Icons (Zoom & More)
Welcome, Welcome, Welcome!

Please introduce yourself in the chat box. Include your:

★ Name, Pronouns
★ Tribe/ Organization
★ Where are you from?
★ Maternal/ Paternal Relatives
★ Email address
Group Agreements

★ Participate Fully

★ Delay Distractions

★ Honor Different Experiences

★ Be Brave & Explore

★ Others? (Type in the chat)
Why are we here today?

★ Reclaim our cultural knowledge of supporting our Two-Spirit relatives
★ Build inclusion
★ Spark youth led discussions on identity & inclusiveness
★ Implement Community Change

"Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children."
Where we are going

1. Two-Spirit Term - 5 min
2. Project Background - 5 min
3. Indigenizing Love Toolkit - 10 min
4. Engagement Activity - 10 min
5. Let’s Talk About it!
1. Two-Spirit

Let’s get some background here...
American Indian/Alaska Native Youth
American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people under the age of 25 who are an enrolled citizen/member of a Tribal Nation or a descendant. This toolkit will interchangeably use American Indian/Alaska Native along with Native American, Indigenous, and Native for the dual purpose of recognizing and deferring to a Tribal Nation’s right to determine who is/is not a member and being as inclusive as possible.

Inclusion
The practice of actively acknowledging, respecting, and honoring Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQIA+ life experiences and perspectives.

Two-Spirit:
Defining Two-Spirit is a challenge because the words carry multifaceted meanings in different AI/AN communities. For the purpose of this toolkit, we use the definition of the Two-Spirit Society of Denver: Two-Spirit refers to a gender role believed to be common among most, if not all, AI/AN communities and nations, one that had a proper and accepted place within our societies. This acceptance was rooted in the traditional teachings that say all life is sacred. Within a traditional setting, Two-Spirit is a Tribal Nation-specific understanding of gender, and not a sexual orientation. The term was established in 1990 to organize Native LGBTQIA+ relatives and directly challenge colonial kinship systems imposed on Indigenous peoples.

LGBTQIA+
An acronym used to build community among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual people. These individual terms are further defined in the “Terms and Definitions” document (Appendix A).

Settler Colonialism
A generational form of systemic oppression and discrimination rooted in the colonization of the original peoples of a territory. Settler colonialism is still being practiced today by the dominant society and through institutional racism.

Systemic Change
An organized effort across people, organizations, and institutions to challenge discriminatory practices and build more inclusion and equity for all.
Two-Spirit Term
2. Project Background

The highlights...
Direction from Native Youth

2.1 Million AI/AN Youth

Roundtable Discussions

Key Areas of Interest
- Culture & Language
- Advocacy
- Education
- Arts
- Athletics
- Inclusion - Two-Spirit & LGBTQIA+ relatives

Indigenizing Efforts:
- Food
- Education
- Health & Wellness
- Government
- Art
Resource Development

Senior Policy Fellow

Co-Authors: Keioshiah Peter, Ryan Young, MJ Redshirt
- Virtual discussions & Relationship Building
- Live document drafting & editing

Two-Spirit Elders, scholars, partners

Editor & Toolkit Designer
3. Introducing... The Indigenizing Love Toolkit

A toolkit for Native youth
Quick Check in: Zoom Poll

Have you heard of the Indigenizing Love Toolkit before you joined today’s discussion?

Do you know the term(s) in your Indigenous language or the local Indigenous language for Indigenous genders and/or sexual orientations?
## Toolkit Rundown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Native Youth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What</td>
<td>A resource guide to help promote inclusion discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where</td>
<td>Nationwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why</td>
<td>Because reclaiming Traditional Knowledge is a cultural value shared by many. Our Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQIA+ community members are essential in these efforts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How</td>
<td>Collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When</td>
<td>Today!</td>
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INDIGENIZING LOVE TOOLKIT HIGHLIGHTS

2 MODULES
1 ACTIVITY WORKBOOK
SEVEN ACTIVITIES
THREE TWO-SPIRIT LEADERSHIP PROFILES
100+ LINKS, VIDEOS, AND RESOURCES

TOOLKIT & ACTIVITY WORKBOOK AT-A-GLANCE

MODULE 1
Better Understanding Our Two-Spirit Relatives

ACTIVITY WORKBOOK

MODULE 2
Creating Systemic Change

ACTIVITY A
Terms and Definitions

ACTIVITY B
List of Resources

ACTIVITY C
Two-Spirit & LGBTQIA+ History Timeline

ACTIVITY D
Culture and Language Discussion Guide

ACTIVITY E
Tribal & Local Government Discussion Guide

ACTIVITY F
Education Discussion Guide

ACTIVITY G
Anticipated Reactions & Suggested Responses
Better Understanding our Two-Spirit Relatives

**Description:**
- Introduction to history, language, and evolution around Indigenous, Two Spirit, and LGBTQIA+ identity
- Gender roles/identity/sexuality and Indigenizing love

**Activity Workbook:**
- “Two-Spirit terms in our own languages”
Native American tribes historical terms for two spirit people, unique to each tribe's culture.
Creating Systemic Change

**Description:** Introduces readers to the idea of Systemic Change, inclusion, and explores three systems with opportunities to promote inclusion of Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA+ relatives.

- ★ Culture and Language
- ★ Tribal and local government
- ★ Education

**Leader Highlights:** Elevate Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQIA+ leaders into the conversation about creating systemic change.

**Activity Workbooks:**
- ★ Discussion Guides for each system
- ★ Suggested “Action” for each system for positive change and inclusion
# Discussion Guides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design</th>
<th>Outline</th>
<th>Materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>★ Individual ★ Group</td>
<td>★ Content ★ Format ★ Options ★ Timeframes</td>
<td>★ Videos ★ News Articles ★ Reports ★ Podcasts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mentimeter

Let us know what you think...

What other systems would you want to see included in a future toolkit?

What Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQIA+ resources would you want to see added to the toolkit resource list?

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 1272 4412
4. Engagement Activity

Let’s try it out!
Culture & Language Discussion Guide

Activity D

1. Watch learning materials as a large group
2. Respond to Anonymous Padlet discussion questions
3. Return to large group to share key themes and new understandings

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r70vvZlnXQ8&t=321s
Padlet Discussion

Let's Talk About it!

- What are the top two words that come to mind after watching this video?
- Do you feel like you have enough access to opportunities to learn about your culture, language, and teachings?
- Do you feel that everyone (like our Two-Spirit relatives) from the community are invited to get involved in these opportunities?
- Do you have ideas for strengthening efforts for gender inclusion by using culture and language?
Chatfeed Convo: Type Questions, Ask Away!
Indigenizing Love: A Toolkit for Native Youth to Build Inclusion

In response to requests from American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) youth, Western States Center partnered with the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the Center for Native American Youth, and Native Youth Leadership Alliance to develop a resource toolkit for and with young Native leaders. Indigenizing Love is written to support Native youth, tribal communities, Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQIA+ collectives, community leaders, and partners who want to better understand and support two-Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities.

Indigenizing Love refers to the idea of understanding and reclaiming our indigenous ways of life (including kinship systems, shared values, and expressions of love), and existing outside of imposed settler colonial practices, policies, and thoughts that undervalue our rights to share indigenous knowledge and thrive. To Indigenize Love, we are rebuilding connections, knowledge and relationships, and strengthening our abilities to love and care for all of our relations.

Please fill out this form to request a toolkit. The PDF version is free of charge. If you’d like to receive a hard copy of the toolkit, please submit the form and then click the button below the form to pay the $10 printing and shipping fee. Please reach out to us to discuss large orders. The cost of the toolkit will enable WSC to continue to provide resources and support to Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQIA+ communities.

If you have any questions, email us at info@wscgpa.org. Thank you for your work to build inclusion.

Purchase a hard copy of the toolkit using the link below after filling out the request form.

REQUEST YOUR COPY NOW

Indigenizing Love

REQUEST YOUR COPY NOW

Free Online PDF
Print Copy - $10

https://www.westernstatescenter.org/indigenizinglove
Stay Connected

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Practice in Action

Taking it back home!
Wellness Moment

Breathing Exercise

1. Imagine a flame on each finger
2. Breath in while tracing up finger
3. Blow out flame at top and continue down finger
4. Continue for each finger
Find Curricula on Healthy Native Youth

★ Filter & Compare Tool
★ All Materials Needed to Implement
★ Enhancement Activities
★ Resources & Support
★ Upload & Submit Your Own Curricula
For Youth:
Text “Caring” to 65664
To get regular reminders about how awesome you are from people who care and who’ve got your back!
Ask Uncle

Hi. I'm Uncle Paige. Let me help answer your questions.

Ask A Question

Ask Auntie

Hi. I'm Auntie Manda. I want to help you out in any way I can.

Ask A Question
For Adults: Text “Empower” to 97779

★ Tips & Resources for Talking to Youth About Sexual Health
★ Need some help getting the convo started?
Sign up for the Healthy Native Youth Newsletter!
Stay up to Date with the Latest...
Community of Practice 2021 Schedule

Second Wednesday of Every Month
10:00-11:00 AM PST

How to Join
AT THE TIME OF MEETING, CLICK THIS MEETING LINK
PASSWORD: 020558
JOIN BY PHONE ONLY:
+1.646.558.8656 US/Canada
MEETING ID: 929 2852 1797
TEXT: HEALTHY TO 97779

January 13th  Substance Misuse & Help-Seeking Skills
February 10th  Connecting our Past with our Present
               Re-traumatization
March 10th  Culture as Prevention
April 14th  Supporting Youth Identity: We R Native!
May 12th  Circles of Support: Create a Q&A Service like
          "Ask Auntie/Ask Uncle"
June 9th  2SLGBTQ: Level up the Inclusion
July 14th  Text Messaging Campaigns
Next Years Line Up

Use the chat box to tell us...

What topics would you like covered in 2021-22 CoP Lineup?
We LOVE helping...

★ Training & TA Evaluation Form
★ Request TA

Our team is here to support you!
We know selecting and implementing a curriculum can be challenging... Whether it’s selecting a program, getting prepared, training a facilitator, or maintaining a program you’ve already implemented. Let us know how we can help you and we’ll follow-up in the next week.

Name*
First and Last Name
Thank you!

You can find us at:
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Funding Credit

This project is funded by the Indian Health Service HIV and behavioral health programs. This work is also supported with funds from the Secretary’s Minority AIDS Initiative Fund.
Let us Close with a Blessing

“Can't stop the spirits when they need you
This life is more than just a read through”

Red Hot Chili Peppers