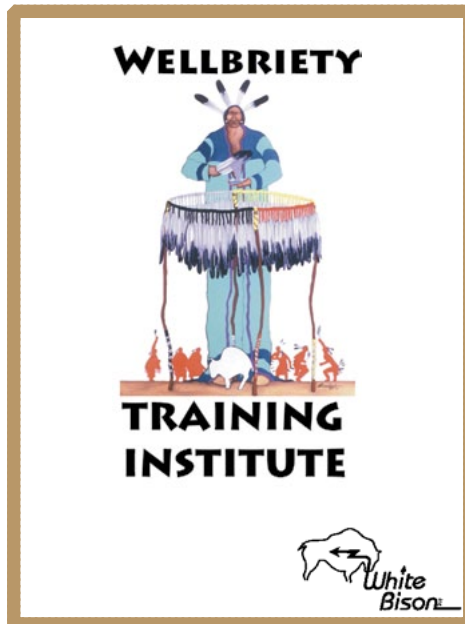


Understanding the Purpose of Life



12 Teachings for Native Youth
The Importance of education and finding our purpose (recommended for youth ages 12-17)



Purpose:

The Elders' wisdom forms the basis for this program. All living beings have a purpose. Young people are warriors-in-training. Our communities form a Forest. When all the "trees" in the forest are healthy, we are living in a Healing Forest.

Nobody is telling young people how to find their true purpose. There are a lot of reasons young people are not taught how to find their purpose. Adults created the world we live in. We need to live in harmony with the laws, principles, and values to have balance in our life. Everything in the universe was created with a purpose. You must look within yourself to find your purpose. Your birth was not an accident.

The Creator gives everyone gifts to help them fulfill their purpose. We may not know that the things we love to do are our gifts. When we use our gifts in the service of our community, our gifts grow.

How will decisions affect your schooling? How will this decision affect your study habits and grades? How will this decision affect your future career?

Objectives

Upon completion of this 12 -16 week process youth will understand:

- Intergenerational Trauma and why our communities are the way they are
- The guided journey of the 4 Visions Prayer, Purpose, Perseverance, and Passion.

- The Healing Forest Model
- Self Talk and Affirmations
- The power of choice and free will
- Spiritual Principle of Drive, Purpose, Gifts, Character
- Create a change plan
- The Mind Changer – Myths and Messages
- Natural Order and Interconnectedness

Our Culture Holds the Secrets

Our Traditional values were passed from generation to generation for thousands of years through our sacred songs, language, and our ceremonies. Nature is our teacher. Our people have strong ties to the spiritual world. Our purpose is to serve the People and be of maximum use to the Creator. Our people are wounded. Our gifts can help our people make a Healing Journey.

Outcomes

Youth have a high dropout rate, the need for cultural knowledge, and the inability to set and accomplish goals. This training will implement problem solving tools, cultural capacity building and program activities. Our Youth will have an increased sense of community, build their confidence and know their identity.

Curriculum

The curriculum for this program includes:

Facilitator Manual
Participant Manual
DVD Videos

Understanding the Purpose of Life Cultural Logic Model:

- Cultural Problems to Solve
 - * American Indian Youth Low Graduation Rate
- Cultural Capacity Building
 - * Develop Cultural Consciousness
 - * Develop Sense of Direction
- Cultural Program Activities
 - * Weekly Talking Circles
 - * Ceremonial and Cultural Activities
- Cultural Outputs and Milestones
 - * Attendance
 - * Completion
 - * Working Knowledge of Cultural Values
- Cultural Outcomes
 - * Increased Sense of Community
 - * Confidence in Self and Future
 - * Increase in Graduation for both High School and College

24 Continuing Education Hours/CEH from NAADAC Education Provider #64009.