First report
April 2004- July 2004
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Linking Native Americans to Health Information:
Phase II

NATIONAL NETWORK OF LIBRARIES OF MEDICINE/
GREATER MIDWEST REGION

Health Information Outreach
SUBCONTRACT
April 1, 2004-September 30, 2005

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I. Introduction
This time period was primarily devoted to planning, purchasing equipment, upgrading the web site, re-establishing connections with the tribal college librarians, and making connections with health providers on the reservations. Some of the tribal college librarians do not work in the summer, so this prevented us from doing the update training during this time period. Also, vacations and professional meetings took people away from their libraries. The most substantial work was accomplished on the web page during this time period. The major changes were writing a Content Management System (CMS) so that updates are made easier, adding an index, and developing the framework for a photo gallery. See http://harley.med.und.nodak.edu/tcl/

II. Progress toward major objectives of the project

The major objectives of this project are:
1. Train health care providers.
2. Reinforce, strengthen, and maintain a working relationship with the tribal college librarians.
3. Expand the Linking Native Americans to Health Information web site http://harley.med.und.nodak.edu/tcl/

Objective 1. Training of health care providers.
Planning:
E-mail and telephone communication with the tribal health care providers began. People contacted included CHR directors and some tribal health offices. We gathered ideas and input on the format and possible times for training. Two in-person visits were made to Spirit Lake nation in conjunction with other UND projects taking place on the reservation. This was effective because it brought together several potential audiences for the training. A database of contacts is being developed by the PI.

Objective 2. Reinforce, strengthen, and maintain a working relationship with the tribal college librarians.
Dates were established for the update training of the librarians.
Information on the new subcontract was relayed. One of the librarians helped the PI with a display at the UND Pow wow in April. A site visit was made to the library at Spirit Lake in July. On the same day, the librarian and the PI were involved in a discussion at the college with Gale Dutcher and Fred Wood from the NLM who were visiting North Dakota. This was a very positive way to gain credibility, and it gave the librarian additional information about NLM and their commitment to our projects.

Objective 3. Expand the Linking Native Americans to Health Information web site http://harley.med.und.nodak.edu/tcl/

A web master who was a UND computer science student who currently maintains the website for the Library of the Health Sciences and who developed our original Linking Health Information to Native Americans web site under our
previous subcontract, upgraded the site. A Content Management System (CMS) was developed and an index was added. There was also a provision written to add a photo gallery. The site still needs to have content updated to reflect the new subcontract and some additions to the NLM databases. It remains a useful tool as exhibited through continued usage. In the inaugural year, 2002, usage was 1,079 hits on various pages. Last year, 2003, it was 2,114 and thus far in 2004 there have been 1,785. The web page is located at: http://harley.med.und.nodak.edu/tcl/

Baseline Data: Planning is underway on ways to acquire baseline data when training begins.

Publicity/Marketing: On April 1st a formal presentation about the project was made to health care providers and tribal college staff at Spirit Lake Nation. There were six attenders. A display/exhibit was presented at the UND Pow Wow on April 3rd. Over 100 people stopped by the exhibit. On July 6th an informal update on the project was again presented at Spirit Lake with college and community people present. There were 14 attenders.

Training/Demonstration Sessions: None this quarter.

Evaluation Activities: None this quarter.

III. Problems encountered and measures taken to resolve them

Our problems this quarter were in setting training dates for the tribal college librarian training. Tribal college librarian work schedules, summer vacations, and professional meeting attendance had to be considered. We communicated often and took most of the suggestions for changes into account.

It is also obvious that scheduling problems will emerge when we begin the training of the health care providers also. They have very busy schedules so it will be difficult to get their commitment to the training. Several CHR directors have been consulted about this, as well as a physician at the IHS hospital.

IV. Suggestions for modifications to the project

None emerged during this quarter.

V. Projected activities for next quarter

The training of the tribal college librarians will take place. Work to update signage and informational brochures will be finalized and designed. Hopefully some training of health care providers will occur, or at least planning will be more complete. The baseline survey will be developed.

VI. Reporting forms for training sessions
No sessions were held this quarter.

VII. Other accomplishments

The principal investigator attended the Medical Library Association Meeting in Washington DC during May and presented a paper on the last subcontract. It was favorably received.

The PI also consulted with the University of South Dakota about their initiatives.

We were privileged I also met Gale Dutcher, Head, Office of Outreach and Special Populations Division of Specialized Information Services, National Library of Medicine, at MLA and discussed the project with her. She informed me of her activities, and that she would be coming to a Pow-wow in North Dakota in August at Fort Berthold. So I put her in contact with Quincee Baker, librarian at Fort Berthold Community College.