

Oregon Addictions & Mental Health Division

Evidence-Based Programs

Tribal Practice Approval Form

1. Name of Tribal Practice

Native American Story Telling

2. Brief Description

Stories are entertaining ways of passing on lessons, telling, and teaching people about safe healthy living. Purposeful use of learning and retelling stories for reconfiguration of an individual or group life condition through the metaphysical meanings within traditional and personal story telling. Storytelling enables the listener to learn and apply things that have happened or may happen. Stories use the suspension of disbelief, innate and fundamental to way of teaching and learning.

3. Other Examples of this Tribal Practice

Every tribe has practiced story-telling, for example: “she who watches” at the Warm Springs and Columbia River tribes. Websites like “Discovering Our Story” explain the rationale, history and give examples of Native American Stories.

4. Evidence Basis for Validity of the Tribal Practice: Historical/Cultural Connections

Longevity of the Practice in Indian Country	❖ Story telling has been used by AI peoples for time immemorial as a teaching and learning process
Teachings on which Practice is based	❖ Story telling is used to convey all important teachings in AI cultures
Values incorporated in Practice	❖ Story telling is used to convey all important values in AI cultures, including respect, generosity, cooperation, relative time (seasons)
Principles incorporated in Practice	❖ How the world is; how it came to be; how you successfully live in the world with positive consequences
Elder’s approval of Practice	❖ Elders are the repository of teachings, values, principles, and stories
Community feedback/ evaluation of Practice	❖ Every Native American community has accepted stories

5. Goal Addressed by this Tribal Practice

To identify your own life and challenges in the metaphor and some ways of dealing with it (the metaphorical meaning that can be applied to your life).

6. Target Populations

a. Institute of Medicine Strategy (check all that apply)

X	“Universal”
	“Selective”
	“Indicated”
	“Treatment”

b. Socio-demographic or other characteristics

Age	All
Sex	All
Occupation	All
Living Conditions	All
Other	

7. Risk and Protective Factors Addressed

Domain	Risk Factors	Protective Factors
Community	❖ Community Laws and Norms Favorable towards Drug Use due to a lack of storytelling within the community. Without a vision, people are lost.	❖ Sharing a story at the community level yields solidarity and sharing of values and principles that create attachment to the community.
Family	❖ Family Conflict due to lack of guidelines	❖ Bonding, Healthy Beliefs and Clear Standards for family life.
Peer	❖	❖ Bonding, Healthy Beliefs and Clear Standards for positive ATOD free peer relationships.
School	❖	❖
Individual	❖	❖

8. Tribal Practice—Personnel

❖ Community and tribally recognized story tellers; tribal elders; apprenticed story tellers.
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9. Tribal Practice—Key Elements

- ❖ Stories with a lesson
- ❖ Audience
- ❖ Practical application of the story to people’s lives
- ❖ Place suitable to story telling
- ❖ Time sufficient to do the story justice
- ❖ Appropriate timing, including season and settings
- ❖ Story telling events in which the purpose is recognized and supported
- ❖ Helping audience to find their meaning in the story without imposing your meaning

10. Tribal Practice—Materials

- ❖ Depends on the storyteller’s needs.

11. Tribal Practice—Optional Elements

- ❖ Story book
- ❖ Props
- ❖ PA system

12. Outcomes

Decrease	Increase	Specify
Avoidable death	Longevity	❖ Learn how to be safe and take precautions
Disease-specific morbidity	Health	❖ How to make healthy choices
Disability Handicap	Ability	❖ Ability to remember (oral learning); imagine; visualize;
Pain and Suffering	Wellbeing	❖
Alienation, Isolation	Social/Community/ Cultural Connectedness	❖ Sharing stories, values, principles, and practices
Abuse Dependency Addiction	Abstinence, Non- harmful Use	❖ Choices not to use substances dangerously
Unemployment	Employment	❖ Learning work ethics, being adaptive, creative, respectful, and diligent.
Educational failure	Educational Success	❖ Learning diligence, responsibility, self-discipline and being focused.
Dysfunctional family	Healthy Family	❖ Positive parenting, developing personal relationships, and family roles
Delinquency/crime	Good Behavior	❖ Teaches pro social attitudes and behaviors, and consequences (e.g., coyote stories)
Homelessness Instability	Stable Housing	❖

Unhealthy Attitude, Beliefs, Ignorance, Lack of Skills, Lifestyle	Healthy Attitudes, Beliefs, Skills, Lifestyle	❖ The purpose of story telling is to teach about the meaning of life.
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13. Contact person for Agency Providing the Tribal Practice

Person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roger Fernandez, University of Washington ❖ Rose High Bear, Discovering our Stories/Wisdom of the Elders, 503-901-1791 ❖ Warm Springs Culture and Heritage, 541-553-1161 ❖ Avis Archambault, 480-941-5844 ❖ Ed Edmo, 503-956-7780
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14. TBP Panel Approval and Date

Caroline Cruz, Lisa Leno, Jason Yarmer, Dr. John Spence, Dr. Doug Bigelow, and Jessie Ickes.
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Revised on August 11, 2011