Did you know...

The Tribal Research Office has a page within the SWO website? (www.swo-nsn.gov) Under the Department of Education tab you will find the Research Office. Here you can get more information about the staff, the CRCAIH partnership, & a list of all the current research projects. There is also a link to the Research Codes, the two brochures, and soon there will be the monthly newsletter issues. The website has short biographies and pictures of the Local Research Review Board members. Please take some time to check it out as it is updated on a monthly basis!

Research Updates
From Heather Larsen, Research Specialist

Population Health Research Summit

This April, the Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH) will be hosting their 6th annual Summit in Sioux Falls, S.D. The Summit provides an opportunity to bring together Tribal communities, health researchers, and others to share information and experiences in order to find solutions. As explained in last month’s newsletter, the CRCAIH is the main source of funding for our Tribal Research Office along with providing supportive services in many different areas. The SWO Research Specialist has the responsibility to attend and participate in the annual Summit as one of the grant requirements set for tribal partners of CRCAIH. This will be the last CRCAIH Summit as our grant ends on July 31st, 2018, however, it is a great opportunity to network and collaborate with others in the field on a regional level.

In December of 2017, the CRCAIH Tribal Partners began planning for the 2018 Population Health Research Summit and we’ve been collaborating on three different projects for the Summit. As you can see on the flyer, there is a tribal partner presentation/panel session that is held annually and a new workshop session. Individually, the tribal partners have developed research posters for the conference poster presentation session, where all tribal partners’ posters will be presented as a group following our title “Sharing Our Stories: Strengthening & Building Our Tribal Research Infrastructure.”

Join us at the

POPULATION HEALTH RESEARCH SUMMIT

to hear from the Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH) Tribal Partners

PRESENTATION/PANEL
SHARING OUR STORIES
• Processes involved in building tribal research infrastructure
• How CRCAIH cores and divestments were utilized
• Lessons learned from tribal partners

WORKSHOP
STARTING A TRIBAL IRB
• Unique ethical and regulatory aspects
• Processes and steps to consider
• Stages and challenges
• Time to ask questions and get feedback from the Tribal Partners

We welcome your comments, suggestions and concerns.

Heather Larsen - Research Specialist
605.698.8411
PO Box 509
Agency Village, SD
Location: Tribal Admin. Bldg. Ska (White) Quadrant, Education Suite

These Dakota values guide our process:

Woobdzea (Observation)
Wowicake (Truth)
Woopeda (Respect)
Wowoaksida (Compassion)
Woksape (Wisdom)
What exactly is the Local Research Review Board?

The Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate (SWO Local Research Review Board or LRRB) is defined as the formal body whose function is to review all research proposals. The Tribal Council first recognized a need for this research oversight on the Lake Traverse Reservation in October 2013, when they passed a motion to establish what was referred to as a Tribal Internal Review Board (IRB). In June 2014, the Tribal Council passed a resolution establishing a partnership with the Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH). This partnership provided funding for the Research Office assistance with developing the LRRB. In September 2014, the LRRB was established and began granting permission to researchers to conduct research on the Lake Traverse Reservation.

Currently, the LRRB is comprised of six members with varying education levels, experiences, and backgrounds. Each member was recruited to serve on the LRRB because of their expertise in given areas. The education and experience of the board members provide each research protocol a comprehensive, balanced and thoughtful review while also evaluating the cultural relevance and necessity of the research project. The LRRB meets once a month to review the submitted research protocols, discuss protocols with each other and the researchers, suggest modifications to the protocols that they deem appropriate, and then ultimately approve or deny those protocols. The LRRB members spend a large amount of time outside the monthly meetings carefully reviewing each research proposal to ensure tribal members that participate in the research projects and the data are protected. Although the LRRB’s efforts may at times go unnoticed, the energy and dedication that each member displays is invaluable and truly benefits our tribal community at large.

Coming up:
Next month’s issue will highlight one LRRB member so you can continue to learn more about our board and their background. This will continue in the future issues.

Mission

The current mission of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Research Office is to enhance the tribal research infrastructure by continuing to build the research review capacity, education through community engagement, and exercising tribal sovereignty through research data management. The main objective of the Tribal Research Office is to improve the overall status of all Tribal members through relevant, tailored, and culturally sensitive research as outlined in the SWO Code Chapter 77 - “SWO Research Code.”