



MOUNTAIN PLAINS
RURAL OPIOID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

NEWSLETTER

July and August 2025

A bi-monthly publication featuring information about the latest training and resources for communities addressing opioid and stimulant use disorders.

IN THIS EDITION:

In the News

Upcoming Trainings
from MP ROTAC

International Overdose
Awareness Day

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) acknowledges that its office in Boulder, Colorado, is located on the unceded territories and ancestral homelands of the Hinóno'etí (Arapaho), Tsistsistas (Cheyenne), and Nuciu (Ute) nations. Through this land acknowledgment, WICHE aims to raise awareness about the region's shared and often painful history while honoring the Indigenous histories, perspectives, and experiences that have often been suppressed or forgotten then and now. WICHE respects and thanks the elders and peoples, both past and present, of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Ute, and many other Native nations, who are the original stewards of this land and custodians of Indigenous knowledge and practice.



IN THE NEWS

CARFENTANIL SEIZED IN MONTANA



Connecting Prevention and Education to Protect Native Youth from Opioid Harm

A Webinar Presented By



**National Indian
Education Association**



Across Native communities, the opioid and fentanyl crisis are putting the health and safety of our youth and families at risk. Educators, school staff, and tribal leaders are uniquely positioned to support prevention efforts but many need accessible, culturally relevant information to take action.

This 90-minute virtual training provides critical knowledge about opioid and fentanyl awareness, safe storage and disposal practices, and how schools can be part of the solution. Panelists share real-life examples, culturally grounded strategies, and resources that reflect the values and strengths of Indigenous communities.

Participants will walk away with practical tools, a deeper understanding of the risks facing Native youth, and information on how to access prevention focused support and technical assistance through NIEA.

Together we can protect our students, strengthen our families, and build a safer future for generations to come.

New Series!

FOR

SPANISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITIES



21 JULIO Sembrando protección: cómo prevenir el mal uso de opioides. Sowing Protection: How to Prevent Opioid Misuse. Lunes 12-1 PM MT



13 AGOSTO Del miedo a la acción: cómo ayudar a quienes enfrentan la adicción. From Fear to Action: How to Help Those Facing Addiction. Miércoles 12 – 1 PM MT



10 SEPTIEMBRE Recuperación: esperanza y resiliencia. Recovery: Hope and Resilience. Miércoles 1 – 2 PM MT



17 SEPTIEMBRE Liderazgo Comunitario para un Futuro Libre de Estigmas y Adicciones. Community Leadership for a Future Free from Stigma and Addiction. Miércoles 12 – 12:30 PM MT

2025 MOUNTAIN PLAINS
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED

APPLY BY
7.10.2025



The flyer for the 2025 Mountain Plains Leadership Academy provides detailed information about the program. It includes a schedule at a glance for August 4-6, 2025, in Boulder, CO, with sessions on Leadership, The Heart of Leadership, and The Business of Leadership. It also outlines a little more information, such as the application process, fees, and the invitation to successfully navigate the future by investing in leaders. The flyer is designed with a green and white color scheme and includes a QR code for registration.

JULY TRAININGS



JULY 9: Understanding And Promoting Recovery Capital as Protective Factors. Wednesday 12-1 PM MT



JULY 14: Mindfulness Monday - Practices to Promote Mental Well-Being and Resilience. Monday 12-12:30 PM MT



JULY 16: Workshop Wednesday: Supporting Peers Working with Brain Injury. 12 – 1 PM MT



21 JULIO: Sembrando protección: cómo prevenir el mal uso de opioides | sowing protection: how to prevent opioid misuse. lunes 12-1 PM MT



JULY 23: Effective Community Coordination in Rural Areas through the Situation Table Model. 12 – 12:30 PM MT



JULY 28: Mindfulness Monday - Practices to Promote Mental Well-Being and Resilience. 12 – 12:30 PM MT



JULY 30: Traditional Healing - Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) webinar (90 minutes) 12 PM MT



JULY 30: Developing Patient Agreements and Adherence within MOUD/ AUD clinic settings. 2 – 2:30 PM MT

TRIBAL OPIOID RESPONSE QUARTERLY WEBINAR

WOASNIYA: HEALING FROM SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER THROUGH TRADITIONAL CULTURAL STRATEGIES

AN ONLINE LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Healing from Substance Use Disorder is a sensitive process that requires relating to individuals using a kinship and strength-based approach.

This online learning event will include information on Traditional Healing approaches using examples from a program that serves individuals with substance use needs from an Indigenous/Tribal community.

REGISTER NOW



Presenters:

1. Hmuya Mani (Walks with a Roaring), Richard Two Dogs, Oglala Lakota Wakan Iyeska (Interpreter of the Sacred), Porcupine, SD. Mr. Two Dogs has more than fifty years of experience in Lakota traditional healing.



2. Gene Tyon, Oglala Lakota, Executive Director, Oaye Luta Okolakiciye (Moving Forward in a Sacred Way). Mr. Tyon has more than 35 years of experience working with client issues of substance abuse, addiction healing and mental health management.



Oaye Luta Okolakiciye is a Lakota-based nonprofit 501c3 organization located in Rapid City, South Dakota. The program promotes healing by providing a continuum of Lakota culturally based services including substance use prevention, intervention, and recovery education. The focus is on strengthening inherent cultural potential while instilling hope, promoting wellness, and revitalizing cultural identity development in youth, adults, families and communities.

AUGUST TRAININGS



AUGUST 6: Evidence-based Care for MOUD and SUD Continuum. Wednesday 12-1 PM MT



AUGUST 11: Mindfulness Monday - Practices to Promote Mental Well-Being and Resilience. . Monday 12-12:30 PM MT



13 AGOSTO: Del miedo a la acción: cómo ayudar a quienes enfrentan la adicción | From Fear to Action: How to Help Those Facing Addiction. 12 – 1 PM MT



AUGUST 14: Trauma Responsive Leadership Part 1: What is Trauma Responsive Leadership? 12 – 1 PM MT



AUGUST 20: Supporting People Affected by a Loved One's Substance Use, Models of Intervention 12 – 1 PM MT



AUGUST 21: Trauma Responsive Leadership Part 2: Trauma Informed Principles vs Trauma Responsive Approach 12 – 1 PM MT



AUGUST 25: Mindfulness Monday - Practices to Promote Mental Well-Being and Resilience 12 – 12:30 PM MT



AUGUST 30: Trauma Responsive Leadership Part 3: Leadership Development in the Current Climate 12 – 1 PM MT



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INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE
AWARENESS DAY
31 AUGUST



September Sessions

September 10
Overdose
Preparedness

September 10
Recuperación:
esperanza y
resiliencia

17 Septiembre
Liderazgo Comunitario
para un Futuro Libre de
Estigmas y Adicciones

ABOUT US

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) has been strengthening higher education, workforce development, and behavioral health throughout the region since 1953. As an interstate compact, WICHE partners with states, territories, freely associated states, and postsecondary institutions in the West to share knowledge, create resources, and develop innovative solutions that address some of society's most pressing needs.

In 2022, WICHE was awarded a two-year grant from SAMHSA to establish the Mountain Plains Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Center (MP ROTAC). In 2024, SAMHSA awarded additional funding to WICHE to continue MP ROTAC projects for a third year (9/2024 - 9/2025). MP ROTAC is dedicated to supporting opioid and stimulant prevention, treatment, and recovery in HHS Region 8, comprised of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. MP ROTAC develops and disseminates resources, training, and technical assistance to rural communities across the continuum of care. In partnership with our Regional Advisory Workgroup, MP ROTAC's efforts aim to meet the needs of a wide variety of audiences that are not traditionally targeted by other training efforts. We look forward to serving you and making a difference in Region 8's rural communities!



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