

Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention

Tribal Youth Resource Center (TYRC)

FY 2018 Cohort Strategic Planning Meeting

Supporting Indigenous Youth and Their Families Through Culture-Based Approaches

Ethleen Iron Cloud–Two Dogs, Senior Consultant & Program Specialist

Jeri Brunoe, Jeri Brunoe Training & Consulting (JBT&C)



Considerations for Defining Culture-Based Approaches



Indigenous Ways of Knowing as Foundation

- Mind, Spirit, Body, Emotion – focus on holistic
- Place-based, e.g. land, water
- Use of respective Tribal/Indigenous Language
- Inclusive of kinship and extended family network
- Access to Cultural practices
- Seeing/relating to youth as relatives, not “clients” or “students”

Culture-Based Justice Systems



Juvenile and Adult Healing to Wellness Courts

- Planning should include Elders, Traditional Healers, Community, Parents, youth, criminal justice system, service providers
- Healing is the focus (spiritual, physical, community)
- Based on cultural values – helping one another, collaboration, inclusive
- Case plans are holistic

Culture-Based Justice Systems Cont.'



Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts

Incorporation of traditional lifeways and healing interventions

- Example 1: Spirit purification ceremony from exposure to trauma or experiences of trauma
- Example 2: Service learning projects incorporated into case plan, e.g., working with Elders or traditional leaders on a community project
- Example 3: Indigenous Model of Restorative Practices, e.g., Talking Circles for case management and peer groups & Family Group Decision Making Conferencing

Examples of Culture-Base Programs

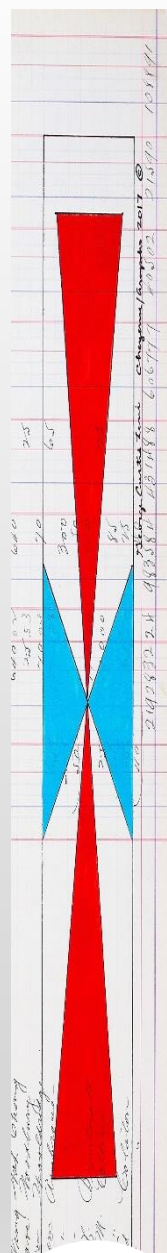


- ***National Indian Youth Leadership Project (NIYLP):*** Project Venture the only science based Native American adventure training curriculum.
www.projectventure.org
- ***Gathering Of Native Americans (GONA)*** – focus on Prevention, intervention, youth leadership, family relationships
- ***American Indian Life Skills (AILS)*** – strengthening life skills and reducing suicidal thoughts and behavior among American Indian youth

Examples of Culture-Based Programs cont.'

- **Family Spirit** – evidence-based home visiting designed to address intergenerational behavioral health, <http://caih.jhu.edu/programs/family-spirit>
- **Brave Heart Society** – for Nakota, Dakota and Lakota Sioux women and girls, program designed to revive their cultural traditions.
- **Euchee (Yuchi) Language Project** – Selpulpa, OK
- **White Bison** - Sons and Daughters of Tradition, prevention education program for youth (ages 8-17) to create healthy identities <http://whitebison.org/>

Bring Youth Voice to the Front

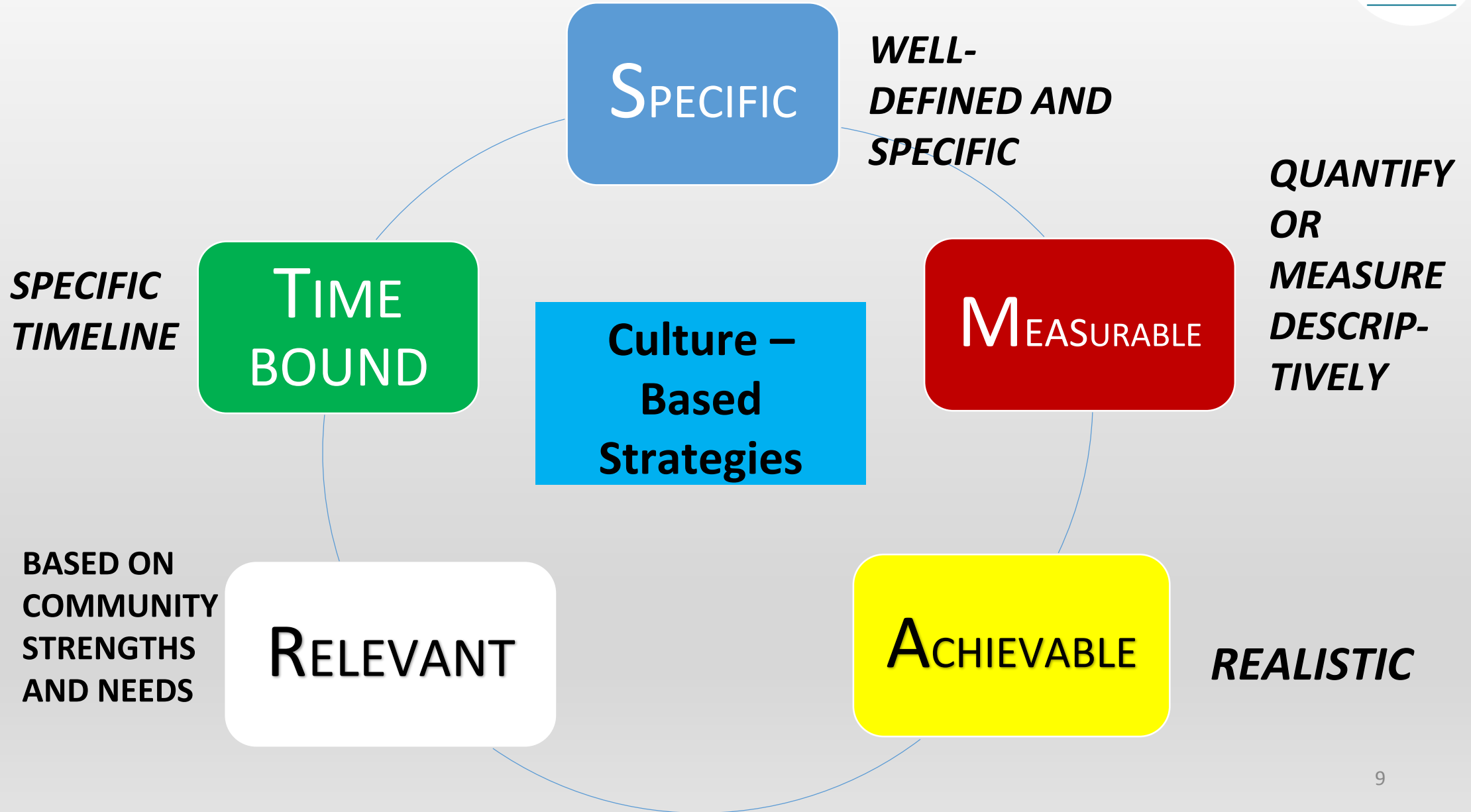


Considerations for Culture-based Approaches with Youth

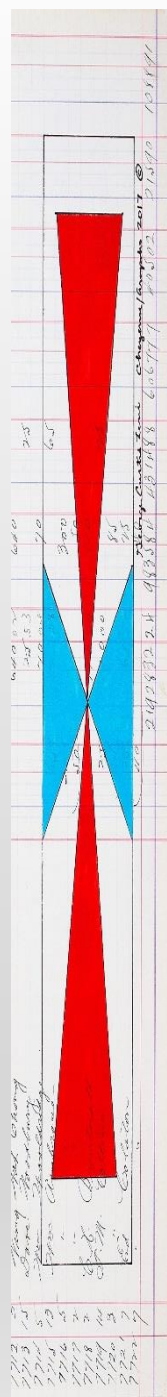
Gender Equality
LGBTQ inclusion
Peer Youth Mentor
Focus on Healthy Relationship
Cultural Relevance
Peace Building Skills



Use SMART Planning



What are Some Culture-Based Strategies for the Youth you will be working with?



Guidance for Team Discussion



- a) Discuss strategies for culturally-based approaches in community programs and juvenile justice system
- b) Focus on holistic – mind, body, spirit, emotions, place-based
- c) Write strategies on index cards, include your Tribe and team names

Pilamayaye, Nigh Thank you

