



Health Professions Opportunity Grant

Issksiniip Project

Blackfeet Community College

Robin BearChild, Issksiniip Project Coordinator

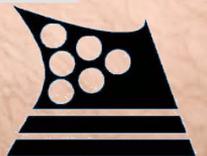
Katelin Conway, Issksiniip Project Placement Counselor



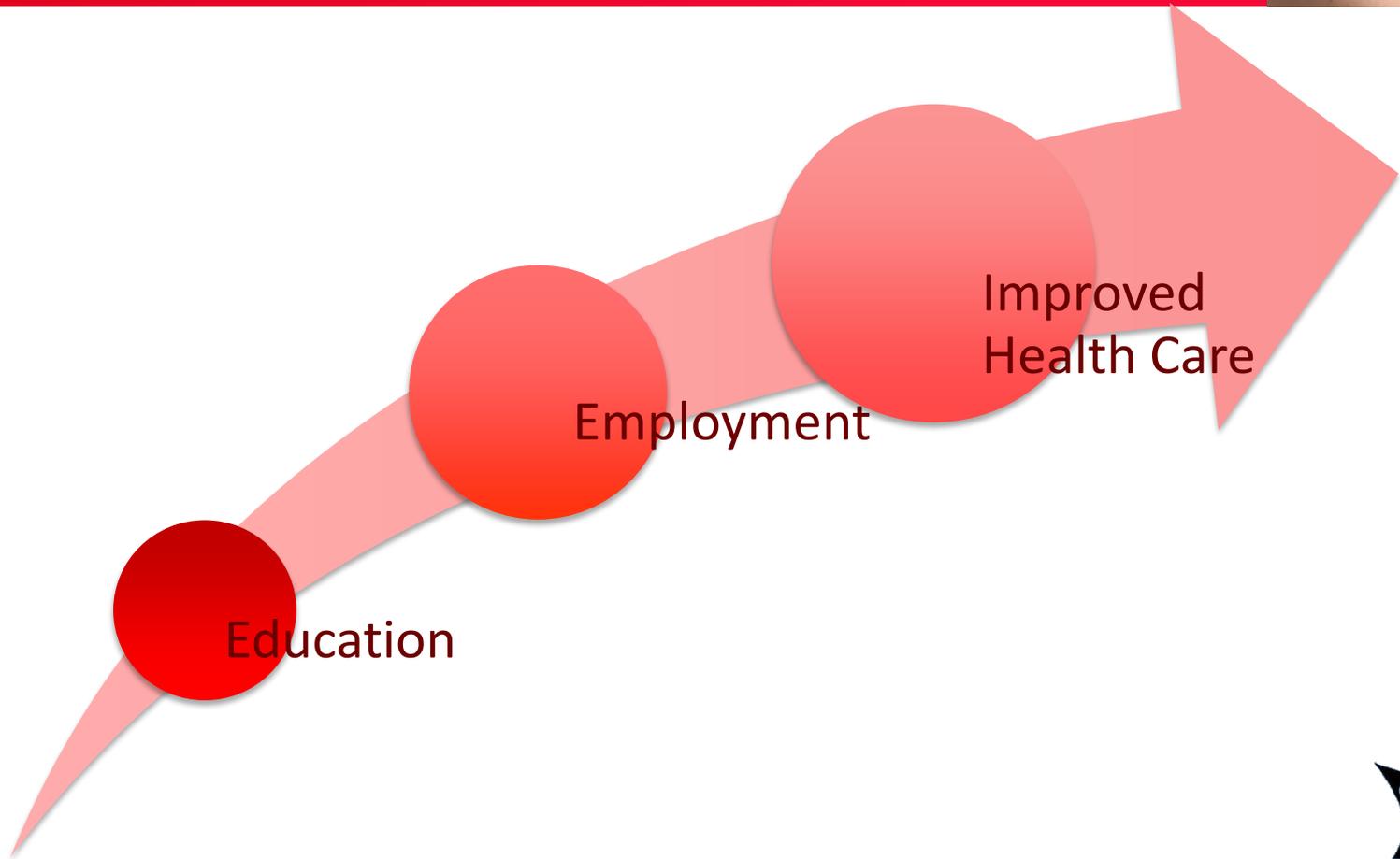
Health Professions Opportunity Grant

Improving the Health of Our Nation

- Funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services
- Target Population- TANF and other low-income individuals
- Provide opportunity for participants to obtain education and training for occupations in the healthcare field
- “Issksiniip”- knowing is active participation with the world and the ability to make reference to past experiences and to contextualize them in a system of meanings to make sense of present experiences and formulating the basis for decision making



Goals & Objectives



Conceptual Framework



Tribal HPOG Programs

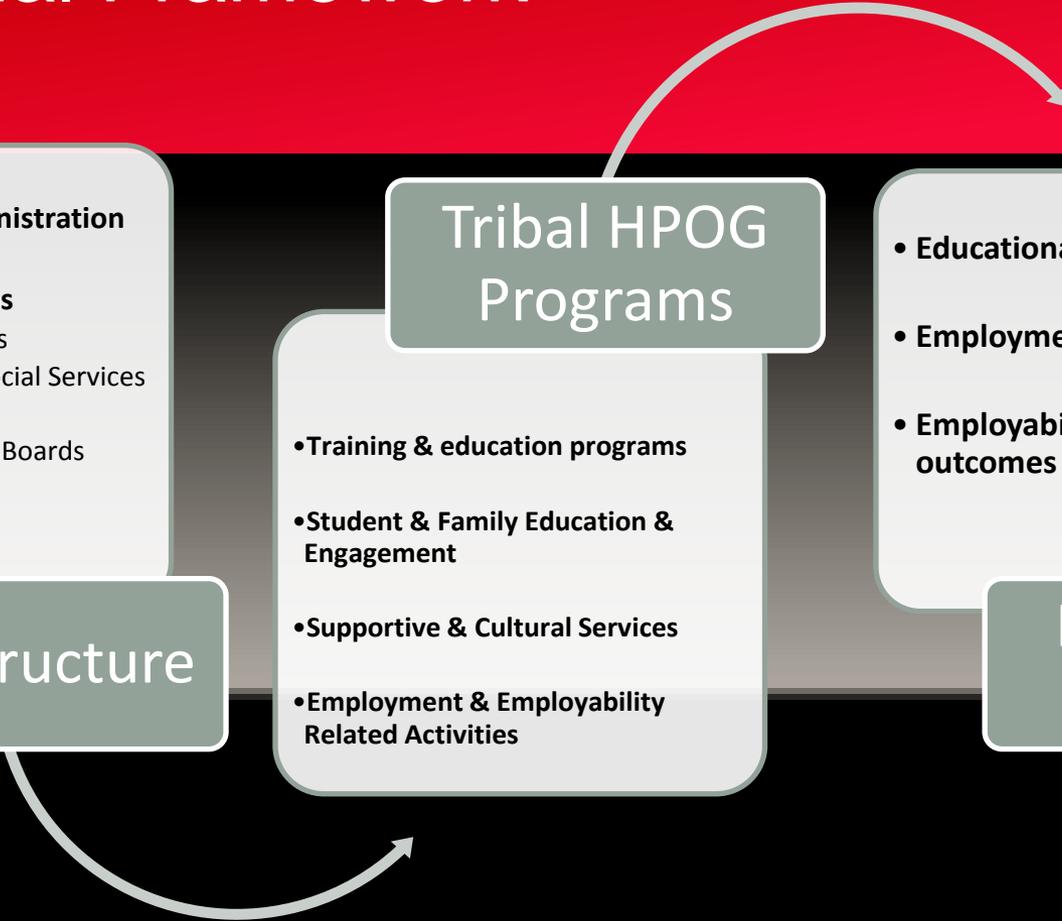
- **Tribal Program Administration**
- **Strategic Partnerships**
 - Educational Institutions
 - Tribal & Community Social Services
 - TANF State Agency
 - Workforce Investment Boards
- **Leveraged Resources**

Infrastructure

- **Training & education programs**
- **Student & Family Education & Engagement**
- **Supportive & Cultural Services**
- **Employment & Employability Related Activities**

- **Educational Attainment**
- **Employment**
- **Employability- related outcomes**

Participant Outcomes



Blackfeet Community College

Issksiniip Project



- Located in Browning, MT on the Blackfeet Reservation
- Tribally Controlled Community College
 - Established in 1972
- Health Profession Degrees and Certificate Programs
 - 2-Year Degrees
 - Allied Health, Health and Physical Fitness, Pre-Nursing, and Human Services
 - Certificate Programs
 - Emergency Medical Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant

Strategic Partnerships

Higher Education Partners

- **Current Partners**
 - Montana State University
 - University of Montana
 - Salish Kootenai College
- **Memorandum of Understanding**
 - Provide 15 scholarships annually
 - Additional supportive services monies for scholarship awardees
 - Shared information and resources
 - Allow transfer of BCC students to partner institutions
 - Higher Education Advisory Committee

Community Partners

- **Current Partners**
 - Blackfeet Manpower- Tribal TANF Program
 - Indian Health Service
 - Blackfeet Tribal Health
 - Glacier County EMS
 - Job Service
 - Blackfeet Care Center
- **Cooperative Working Agreement**
 - Share information and ideas
 - Focus on internships and career placement opportunities
 - Workshops, speakers, etc.



Scholarship Components

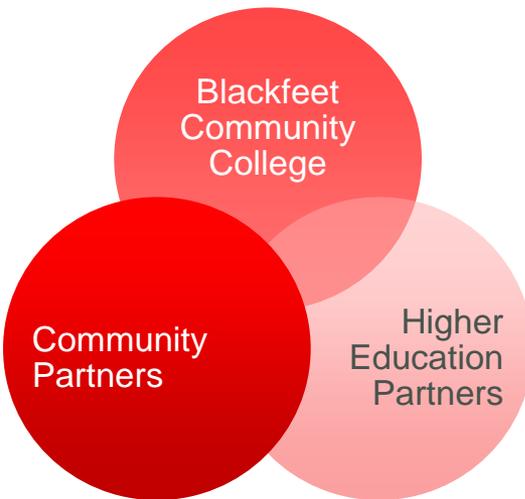
“Holistic Approach to Education”

- **Educational Attainment**
 - ✓ Tuition, Fees, and Books
 - ✓ Mentoring and Tutoring
 - ✓ Support Services
- **Career Placement**
 - ✓ Volunteer Opportunities
 - ✓ Internships
 - ✓ Job Selection

Issksiniip Project



Career Placement Partnerships



- *Collaborate on an articulation agreement with Partner, defining the curriculum for the degree programs, certificate programs, and training programs for the Issksiniip Project.*
- *Share information and ideas regarding internship and employment opportunities for Issksiniip Project participants.*
- *Support Issksiniip Project participants and Partner through continued communication efforts between BCC employees, Partner employees, and the participants.*
- *Provide equitable access to and participation in professional development opportunities for Issksiniip Project participants at BCC and Partner institution.*
- *Promote the Issksiniip Project in collaboration with Partner through marketing efforts including public presentations, brochures, announcements, new student orientations, registration, BCC catalog, and BCC website.*



Issksiniip Project

SUCSESSES



- **Awarded 120 scholarships at BCC between Summer 2011 and Fall 2011**
 - **94% completed summer training**
 - **17% of summer students already employed**
 - **50% of summer students continuing education**
- **Awarded 90 scholarships at partner institutions**
- **In the processes of adding a 4th higher education partner**

Issksiniip Project

SET-BACKS



- **Late Start-Up**
- **Staffing**
- **Changes to initial proposal**
- **Building community and collaboration within the educational institution**

QUESTIONS??

