

Walking Softly to Heal: The Importance of Community Readiness

Next Steps for Community Success

The wheel below represents key steps for community success. Each of the areas outlined are specific steps that you can follow to increase knowledge and improve practices and skills to help maximize your program's healing power.

- Read the [Community Readiness Manual](#).
- Review the [three webinars](#) in the Community Readiness Model to learn more step-by-step instructions.
- Speak with tribal leadership/administration about its commitment to reduce deaths by suicide.
- Gather key community members to participate; know cultural beliefs and practices that should be considered.
- Determine the best way to initiate a Community Readiness Assessment that will get the best possible results, i.e., interviewing key people like tribal and traditional leaders, youth, law enforcement, social services, elders, and community members at large.
- Analyze Community Readiness Assessment results; discuss as a team how to make the recommended strategies work in your community, i.e., how and where to make the one-on-one contacts.
- Create a vision, and set actionable steps.
- For assistance with conducting a survey, please contact the [SAMHSA Tribal T/TA Center](#)
- **GLS Grantees Only:** Meet with your SPRC Prevention Specialist to discuss planning, implementing, and sustaining a culturally contextual, [comprehensive approach](#) to suicide prevention.



Circle of Learning

Get help, discuss materials, ask questions, and trade ideas with other communities who have had the opportunity to implement the model. The people listed below have openly agreed to share what they have learned, including stories of problem-solving and successes that you may find helpful as you begin your community on a journey of healing.

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