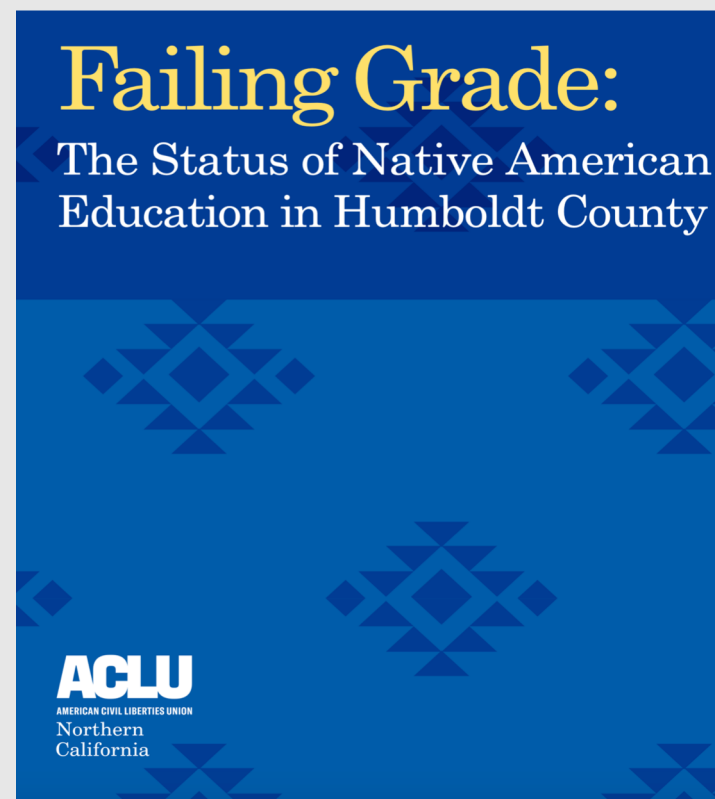
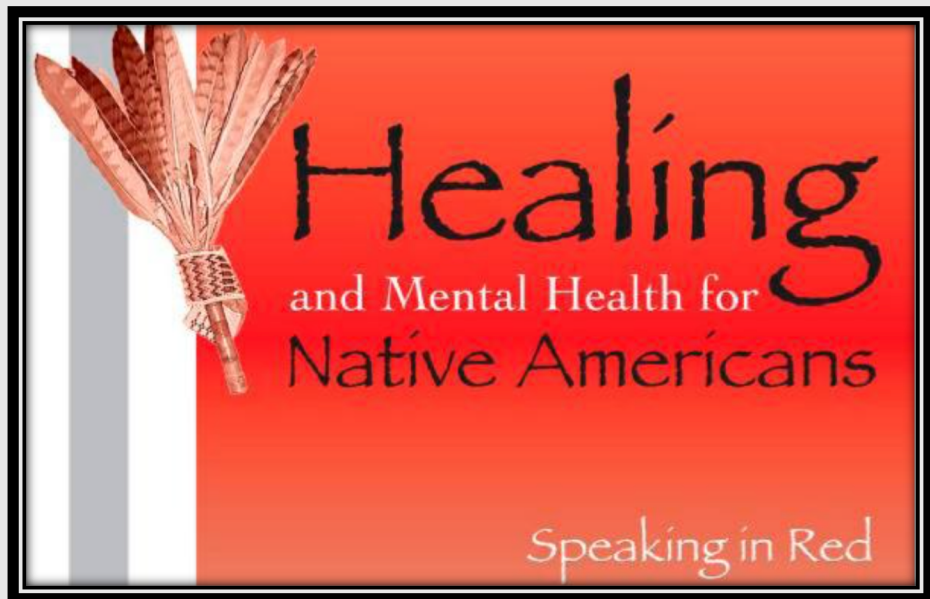


# NATIVE AMERICAN REPORT CARD & WELLNESS

Dr. Virgil D. Moorehead Jr.  
Executive Director, Two Feathers Native American Family Services  
Licensed Psychologist  
Tolowa/Yurok

# *At this Moment*





**This is an opportunity to  
fundamentally rethink the purpose of  
education, rethink what is our  
responsibility to our most vulnerable  
students ~**

**J. Duncan Andrade**



# de·vel·op·ment

/də'veləpmənt/

*noun*

1. the process of developing or being developed.  
"she traces the development of the novel"

**Similar:**

evolution

growth

maturing

expansion

enlargement

spread



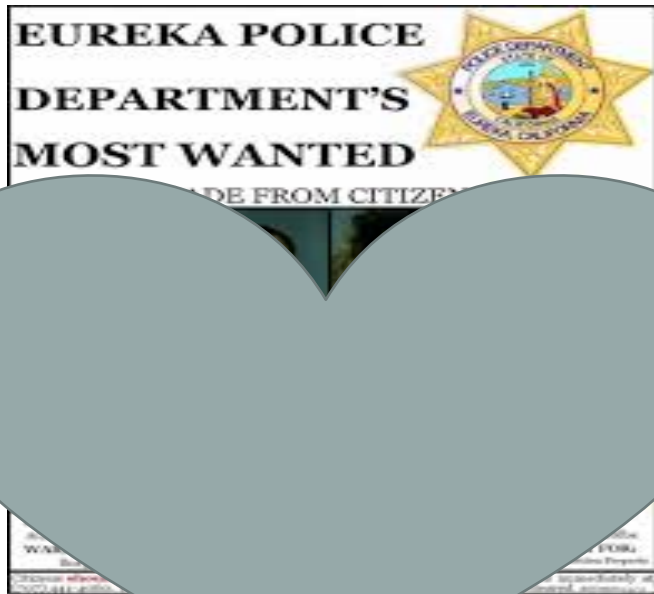
2. the process of starting to experience or suffer from an ailment or feeling.  
"the development of brittle bones"

Definitions from Oxford Languages

*Feedback*

## How is Human Development Produced?





## Child Development, Education in Humboldt County

Do we do what we have  
always done with children and  
just move that online?

What is possible inside a  
colonial context?

# To Start- From Medical Trauma to Social Determinants of Trauma

- **Medical Trauma** (downstream) – mental health risks (depression, anxiety, panic), behavioral health risks (substance abuse, violence, sexual behavior)
- **Social Determinants of Trauma (upstream)**- Social inequities (implicit bias) institutional inequities (corporations and business), Living Conditions (physical environment), trauma experienced collectively

**Understanding the Context of Trauma Persistent Traumatic Stress Environment**

# Second - What does the Data Say?

Psychologists  
Social Work  
Social Immunology  
Public Health  
Neuroscience  
Child Development  
Medical Field



**Lagging Indicators**  
Output- what has happened

**Leading Indicators**  
“Predictive”

# Recenter around Native Wellness- “Leading Indicators”

## Personal & Cultural Continuity

- Do you actively engage youth in conversations about identity?
- Do you understand your sacredness?
- Do you understand where you come from?
- Do you understand your teachings from your ancestors?
- Do you understand your origin story, your language?

**Existential Factors- purpose, meaning**

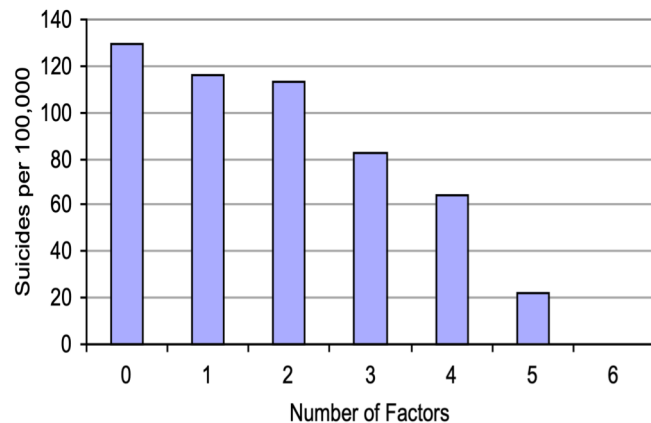
## Relationships

- Do you have the capacity to have healthy relationship- empathy, prosocial
- Do you have a healthy relationship with your family, or deep understanding of your family story
- Do you know that you matter?
- Do you have a positive relationship with mother earth

**Relationship Factors- intimacy, vulnerability, empathy, kindness**

# Leading Indicators & Native Suicides

Figure 3: Youth Suicide Rate by Number of Factors Present



Cultural Continuity “**Being who we are**”

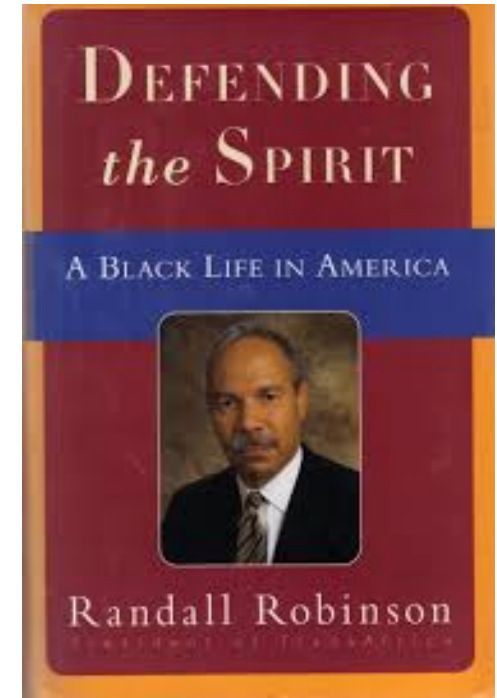
Preserve their Cultural Past

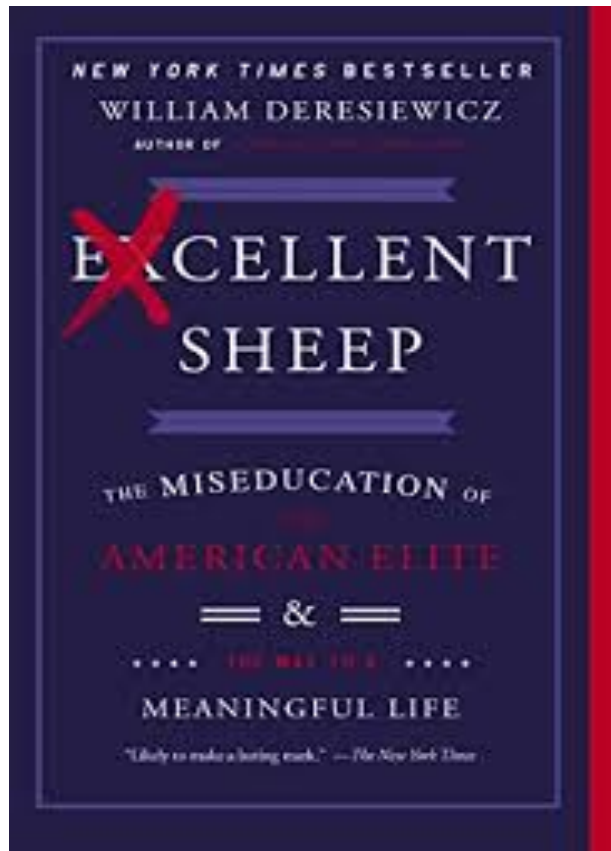
Secure future control of their own civic lives

Protective factors: Land Claims, self-government, **education**, public & fire services, **Health Services**, Cultural facilities

The surprising outcomes—the transcendence—is not found in the single ‘hardy’ or ‘invulnerable’ child who manages to rise above adversity, but in the existence of whole communities that demonstrate the power of **culture as a protective factor** (Lalonde, 2013)

The worst thing you can do to a group of people is to rob them of the history of themselves, rob them of the stories and memory of themselves.





“The system manufactures students who are smart and talented and driven, yes, but also anxious, timid, and lost, with little intellectual curiosity and a **stunted sense of purpose**: trapped in a bubble of privilege, heading meekly in the same direction, great at what they’re doing but with **no idea why they’re doing it**”





# And so... How do Schools Become Perceived as **“Medicine for Families”**”



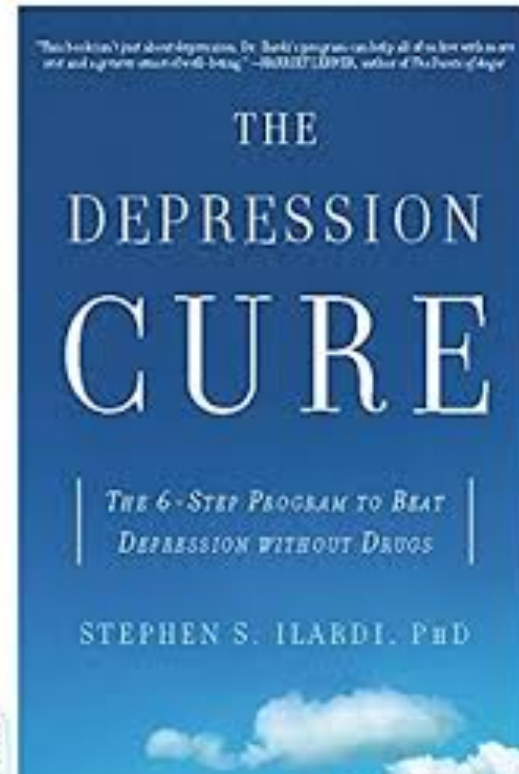
Medicine = **Agency** - ability to act, create, and change the root causes of personal, social community challenges



## Attachment-Based Teaching



## Creating a Tribal Classroom LOUIS COZOLINO



# Becoming Medicine

- More the environment of a classroom parallels the interpersonal, emotional, and motivational components of **our tribal past**, the more our primitive instincts will enhance the biochemistry of learning- Louis Cozolino
- **Aboriginal of Papua New Guinea**
  - Depression- a disease of civilization, our lifestyles
  - Traditional-indigenous hunter gather societies – dietary, exercise, productive engagement, sleep, outdoors



### Family Enrichment Centers Show Early Promise in New York City, Evaluation Reports

BY THE IMPRINT STAFF REPORTS



Staffers and visitors at a new Administration for Children's Services-funded Family Enrichment Center in the Bronx celebrate their facility's new name: O.U.R. Place.

New York City's child welfare agency launched a bold small experiment in 2018: Three new community rooms deep in the city's most under-resourced neighborhoods would offer comfy, staffed spaces for families to seek no-strings-attached advice and support, computer access, meeting space or children's playtime, all at no cost.

The centers didn't look like the typical government social service office, and were intentionally designed to offer anyone any basic support they requested. The goal was a non-threatening landing pad for the hardest-to-reach, thinnest-stretched parents to find help, in order to prevent their children from experiencing neglect or abuse.

WHEN IS ORGANIZING  
SUCCESSFUL?

- ① DID WE ACCOMPLISH THE GOAL?
- ② DID OUR COMMUNITY GROW STRONGER?

# BECOMING MEDICINE-COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

# Major Takeaways- Native Report

## **Point of View – “How do we see the issue”**

- We are all part of the positive **development** of our children, community focus including addressing root causes, understand persistent environment stress environments, affects of cultural & personal dis-continuity

## **Our Strategy**

- Restoration and healing with a strong focus on culture, identity and relationships that lead to a sense of purpose, mattering, meaning
- Shift perceptions of schools as being mandated to go to understanding school as medicine. Focus on community organizing, joy, fun, agency
- Support local native teachings, assets & aspirations of natives, from top town knowledge transfer to a “knowledge exchange” & Cross Community Sharing

**Outcome: Healthy Development leading to civically minded, community-oriented adults**