Bula! Hafa Adai! Iakwe! Alii! Malo e lelei! Talofa! Aloha!

“SURROUNDED BY COMMITTED, DETERMINED AND PROUD INDIVIDUALS EVERY MOMENT SPENT I BELIEVE HAS INSPIRED US TO CONTINUE STANDING, WORKING, MOVING FORWARD FOR OUR COMMUNITIES AND BEYOND.”
- PUA CASE

NO ONE CAN SPEAK FOR US BUT US!
Pacific Islander Community Community Training
September 11, 2019
NO ONE CAN SPEAK FOR US BUT US
Pacific Islander Community Training
September 11, 2019; 3:00am – 4:30pm

Overview

1. Presentation: Contextualizing Pacific Islander Identities
2. Activity: Community Conditions
3. Next Steps: Continuing Partnerships
“Pacific Islanders”
What images come to mind?

“Their character, as compared with Europeans, is childlike. They are communists and have been so for ages. They are very brave, and go to war with as much zest as our football teams enter into their contests...Like nearly all dark skinned races, they are fond of intoxicants and when under their influence are apt to be quarrelsome.”

Rear Admiral Kimberly
Commander of Pacific Squadron
1889
U.S. Census definition:

The term “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander” refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands. Pacific Islanders include diverse populations that differ in language and culture. They are of Polynesian, Micronesian, and Melanesian cultural backgrounds.
MELANESIA
“melanin” islands

- Fiji
- Papua New Guinea
- West Papua
- Solomon Islands
- Vanuatu
- New Caledonia
MICRONESIA

small islands

- Guam
- Northern Mariana Islands
- Marshall Islands
- Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)
- Palau
- Nauru
- Kiribati
POLYNESIA

many islands

- Hawai‘i
- New Zealand (Aotearoa)
- Samoa
- Tonga
- Easter (Rapa Nui)
- Cook Islands
- French Polynesia
- Tuvalu
- Tokelau
- Niue
Hokule'a
reciprocity
belonging
deferece
respect
duty
knowledge
Hokule'a
reciprocity  belonging  deference  respect  duty  knowledge  reciprocity
reciprocity
belonging
deferece
respect
duty
knowledge
Community Conditions

Instructions

Community Component
1. Based on data, discuss key characteristics of these communities (physical and social)
2. Based on community characteristics, what are the mental health impacts on these communities?
3. Based on community characteristics, list barriers faced in serving the Pacific Islander community in Santa Clara?
4. Discuss and list some promising approaches in working successfully with these communities.

Cultural Component
1. Research your assigned Pacific Island and include the following information in your report-back:
   - A fact about your island
   - A current political or social issue facing the island
   - Use island’s greeting
Pacific Islander Initiative’s Suicide Prevention Work

THE PACIFIC ISLANDER INITIATIVE

ONE LIFE. ONE LOVE

Suicide Prevention in the Pacific Islander Community
Village Voices

• According to CA Dept of Public Health, the number of suicide deaths by NHPIs increased 100% between 2005 and 2010. How does this statistic make you feel?

• What could suicide prevention work in the PI community look like?

• What do you need to be okay?

• How can our community have courageous conversations about mental health and suicide?

• How does our culture treat suicide?

• Have you experienced someone committing suicide or had your own suicidal thoughts? If so, how did that affect you?
Dear Faifekau,
What I need to be okay is space in the church to talk about suicide and mental health, judgment free.
Dear Matua,
What I need to be okay is to know that I can talk to you about suicide and mental health, judgment free.
Dear Tokoua,
I will never give up on you. Please know that you can talk to me about anything. I am here for you, always.
Dear Tokoua,
You are not alone.
I am here for you.
I will see you through the pain.
Dear Tuofefine,
Your burden is also mine to carry.
That is why I'm your brother.
I will always be here for you in your time of need.
Dear Uso,
O le uo i aso uma, a o le uso i aso vale. I got your back no matter what. Through hell and high water, I'll be by your side.
Dear Faiako,
I am more than just your student; I am a whole person with struggles and challenges. I ask for your compassion when times are rough.
Dear Tuonga’ane,
If I could wrap up happiness to give, it would always be my gift to you. I will always be here for you in your time of need.
Dear Tuafafine,
You could never bother me. Hearing your voice could save my life. Please continue to check in with me. I'll be better by reaching out when I'm in a dark place.
Si'i kainga,
'Oku mahu'inga ho'omou
mo'ui lelei fakae'atamai
kiate au, te tau lava 'o
ikuna'i fakataha 'eni.
Dear Tuonga'ane,
Suicide does not end your sorrow.
It just passes it on to our family.
I am here and I am willing
to carry your struggles for you.
You are not alone!
Dear Fanau,
I am here for you if you have thoughts of suicide or if you feel depressed. I am here to listen without judgment. We can get through it together.
Dear Uso,
Don't give up on today, tomorrow needs you!
I am here to listen, understand, and support you.