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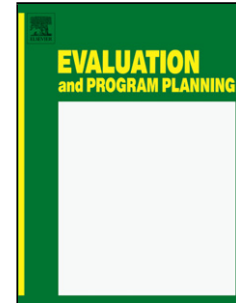
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OUTCOMES OF CULTURALLY-BASED PREVENTION

Is Culturally Based Prevention Effective? Results from a 3-year tribal substance use prevention program

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Highlights

- This mixed-methods evaluation focuses on select outcomes of a 3-year culturally-based prevention program located in six American Indian communities in the Rocky Mountain Region. This is the first evaluation of substance use prevention programming efforts.
- American Indian youth who participate in culturally-based prevention activities report higher levels of social support compared with American Indian youth who do not participate in these activities. Substance use is a multi-faceted problem facing our communities, families, schools, and nation. Innovative, effective, culturally-based prevention and evaluation is needed to prevent substance use.
- Results from this outcome evaluation show that culturally-based prevention programming is successful in reducing risk factors associated with substance use in American Indian youth. Community members, tribal leaders, and site coordinators feel that these reductions are likely due to the community-driven approach of prevention, where community members design and implement universal prevention strategies that are culturally-tailored and contextually based.

Keywords: American Indian Youth; Substance Use; Community; Culture; Evaluation

INTRODUCTION

Youth substance use is a major public health concern. Policy makers, leaders, professionals, researchers, and families are calling for immediate efforts to prevent substance

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