

# TRIBAL RESEARCH



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
October 2018 | Issue 1



## FROM THE RESEARCH OFFICE BY SIMONE BORDEAUX, RESEARCH COORDINATOR

Mitakuyepi! (Hello Relatives!)

My name is Simone Bordeaux and am an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. I have been the Research Coordinator with RST Health Administration since 2015, when RST became a partner with the Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH-pronounced KIRK-uh).

I grew up in the St. Francis community, graduated from Todd County High School and eventually from Sinte Gleska University. I worked as a research nurse for five years for a non-profit organization that conducted community based participatory research with several tribes in the region. I am honored to have the opportunity to take on a role that allows me to further ethical research that benefits my home tribe.

Historically, RST has not had a research ordinance, policies and procedures or a tribal institutional review board in place that would establish formal oversight of human subjects research being conducted in our communities.

CRCAIH was formed in September 2012 with a grant from the National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities. CRCAIH's mission is to create a platform to bring together Tribes and researchers to work together in conducting innovative research that addresses significant and unique health disparities experienced in tribal communities.

With this partnership, RST and CRCAIH share the same goal of building tribal research infrastructure that promotes cutting edge trans-disciplinary research that improves the health and well being of the Sicangu Lakota Oyate.



CRCAIH Tribal Partners from left to right: Anita Fredrick (TMBCI), Heather Larson (SWO), Simone Bordeaux (RST) and Katie Blindman (OST) at the 2018 Population Health Research Summit



Simone Bordeaux with CRCAIH staff Michaela Seiber (far left) and Melissa Buffalo (far right) promoting the 2017 Sicangu Oyate Community Profile in Rosebud, SD

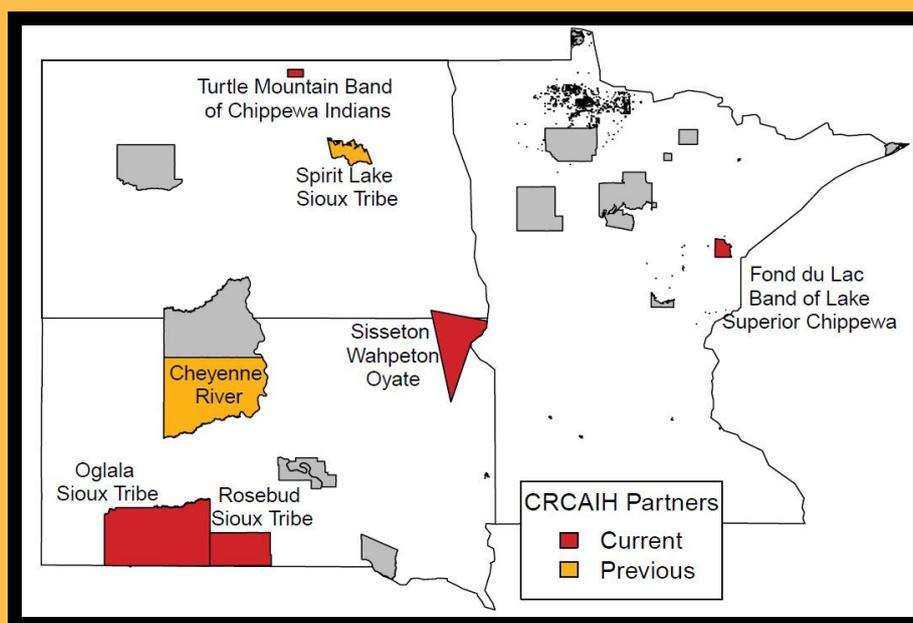
# TIMELINE

RST and CRCAIH work closely together to enact our vision by supporting dedicated tribal research staff, developing a tribal research code along with policies and procedures, implementing and managing a tribal institutional review board, facilitating data management, conducting a community health needs assessment and continuing to promote community awareness and education on research.



**"There is an effort and growing awareness to understand the need for research."**

*Quote from stakeholder interview*



## HIGHLIGHT

Simone Bordeaux, along with the other four CRCAIH Tribal Partners (OST, SWO, TMBCI & FDL), were recipients of the 2018 Area/Regional Impact Award from the National Indian Health Board (NIHB). This award honors an individual or organization whose work has contributed to improving American Indian/Alaska Native health care or affected change on an area or regional basis. The CRCAIH Tribal Partners address social determinants of health through building tribal research infrastructure. They strengthen tribal governance through leading the regulation of research, data management policies, and collection of research that is tribally driven and ultimately benefits Native people. The CRCAIH tribal partners wear multiple hats as advocates, protectors, and educators. They are the key to connecting interested researchers to their tribal collaborators. They support researchers in building trust and respect with community partners through building greater cultural/historical understanding of each tribal context.

Katie Blindman (OST) represented for all five CRCAIH Tribal Partners at the NIHB Annual Heroes in Health Awards Gala held in September to receive the award. The effort and determination in building and sustaining tribal research infrastructure for their communities and paving a path for other tribal nations over the years has not gone unnoticed and staff at CRCAIH are very proud of their accomplishments.

**WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCERNS. CONTACT US ANYTIME!**

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