

## **SP25.05: Hozhoogo Naashaa 'doo (I will live in a good way): Breast Cancer Prevention**

### **Overview**

The purpose of this pilot study is to recruit Navajo participants who are breast cancer survivors and their support system while in treatment, recovery, and follow-ups by family members or friends. Each participant will be asked to participate either in a focus group discussion (talking circle) or semi-structured narrative inquiry interview. Narrative Inquiry is meant to study individuals' life experiences. We are recruiting Navajo women who are breast cancer survivors who are 18 years and older and reside in the jurisdiction of Shiprock Chapter and Chinle Chapter areas. For the support system family and friends identified by the breast cancer survivor participant, 18 years and older and may reside on and off Navajo Nation. The focus group may take a maximum from 1.5 to 2 hours while the semi-structured interview may be from 30 minutes to 1 hour. The focus group will be in-person. The semi-structured interview may be conducted in-person or by telephone.

### **What the student will DO and LEARN**

The student will assist with recruitment, photocopying consent, interviewer scripts, and related survey instruments and organize, assist with qualitative analysis with the team and will teach and mentor the student, and mentor and teach the student to write for a journal and dissemination materials and presentations at Shiprock and Chinle Chapter meetings. Make follow-up phone calls. Develop PowerPoint Presentation slides for Dr. Sanderson and photocopy for community people. Set up tabling at 3 to 5 community gatherings/venues to disseminate our findings. Assist Dr. Sanderson, NAU team, and Mayo Clinic with meeting minutes, distribution to members, and grant-writing related work under the mentorship of Dr. Sanderson (e.g., photocopying, simple artistic designs).

### **Additional benefits**

The benefits is to apply new skills in tribal communities and to learn about research process with human subjects training and work with a tribal sovereign nation. Apply new skills to enhance writing skills, create flyers and dissemination materials, and network with community as well as form teamwork work ethics and meeting timelines. All activities will require Dr. Sanderson to mentor and teach weekly and check on the student in Sanderson lab.

### **Additional qualifications**

Knowledge about Navajo culture. Interest in cancer-related research. Driver's license (not required but nice to be able to drive on long trips). Able to travel at least two times. The student will also participate in professional development with Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention. Student may be assigned periodically to other projects for Dr. Sanderson (e.g., liver cancer, stomach cancer and helicobacter pylori infection).

### **Time commitment**

6 hrs/week for 30 weeks