



Preliminary Results of the Native Elder Maltreatment Survey (NEMS)

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September 30-October 1, 2020

Indigenous Research Collaborative
Ending Violence (IRCEV) Meeting



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NIEJI Update

- ❖ Increased Elder Abuse Codes from 40 in 2011 to 100 in 2019
- ❖ Developed 8 online educational training modules
- ❖ 16 tribes received 1-year, \$20K elder abuse innovation grants to develop or expand programs
- ❖ NEMS completed by 373 participants representing 27 tribes

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NIEJI
Honor - Respect - Dignity
National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative

About NIEJI | Contact Us

Resources | Elder Abuse Codes | State/Tribal Hotlines | Training

Restoring respect and dignity by honoring Indigenous Elders

National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative
If this is an emergency, call 911. To report elder abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation, view the [State/Tribal Hotlines page](#).
Most cases of elder abuse are undetected, under reported, and unresolved resulting in injury, financial declination, and even death. The National Indigenous Elder Justice Initiative (NIEJI) was created to address the lack of culturally appropriate information and community education materials on elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in Indian Country.

COVID-19 Resources
These COVID-19 Tribal Elder Resources will help to inform your communities on how to prevent the spread, protect your elders and loved ones, and prevent falling for [scams](#).

Elder Abuse Warning Signs
• Learn more about the [types of abuse and the warning signs](#)

News
June 15 was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)
• [Watch Protecting Our Elders During COVID-19 Presentation](#)

Certificate Program
The [National Adult Protective Services Certificate Program](#) has training materials that will improve the safety of vulnerable adults and persons with disabilities who are victims of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

ABUSE

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NIEJI Website Continued

Native Elder Protection Team Toolkit
A [step-by-step guide](#) for developing a successful model for addressing elder abuse in Indian Country. The [Toolkit](#) is designed to help you identify and implement a tribal elder protection team.

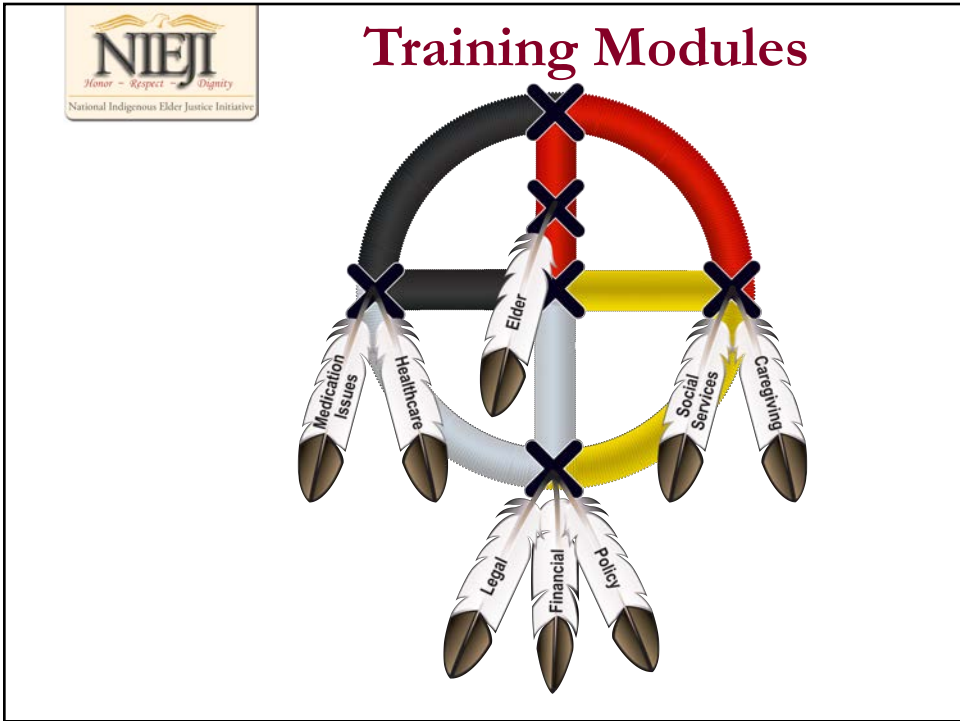
Online Interactive Education

- Caregiving
- Elder Abuse
- Financial Information
- Healthcare
- Legal
- Policy
- Social Services

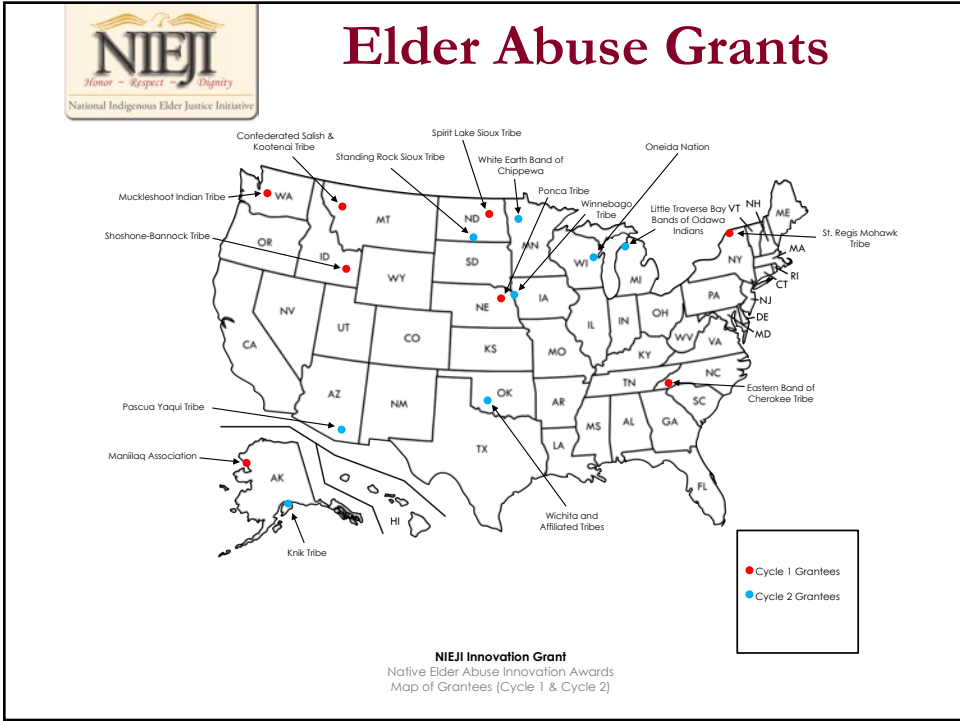
[Learn more](#)

Funder
NIEJI is funded by the [Administration for Community Living](#) to provide research, education, and training for the identification and prevention of elder abuse in Indigenous communities. This program serves American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian elders in an effort to improve their quality of life. The project is housed at the


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Native Elder Maltreatment Study NEMS

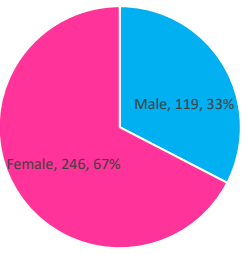
- ❖ Approval from UND IRB and each tribes provides tribal approval before participating.
- ❖ Tribally-based participatory research
- ❖ Tribe’s role
 - Provide tribal approval and own the data
 - Collects survey data
- ❖ NEIJI’s role
 - Provides training and technical assistance
 - Analyzes the data
 - Provides information on interpretation

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NEMS Demographics

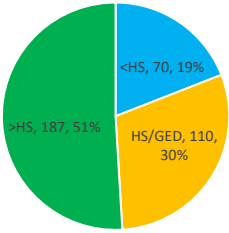
Gender



Female	246	67%
Male	119	33%

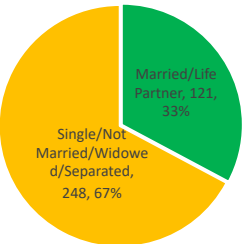
Age	
N	373
Range	50-101 years
Majority	59-76 years
Mean	66.9 ± 8.4 years

Education



>HS	187	51%
HS/GED	110	30%
<HS	70	19%

Relationship Status



Married/Life Partner	121	33%
Single/Not Married/Widowed/Separated	248	67%

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NEMS Subscales

N=373

Subscale	Mean	Standard Deviation	Cronbach α
H/S EAST	5.65	2.39	0.698
NELS-FE	29.00	10.80	0.741
NELS-N	11.40	5.60	0.640
NELS-PP	7.30	2.60	0.435
CTS	0.08	0.47	0.295

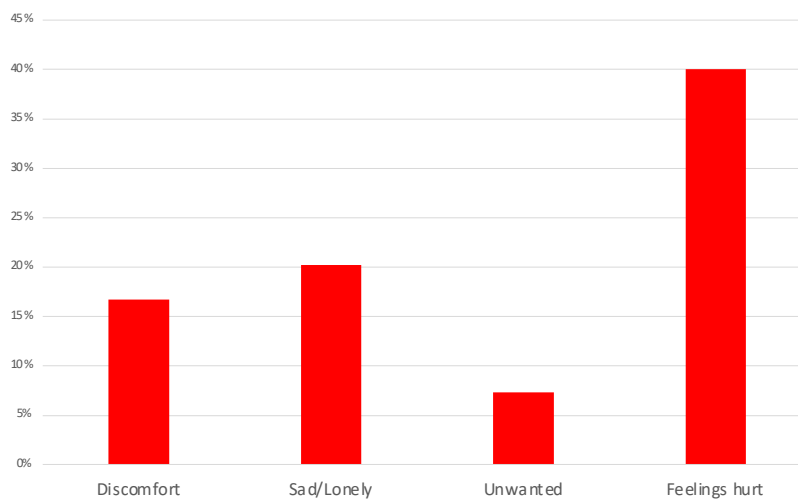
Hwalek-Sengstock Elder Abuse Screening Test (H/S EAST; 27); Native Elder Life Scale (NELS) – Financial Exploitation (FE; 9); NELS-Neglect (N; 12), NELS-Psychological and Physical (PP; 6), and Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS; 12).

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NEMS Selected Data

Emotional

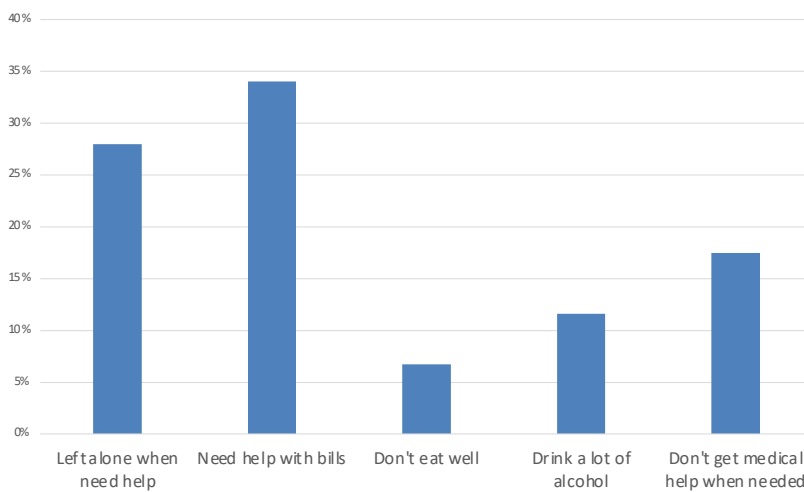


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NEMS Selected Data

Neglect

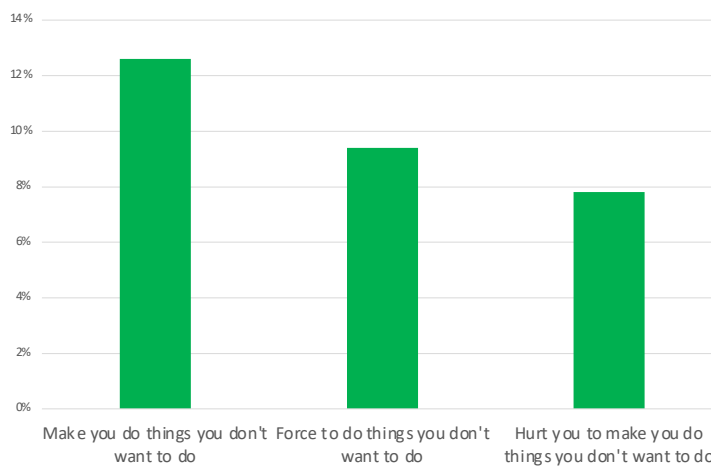


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NEMS Selected Data

Physical

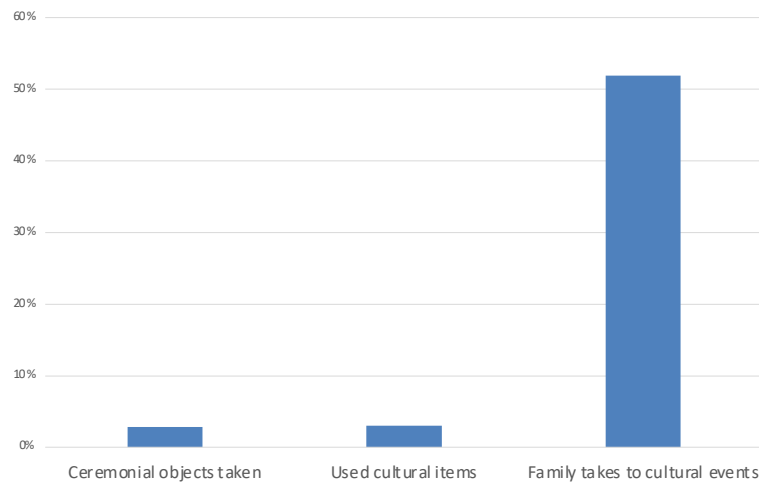


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NEMS Selected Data

Spiritual



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NIEJI NEMS

- ❖ The most commonly endorsed items concerned
 - “helping to support someone” (49.5%).
 - “family borrows money and doesn’t give it back” (41.7%).
- ❖ Conversely those quite uncommon were:
 - “threatened with knife or gun in the past year” (1.3%).
 - “kicked, bit, or hit with a fist in past year” (3%).

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NIEJI NEMS

- ❖ About 1 in 4 adults reported being left alone when they needed help.
- ❖ 1 in 12 adults indicated someone had taken personal property without permission.
 - 1 in 6 indicated family takes their possessions without permission and sells or pawns them.
- ❖ 1 in 7 indicated they have run out of food or medication due to family use of money for something else.

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NEMS Summary

- ❖ This was a 2-year pilot study
- ❖ Most comprehensive collection of elder abuse data for Indigenous people that has been undertaken.
- ❖ Includes American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and Hawaiian homesteads.
- ❖ Continuing to partner with tribes that are interested, however; CoVID has impacted that process.
 - Innovative ways of data collection have developed!

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For more information go to the NIEJI

Website: [Http://nieji.org](http://nieji.org)

Or contact Jacque Gray, PhD at

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Phone: 701-777-0582

Wado (Thank You)