

Major Mental Health Concerns Identified Beyond the Obvious:

Systems:

- Lack of coordination between various health entities
- Political/territorial/red tape issues hampering provision of services of various entities
- Healer Medic Council- small, inconsistent, voluntary staffing serving up to 5,000 with intense pressure to cover ALL health/mental health needs
- no formal screening of any MH folks providing services/volunteering
- tensions and lack of communication/coordination between traditional healing & Western models
- focus is on services in Oceti camp, with poor to no outreach to Natives in Oceti, or to other camps (Red Warrior, Sacred Stone, Rosebud)
- Native/non-Native imbalance
- tribe cut off from outside supports

Health/Mental Health Staff

- burnout from high trauma, no breaks (day & night shifts), constant daily re-orientation of volunteer staff who stay from 1 day to a couple of weeks
- Primarily White, and working from a Western model with some awareness of their own lack of responsiveness to Indigenous needs (short-term volunteers seem relatively clueless and present the face of the Clinic)
- threats to safety, medics are being specifically targeted

Camp:

- Majority if camp is non-Native now causing many tensions and strains on Native individuals through continual attempts to keep camps Native-centered and prayerful
- Lack of screening of folks coming into camps-draws people with mental health/substance abuse issues, poses a threat to the entire camp with erratic behaviors of said individuals
- Basic & public health needs: lack of preparation for winter conditions, not using propane heaters appropriately causing toxicity to children, lack of hygiene that can spread disease (showers are at Casino), sexual health concerns

Healer Medic & Standing Rock Identified Needs:

- mental health screening
- Mental Health First Aid trainings
- Service to camps specifically, not SR tribal members
- overnight duty
- MH providers who can do crisis intervention, stay long-term, take on the Mental Health tent
- support with re-integration into home communities of those coming back from camps