

# Surprising Resources for Your Healing to Wellness Court

Jeffrey N. Kushner

Montana Statewide Drug Court  
Administrator

# Elder Panels

## An Alternative to Incarceration for Tribal Members

- “All of the education of the young was through the oral teaching of the elders. This storytelling was the basis of the transmittal of the tribal wisdom from one generation to the next, or more precisely from the generation of the grandparents to the grandchildren, because the children spent countless hours under the tutelage of the grandparents while the parents provided for the material needs of the family”

(Indian Spirit by Fitzgerald and Fitzgerald)

# Elder Panels

- **Culturally-based solution**
- **Developed as an alternative to custodial sentencing (emphasizes rehabilitation rather than retribution)**
- **Recognizes that penal consequences do not effectively deter future criminal activity especially alcohol and other drug abuse driven problems**

# Connection to Cultural Roots

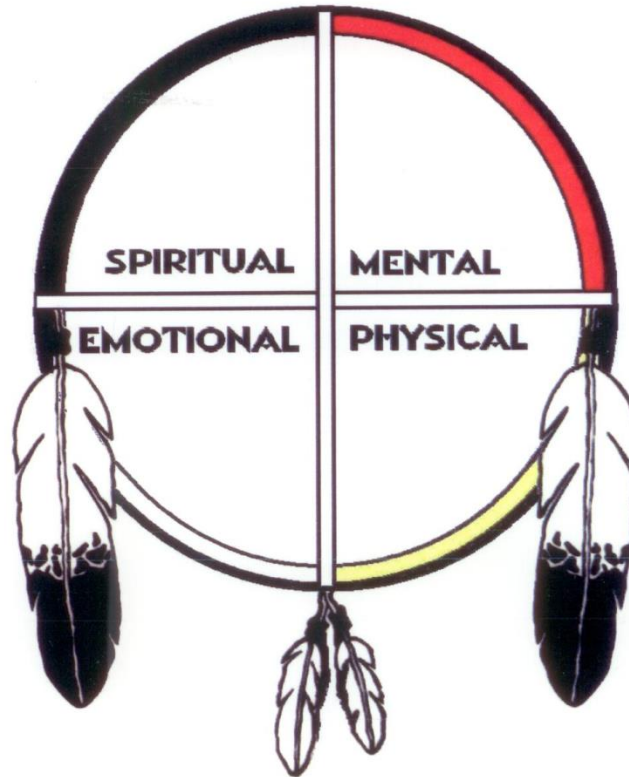
- Many tribes share a belief that their members to some degree, engage in criminal/delinquent behaviors because they have lost touch with their history, cultural, and community.
- Elder Panels are designed to re-connect or introduce members to their cultural roots

- **Two versions: Traditional Justice: Elder Panels in Tribal Justice Systems or bulletin as a shortened version to provide practical guidance.**
- **Sentencing options**
- **Elders as Mentors**
- **Elders as Teachers**
- **How to Design an Elder Panel**
- **-Elders capable and willing**
- **-Target group/Format/Type of Elder Panel**

- **Set of questions to answer**
- **Define participants**
- **Goal/Confidentiality/Agreements in Place**
- **Who will be responsible**
- **Data Collection**
- **Training of Elders**

# **MATRIX MODEL**

**Culturally Designed Client Handouts  
for American Indians / Alaskan Natives**



for use with

**The Matrix Manual of Intensive Outpatient Treatment**

LISTED BELOW ARE SOME OF THE ACTIONS PEOPLE TAKE WHEN DREAMS BEGIN. ADD TO THE LIST THINGS THAT WOULD HELP YOU WHEN USING DREAMS OCCUR.



THERE ARE FEW WARNING SIGNALS OF RELAPSE. DON'T IGNORE THE ONES YOU GET.



- **AnhAhndrea Weiner M.S., LMFT, LPC**  
**Director of Training-Clinical Supervisor**  
**Phone: 877-422-2353**
- **Matrix Institute on Addictions**  
**1849 Sawtelle Blvd. Suite 670**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90025**
- **For Matrix**  
**Training: <http://www.matrixinstitute.org/matrixtraining/matrix-model/>**
- **For Matrix**  
**Manuals: <https://www.hazelden.org/web/public/matrix.page>**