



Stephanie L. Budge, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Counseling Psychology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
1000 Bascom Mall, Education Building 305
Madison, Wisconsin 53706
budge@wisc.edu

June 15, 2021

Dear IMPACT 2030 Fellowship Committee:

Thank you so much for the opportunity to be an IMPACT 2030 Fellow. I am writing a brief report of how I used the funds here, but if you have any questions or would like a more detailed report, please let me know.

The primary way that I have used the funds is by collaborating with the Native Justice Coalition: www.nativejustice.org. With the main mission of these funds in mind, I wanted to start a new collaboration with a community organization that seeks to improve health and wellbeing for people in Wisconsin and in the Greater Lakes region of the United States. In the fall 2020 when I found out about these funds, I reached out to the Director of the Native Justice Coalition, Cecelia Lapointe (they/them). As my work mainly focuses on gender and health, I was discussing ways with Cecelia that we could collaborate to improve Two-spirit people's mental health. As part of that discussion, we decided to start broadly with focusing on general Indigenous and Native people's health and healing in the Greater Lakes Region (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois, and Ontario).

Cecelia and I attended weekly meetings to discuss what types of research projects could come out of the use of the IMPACT 2030 funds. As part of the work to decolonize research, we have taken a truly community-based approach. We created a research team that is all Native/Indigenous people who are focused on healing (except for me—I'm the one White researcher of the group). Based on our conversations as a research time, we have created a community advisory board (CAB) that is comprised of Native/Indigenous community members who are invested in decolonizing research. We have held several CAB meetings where they have provided information to us about the types of research questions they would like to ask that are important to their communities. The next steps in this process are to finalize the research design

with the CAB and then to submit the study to two tribal IRBs (Menominee and Bad River Bend) and to the UW-Madison IRB. We plan to collect data in fall based on finalizing our study from the information provided by the CAB.

The funds so far have been used to pay Indigenous community advisory board members for their time, pay Indigenous research assistants for their time, and to pay me for my time in setting up the work. The funds next year will go toward Indigenous participant compensation and paying Indigenous research assistants to conduct interviews and analyze data.

We are extremely excited about this collaboration and can't wait to see the final product of this project! If you have any questions about this project, please contact me at budge@wisc.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Budge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Budge, Ph.D., LP
Associate Professor
Department of Counseling Psychology
University of Wisconsin-Madison