

ELDER CIRCLES: THE IMPORTANCE OF INDIGENOUS ELDERS' INVOLVEMENT IN FASD KNOWLEDGE

Foreword by Grandmother Debbie Cielen
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So, you know...?

... Colonial histories, ongoing colonial injustice, intergenerational trauma, and systemic oppression create discrimination and stigma against people with FASD, particularly Indigenous communities. Elders and Knowledge Keepers hold so much wisdom and knowledge of cultural ceremonies that dignify everyone, including those impacted by FASD.

1. What do Elders teach us about dignity promotion in FASD?
2. How would Indigenous teachings help overcome stigma and promote dignity in FASD?

Elders talked about stigma in FASD...



***Let's talk more about... dignity**



COMMUNITY CAFES SPARK CONVERSATIONS ON FASD AND DIGNITY

Cintia Damasceno & Marleny Bonnycastle, Ph.D.

So, you know...?

... Community cafes provide a space for diverse community members to gather and engage in conversations about stigma and dignity in FASD. These conversations inspire new connections and enable participants to build on each other's knowledge to imagine ways to promote dignity of those impacted by FASD.

1. How can community cafes spark conversations about stigma and dignity in FASD?
2. How can community cafes mobilize communities?

"...with COVID, and more restrictive services,... requiring Team or phone meetings for your mental health meeting, when there's a lot of people... who aren't comfortable with that."

"...there's often new people, new players, sitting in that seat, so it's like a never-ending circle trying to [maintain a] continuum of services and education..."

Community cafes helped identify stigma in FASD...



"Accessibility is such a big issue... we forget that there's so many remote communities."

"...put stigma on family members when they don't know enough... Have we done enough education, with family in in community to help them understand what FASD is?... Because I think our families are so fundamentally important, and we need to be apprised of what is FASD?"

*Let's talk more about... dignity

Harm reduction

