



SEVEN DIRECTIONS
A CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS PUBLIC HEALTH

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Indigenous Evaluation Training Series

Introduction to the Four Foundations of Indigenous Evaluation - Discussion Summary
Friday, June 26, 2020 10 am PDT / 1 pm EDT

The following discussion questions were addressed in Zoom breakout rooms during the meeting. A summary of what was discussed in each group was shared in the large group chat and is available here. After viewing the lecture, you may also want to reflect on these questions and apply them to your community.

Discussion Questions:

1. Are there examples of a cultural metaphor to describe the program that come to mind from your evaluation experience?
2. What are the advantages of using a metaphor in place of a logic model?
3. What are possible problems or issues?

Summaries from the Groups

Group 1: We discussed the application of the medicine wheel (common to Northern Plains Tribes) in evaluation, within the context of a diverse group of urban Indian residents.

Group 2: We were wondering how we could come up with one metaphor when we have Indigenous students/participants from many different tribes and a basket or canoe wouldn't be applicable to all.

Group 3: Having the use of metaphor being introduced here as a tool is very validating. The metaphors we saw are important for connectivity to the logic model, and showing that life does happen in cycles, just as evaluation does. Metaphors are a way of centering the program so that the community, the users of the intervention, can see the benefits. They are a public-facing tool for accessible science and communication.

Group 4: Understanding the audience is important when using metaphors because one thing that is significant to one group may not be seen the same to another group. Furthermore, we discussed the power of visuals and how in many Indigenous communities, visuals are easier to understand rather than large amounts of qualitative data.