



Founded in 1997 as the Behavioral Health Research Center of the Southwest (BHRCs), the PIRE-Southwest Center specializes in mixed-methods research and program evaluation. Major areas of research include health and behavioral health policy and service delivery, community-based substance abuse prevention, intervention development and evaluation, and dissemination and implementation science.



CENTER DIRECTOR
Cathleen Willging, Ph.D.
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Our interdisciplinary research team has a strong history of engagement with rural, Latinx, Native American, and sexual and gender diverse communities. The PIRE-Southwest Center is focused on conducting high-quality research to identify and eliminate health disparities through the advancement of policies and programs that change lives. Our scientists collaborate with universities, federal, state, and local community organizations, community coalitions, health educators, and health practitioners to study, develop, test, and disseminate innovative and evidence-based ideas, programs, and initiatives that enhance the wellbeing of individuals and their communities.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Community-Based Participatory Research and Evaluation
- Health Equity Research
- Implementation Science
- Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research
- Mixed-Methods Research and Evaluation
- Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning Program Evaluation
- Qualitative Research Methodologies Randomized Control Trials
- State and Community Capacity-Building Research
- Substance Abuse Intervention and Environmental Strategies Evaluation
- Training and Technical Assistance

CONTACT

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CENTER CLIENTS

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

National Institute on Drug Abuse

National Institute of Mental Health

U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Centers for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Prevention, and Substance Abuse Treatment

New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department

New Mexico Department of Health, Public Health Division, Office of School and Adolescent Health

New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division, Office of Substance Abuse and Prevention

Multiple universities in New Mexico and nationwide

New Mexico counties and cities

New Mexico community coalitions and nonprofit organizations

PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

Seasons of Care



This community-driven, mixed-method study examined experiences with health care and health insurance among American Indian Elders, resulting in the development of an online navigation guide for Elders, their caretakers, and health professionals.

<https://nativeelderhealthguide.com/>

LGBTQ Primary Care Toolkit



This toolkit provides primary care clinics with guidance and resources to implement practice recommendations that are likely to improve services for sexual and gender diverse patients.

<https://lgbtqprimarycare.com/>

Reducing LGBTQ+ Adolescent Suicide (RLAS)



This study in high schools across New Mexico focused on the implementation and scale up of six evidence-based practices recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to enhance school environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) youth.

<https://rlas.pire.org/>

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