

# IMPROVING HEALTH OF DIALYSIS PATIENTS WITH COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES

## A PILOT STUDY IN ROSEBUD, SOUTH DAKOTA

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### THE PROBLEM

2.3X



The prevalence of end-stage renal disease among AI/AN compared to Whites .



There is poor integration of the dialysis center, community health representatives, and the Indian Health Service clinic



2 in 3 American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) on dialysis have diabetes.

18%

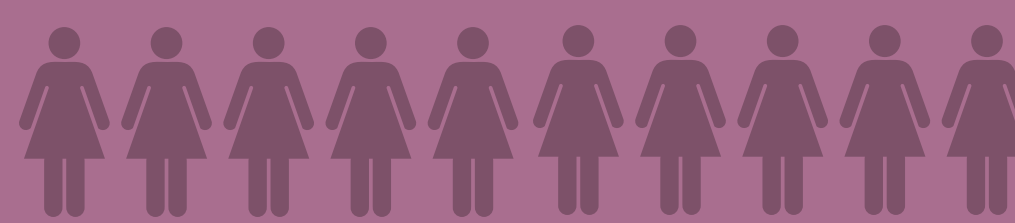
Increase in cardiovascular mortality among dialysis patients with poorly controlled diabetes (A1c >8.5).

### THE PEOPLE

#### COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES



The mission of COPE is to partner with health care teams and community advocates to develop programs that address structural barriers to good health, respond to the burden of disease and bridge gaps in health care systems identified by providers, patients and families. COPE is working to strengthen the capacity of CHR's through hands-on educational trainings in the Spring of 2018



A committed group of ten workers is tasked with providing transportation to medical appointments within a catchment area of 20,000 patients in an area the size of Rhode Island. CHR's have served a dual role as health coaches in the past, performing wellness checks for patients and home safety evaluations.

#### MGH RURAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



The fellowship consists of four internal medicine physicians who share a primary care practice at Rosebud Hospital. The program is committed to supporting tribally led health programs, and also provides clinical training to medical residents, physician assistants and nurse practitioners in Rosebud.

### THE SOLUTION

50



Number of dialysis patients identified to partner with CHR's



Starting in 2018, CHR's will undergo a formalized 8-week training to provide health coaching to dialysis patients, with a three-pronged approach of medication adherence, motivational interviewing and insulin management



The pilot program will collect pre and post data on blood pressure and diabetes control, along with qualitative data on CHR health coaching



8

Number of weekly teleconference education sessions with CHR's.