

Elders - Words of Wisdom: Episode 2 - An Interview with Dr. David Moxley Transcript

Thomas Moore

Hi, and welcome back to another episode of Elders - Words of Wisdom. A podcast from the UAA School of Social Work and the National Resource Center for Alaska Native Elders. My name's Thomas.

This month we're talking to School of Social Work Director Dr. David Moxley. He's gonna be telling us how the NRC and School of Social Work work together to provide resources and other information to Title VI Directors and other Alaska Native elder caregivers. Right now, the NRC is within the School of Social Work. David works with NRC Director Jordan Lewis on external funding and resources for Alaska Native Elders.

Dr. David Moxley

Dr. Lewis is increasingly involved in teaching, aging content, Alaska Native elder content. He's repurposing a course this summer on geriatric social work education and is incorporating a lot of content around Alaska Native Elders and positive aging.

Thomas Moore

To say the least, a lot of exciting things are happening at the NRC. Though fairly new to Alaska, David Moxley has a lot of experience working on topics related to diversity and cultural responsiveness.

Dr. David Moxley

Right now, Dr. Lewis is really our expert on working with Alaska Native elders. However, I did spend twelve years in Oklahoma where I worked considerably with the various tribal nations within the state of Oklahoma and did a lot of work on the West side of the state with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Nations -- Particularly, in relation to thinking through and building culturally responsive social services and human services.

Thomas Moore

Dr. Moxley shares a lot of the same goals that Dr. Lewis touched upon in last month's episode.

Dr. David Moxley

Dr. Lewis and I have really established what we think is a very meaningful agenda. One is to work more closely with Title VI Directors. They do very, very important work and we want to figure out how to support that work with resources that will make things a little easier for them and increase the reach with Alaska Native Elders and the impact that they can have.

Thomas Moore

David also hopes the NRC can provide faculty members and students the opportunity to learn more about elder care. Here at the NRC, it's important to Dr. Moxley and Dr. Lewis that everyone's on the same page when it comes to potentially sensitive topics.

Dr. David Moxley

For us, that means we are working to be knowledgeable of what culture means to Alaska Native elders, their caregivers, their support systems, and their own local organizations and institutions. And you know, that may vary across different regions within Alaska. It may vary, along different tribes and tribal nations. Alaska Native people needing to measure up to something and we flip it and apply it to the National Resource Center, we're really talking about what competencies do we need to build so that we have the knowledge, and skills, and attitudes, and motivation, and resources to take into consideration the variation of culture throughout Alaska.

Thomas Moore

So this month's episode is a little bit shorter than last months, but in the coming months we have some interesting topics coming up, including Alaska Native elders moving to Anchorage, traditional foods, and many more. You can follow us on Facebook to keep updated on our next podcast. You can check out our website for NRC resources and more. So, I'll leave you with a few more words from Dr. David Moxley of the School of Social Work. This has been the Elders - Words of Wisdom podcast from the NRC and School of Social Work at UAA. My name's Thomas Moore, thanks for listening.

Dr. David Moxley

For our listeners, I would hope that they would want to follow up with Dr. Lewis or myself and if they're interested in forming a partnership or affiliation we invite you to visit the website to maybe contact us and to think about whether there could be possibilities for collaboration.