

This product was developed by the Full Circle Diabetes Program of the Minneapolis American Indian Center and Native American Community Clinic in Minneapolis, MN. Support for this product was provided by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation® in Princeton, New Jersey.

*A Circle Paradigm promotes
holistic community partnerships*



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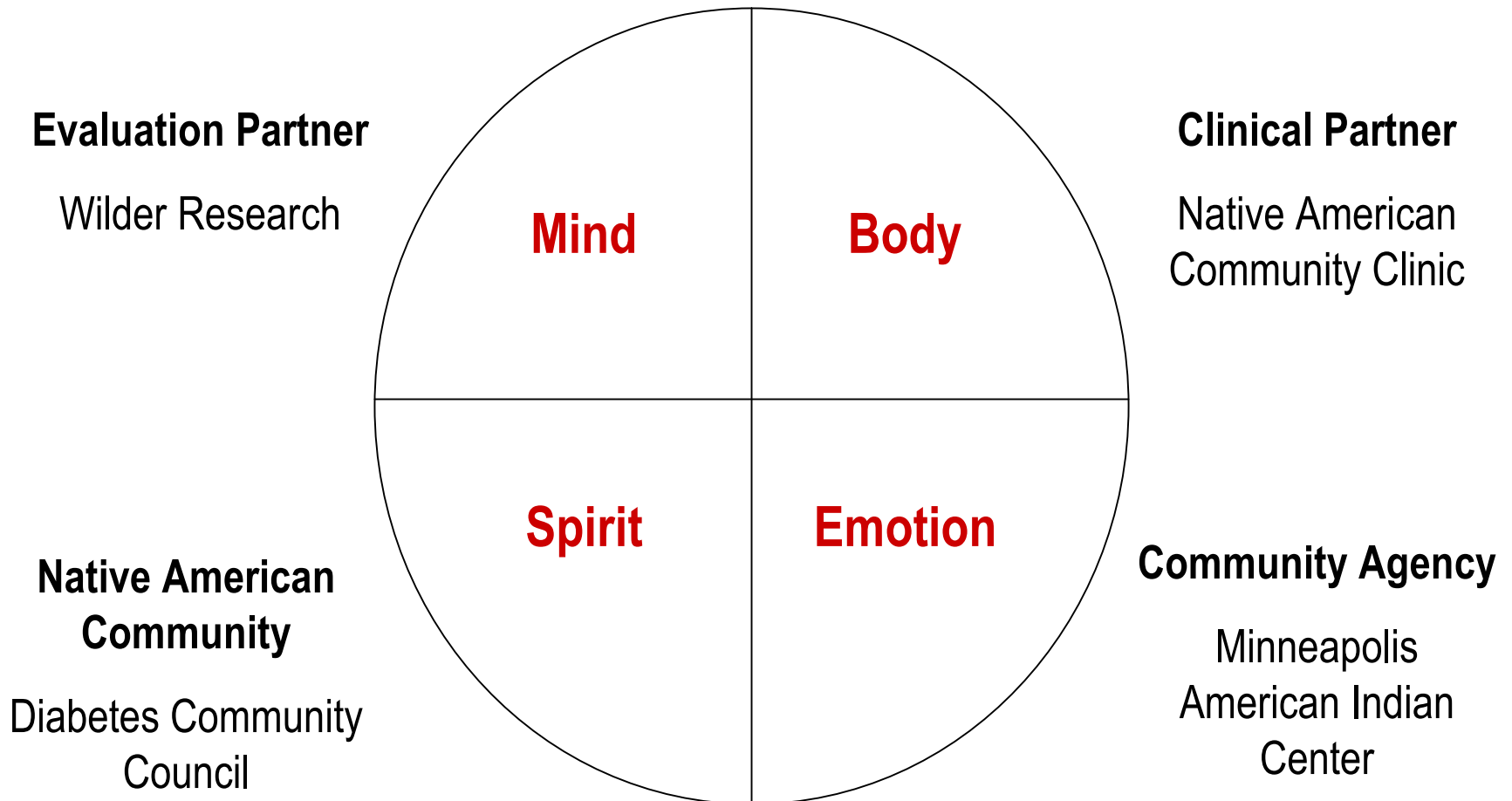


Project Model

- We chose a **Circle Paradigm** to organize community partnerships because of its close relationship to Native American culture and emphasis on holism.
- The symbol of the circle encompasses a **unique perspective**. It recognizes that all partners contribute equally to the survival and vitality of a community.
- The essence of a **participatory process** is fluid leadership. The partner in the leadership role at any given time is the one who has the knowledge to be successful and bring benefits to the community.



Circle Paradigm





Key Objectives for Building Partnerships

- To ensure that diabetes programming is grounded in community-identified health priorities
- To promote ownership of the initiative amongst diverse partners
- To provide a variety of holistic supports for diabetes care
- To continually evaluate and improve programming



Key Strategies for Building Partnerships

- Creation of Diabetes Community Council
 - Engage community members in partnership
- Circle Discussions
 - Build trust and relationships between partners
 - Foster consistent and open communication
 - Promote a collective vision / mission
- Holistic Focus
 - Increase scope and variety of programming
 - Provide support and resources to enhance the work of each partner



Overcoming Barriers for Building Partnerships

- To ensure that programming is grounded in community-identified health priorities
 - Invest time to build trust
 - Honor the testimonial process
 - Identify, reaffirm and act on themes
- To promote ownership of the initiative amongst diverse partners
 - Appreciate how the initiative helps each partner meet its own mission and objectives
 - Work cooperatively to build upon the strengths of each partner
 - Dedicate resources to ensure partner commitment and accountability

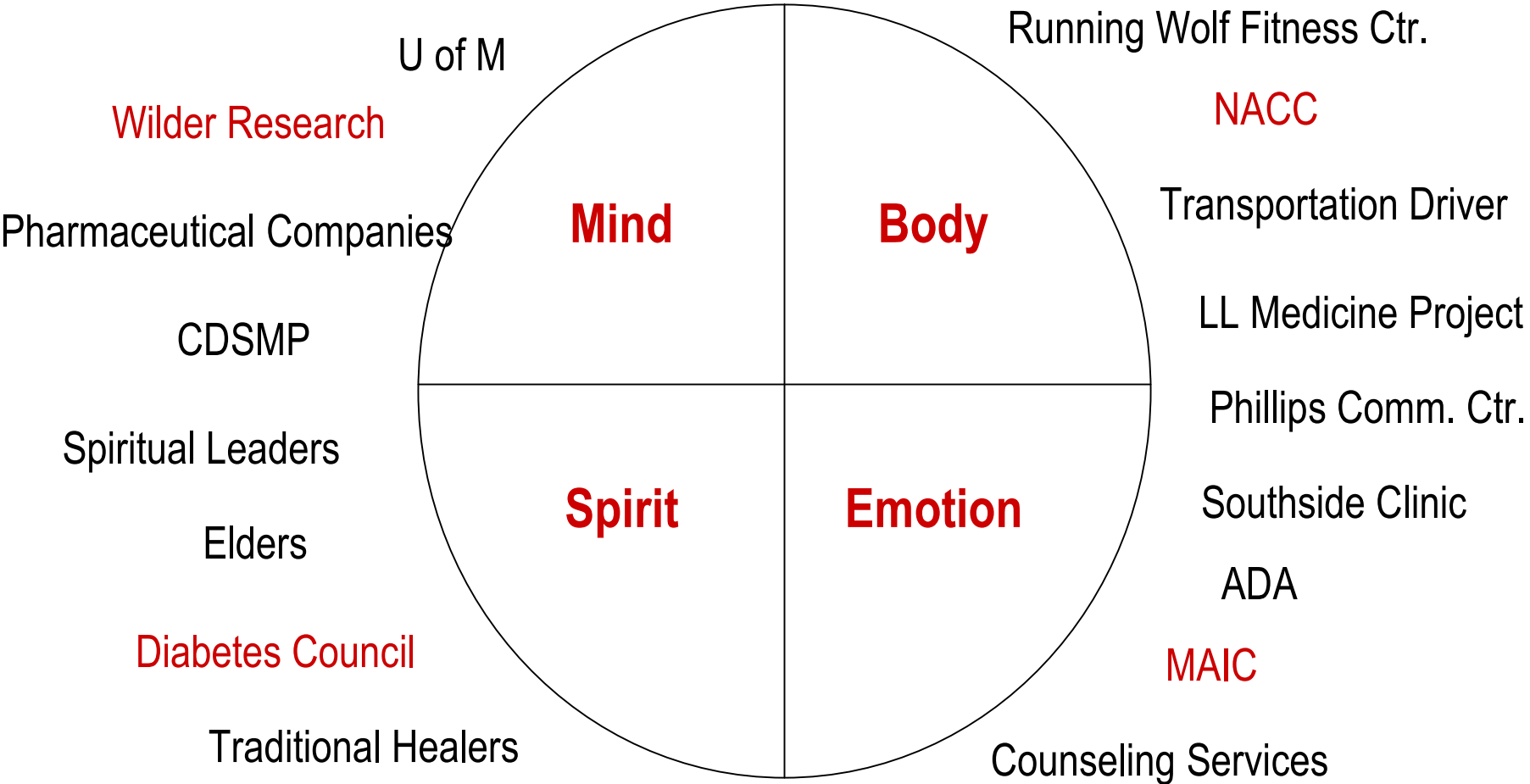


Overcoming Barriers for Building Partnerships

- To provide a variety of holistic supports for diabetes care
 - Consciously assess holism of programming
 - Invite additional partners to the circle to fill gaps in services
- To continually evaluate and improve programming
 - Partner with an evaluation consultant
 - Involve all partners in the creation of the evaluation plan
 - Prioritize evaluation according to audience, goals and resources



Our Successful Partnership Today





Major Accomplishment

- Seamless Partnerships
 - The diverse partners of the Full Circle Diabetes Program recognize and promote their interdependence to accomplish a collective vision of providing holistic supports for diabetes care.



Key Lesson

- A holistic framework enhances community partnerships by:
 - providing opportunities for open and consistent communication between community members, clinicians and agencies
 - focusing the initiative on one collective vision
 - ensuring a variety of supports for diabetes care
 - encouraging cooperative relationships to enhance the work of each partner

“The program complements itself, like family.”

“It is the circle of life.”

– Diabetes Community Council member