WELCOME TO OUR SECOND ISSUE OF KEEPERS QUARTERLY!

Purpose of our MKMDT Newsletter
- Highlight accomplishments
- Announcements & Updates
- Celebrate team members
- Give motivation
- Provide support
MK-MDT AWARDED $10 MILLION - NIH FUNDING
American Indigenous Cognitive Assessment (AMICA)

DIRECTORS CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORLD ALZHEIMER REPORT 2022
Dr. Kristen Jacklin & Dr. Jordan Lewis

FACULTY/ADVISOR HIGHLIGHT AND RECENT EVENTS
Dr. Genelle Lamont & Dr. Jim Boulger, Advisory Meetings & Team Building Retreat

STAFF MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS
Dr. Amy Otto, Josyaah Budreau & Brandy Arredondo

CONTACT US
Contact & Thank you
AMICA
American Indigenous Cognitive Assessment (AMICA)

MEMORY KEEPERS MEDICAL DISCOVERY TEAM (MK-MDT) HAS BEEN AWARDED $10 MILLION OVER FIVE YEARS BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING (NIA)

This award is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for their grant entitled “Addressing Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias Disparities: The American Indigenous Cognitive Assessment (AMICA)” (R01AG074231). MK-MDT Executive Director, Dr. Kristen Jacklin (PI), will lead the five-year project (2022-2027) to develop a culturally appropriate dementia evaluation toolkit for American Indian communities. This toolkit will include:

- a cognitive assessment
- caregiver report of symptoms of dementia,
- evaluation of depression symptoms, and
- inventory of changes in activities of daily living (ADLs)

Dr. Kristen Jacklin shared that, “Having an accurate diagnosis of dementia is critical to having access to appropriate care for the person living with dementia and their caregivers. In our previous research we learned that Indigenous populations are reluctant to seek care for dementia because the clinical diagnosis process and tools are not culturally fair or safe. The toolkit we aim to develop will help meet a significant community need and will lead to greater accuracy and earlier detection of dementia.”

The AMICA project is a multi-site project with partnerships with Red Lake Nation, Minnesota, Oneida Nation, Wisconsin, and First Nations Community HealthSource, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
The Memory Keepers Medical Discovery Team is proud to partner with Red Lake Nation to address health disparities related to Alzheimer’s Disease and related dementias. The research partnership began in 2018 with the Indigenous Cultural Understandings of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias – Research and Engagement (ICARE) (https://memorykeepersmdt.com/icare/).

The Red Lake Nation and the MK-MDT are continuing their research partnership by embarking on a new project called Addressing Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementia Disparities: The American Indigenous Cognitive Assessment (AMICA). MK-MDT will continue to work closely with the Red Lake Health Director and Administrator, as well as the Community Advisory Council. For this project, we will hire a community researcher and develop an Indigenous Knowledge Advisory Group who will review and discuss any cultural and linguistic adaptation needed for each tool.

ADRDP Awareness Podcast by January Johnson
Subscribe HERE
Executive Director, Dr. Kristen Jacklin & Associate Director, Dr. Jordan Lewis, co-authored a chapter for the Alzheimer’s Disease International World Report 2022!

**ADI World Alzheimer Report 2022**

**Theme:** Post Diagnosis Support  
**Title:** Providing Optimal Dementia Support to Indigenous People in North America


"We encourage providers to pursue culturally safe care practices, engage in critical self-reflection, as well as engage in an open dialogue on the appropriateness of Western biomedical approaches for Indigenous populations."
FACULTY HIGHLIGHT

GENELLE R. S. LAMONT, PHD, MPH
Assistant Professor

MK-MDT Welcomes Dr. Genelle Lamont. Dr. Lamont joined the MK-MDT team at the end of August 2022. Dr. Lamont is an assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Biobehavioral Health at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine Duluth campus and core faculty with the Memory Keepers, Medical Discovery Team. She holds a Master of Public Health degree in environmental health and a Doctorate in occupational health research and policy from the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. Her primary research interests include Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias, chronic disease, American Indian/Alaska Native health, rural health, health literacy, health equity, cultural competency, and geographic information systems.

Dr. Lamont comes to Memory Keepers with 10 years of experience in infectious and chronic disease, oral health, and public health surveillance with the Minnesota Department of Health and several years of experience working in American Indian communities, public health, and commercial tobacco research with the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. She has an adjunct faculty appointment at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health teaching graduate and professional students coursework from the American Indian Health and Wellness certificate program and held past internships and fellowships with the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council Epidemiology Center (GLITEC), and the Center for Environmental Health in California. In her free time, she enjoys screenwriting and learning different languages and dance styles.
ADVISOR HIGHLIGHT

DR. JIM BOULGER, PHD

Jim Boulger, PhD, is the Memory Keepers Medical Discovery Team Rural Advisor. Jim is widely known for his experience and expertise in rural health, rural health personnel needs, medical education and research mentoring with medical students.

Jim provides knowledge and expertise to the CERDAR research program and more broadly to the MDT in its strategic planning concerning rural health, and rural medical education.

RECENT EVENTS

Rural Research Advisory Board Meeting

Elder Advisory Board Meeting

Team Building Retreat-Larsmont Cottages
STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

O u r  G r o w i n g  T e a m

NEW FACES

Dr. Otto has a background in quality of life issues for people living with chronic health conditions and their family/informal caregivers.

**DR. AMY OTTO**
Senior Research Associate

Dr. Otto works on several of projects at Memory Keepers Medical Discovery Team, with both Indigenous and rural communities, including AMICA, ICARE, and CERDAR.

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**Brandy Arredondo, MA, Qualitative Analyst**, is a qualitative analyst responsible for the data analysis of multiple community-based research projects with Indigenous and rural communities. She specializes in culturally-responsive research that centralizes the lived experiences of individuals and communities. She earned her MA in Applied Anthropology from the University of South Florida.

**Josyaah Budreau, MA, Qualitative Analyst**, grew up on the Fond du Lac Reservation in Minnesota.

He is a data analyst that will work on various community based research projects with Indigenous and rural populations. The body of work that he has focused on is symbolic interactionism and how identity, specifically racial identity is constructed.
THANK YOU to everyone who donated and/or walked with us at the Walk to End Alzheimer's in Duluth, MN or virtually - Our team raised $3,565!

Thank you for joining!

Empowering Leadership, Policy, and Action

See recording HERE.

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CONTACT US

TWITTER: @MemoryKeeperMDT

LINKEDIN:
https://www.linkedin.com/company/memory-keepers-medical-discovery-team

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