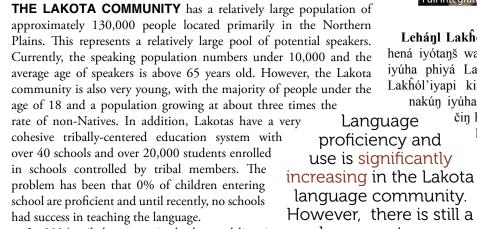
Best Practices in Language Revitalization

Language

proficiency and

The Lakota Language Consortium are Talking the Talk.

By Wil Meya, the Executive Director of the Lakota Language Consortium Lakota Language text provided by Ben Black Bear and Jan Ullrich



In 2004, tribal community leaders and linguists long way to go. partnered to form the Lakota Language Consortium (LLC) to develop a strategy to achieve large-scale and broad-based language proficiency to save the language. The result is a comprehensive system for language revitalization that has five major parts that are clearly defined, measurable, and interdependent.

Linguistics: develop pedagogically correct curriculum and literature for the language at all its levels and across a range of uses; our primary focus is on K-16 schools.

Instruction: retrain existing Lakota language teachers and develop a new language teacher corps utilizing proven teaching methodologies.

Education: start with a standard, sequenced second language curriculum to lay the ground work for a population of second-language speakers and eventual Lakota-medium instruction.

Oversight: provide accountability by conducting pre-and posttesting of language proficiency in schools at sequenced intervals of instruction

Social: promote and support language use beyond the schools homes and communities.

Through a persistent and concerted effort, language proficiency and use is significantly increasing in the Lakota language community. However, there is still a long way to go. Success will only come by continuously improving our practices and by listening to and collaborating with others.











Lehánl Lakhóta oyáte kin hená 130,000 wahénakečapi nahán hená iyótanš wazíyatakiya makĥóblaye ektá thípi. Ho čha hená iyúha phiyá Lakĥól'iyapi kte kin hé okíhiphiča. Wanná tóna Lakĥól'iyapi kin hená opáwinge wikčémna aókpanipi nahán nakún iyúha kiníl líla kánpi. Ho éyaš Lakĥóta égna tĥéčake

čin hená óta, na tóna waníyetu akéšagloğan aókpanipi kin hená óta ĥča. Ho na nakún Lakĥóta oyáte kin

wašíču kin yámni akhígle isánm oĥ'ánkĥoya óta áyapi. Ho nakún Lakĥóta kin líla wakĥánheža hóčhokatĥuntĥunyan waúnspewičhakhiyapi, owáyawa wikčémna tópa sánm iyáya yukĥín nahán 20,000 sánm iyáya wayáwapi. K'éyaš Lakĥóta wakĥánheža eyá tĥokéya wayáwapi kin hená Lakĥól'iyapi šni na nakún owáyawa ektá tanyán

Lakĥól'iya uŋspéwičhakhiyapi, tkĥáš lečhála héčhetu.

2004 él Lakĥóta thánkaka eyá na iyápi wapásike eyá Lakĥól'iyapi kin glukínipi kta čha Lakĥól'iyapi Okĥólakičhiye káğapi. Tókhel káğapi kte kin hená záptankiya yanké, ho na iyóhila ablésya oyágphiča, iyútĥe-phiča na kakhínunkĥan yanké.

Iyápi wóuŋspe: wóuŋspe očháŋku na wówapi aíyopteya uŋkáğapi kte, iyótanš K-16 kin ópĥapi hená iyúha wičhúkičičağapi.

Waúnspewičhakhiyapi: Lehánhunniyan waúnspewičhakhiyapi kin henáhéčhenaškánpikte, nahánnakúntĥelyákel waúnspewičhakhiyapi ošpáye unkáğapi kte.

Wóunspe: óčibčib wóunspe očhánku wan munkáğapi kte na un tóna Lakĥól'iya ičháğapi šni kin hená unspépi kte na tĥokátakiya Lakĥól'iya ečéla waúnspewičhakhiyapi.

Wóawanyanke: wóunspe ithókab na ihákab wóiyuthe íŋyang'unkhiyapi na un tanyán ečhúnpi héči iwánunyankapi kte.

Oyáte: owáyawa itĥánkal, thiyátakiya na tuktétu ke éyaš Lakĥól'iyapi kiŋ lé úŋpi kte kiŋ hé uŋpátitaŋpi.

Ókunwanžila na ptáyela škínunkič'iyapi na un Lakĥóta makĥóčhe ektá Lakĥól'iyapi kin lé unspéwičhakhiyapi kin líla wašté áye. Ho éyaš nahánhčin théhanl maúnnipi kte héčha. Oyáte thókeča anáwičhungoptanpi na ób óunkičhiyapi hántanš nahán wóunspe unglúwaštepi hántanš ečéla ohíunyanpi kte.