

At the Speed of Trust: Building Tribal and Federal Relationships in Health Research

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NIH Tribal Health Research Office (THRO)**

Alaska Indigenous Research Program
May 13, 2022

What Does It Mean to Move at the Speed of Trust?

Change moves at the speed of trust.

- *Stephen Covey*



- Takes time
- Requires trusting relationships with partners
- Must truly value partner contributions

We Must Acknowledge History

“Theft has been the overriding experience of Native people in North America since the time of first contact...”*



Photo: Juliana M. Blome

Theft of: land, sovereignty, family members, language, culture, religion, knowledge, religious and cultural articles, Native symbols, ancestral bones, and more ...

*Bowekaty MB & Davis DS. IRB: Ethics and Human Research 25(4):12-15, 2003.

2020-2021: Changes in the Social Landscape

“It is a priority of my Administration to make respect for Tribal sovereignty and self-governance, commitment to fulfilling Federal trust and treaty responsibilities to Tribal Nations, and regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal Nations cornerstones of Federal Indian policy.”

- President Biden, Presidential Memo, January 26, 2021

Health
Equity



Lakota Elder Helen ‘Granny ‘
Redfeather - By Ernesto Yeren
Montejano

Diversity



Social Justice

Inclusion

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 40

To address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.



Health
Disparities

Shifting Legal Landscape – Landmark U.S. Supreme Court Decision

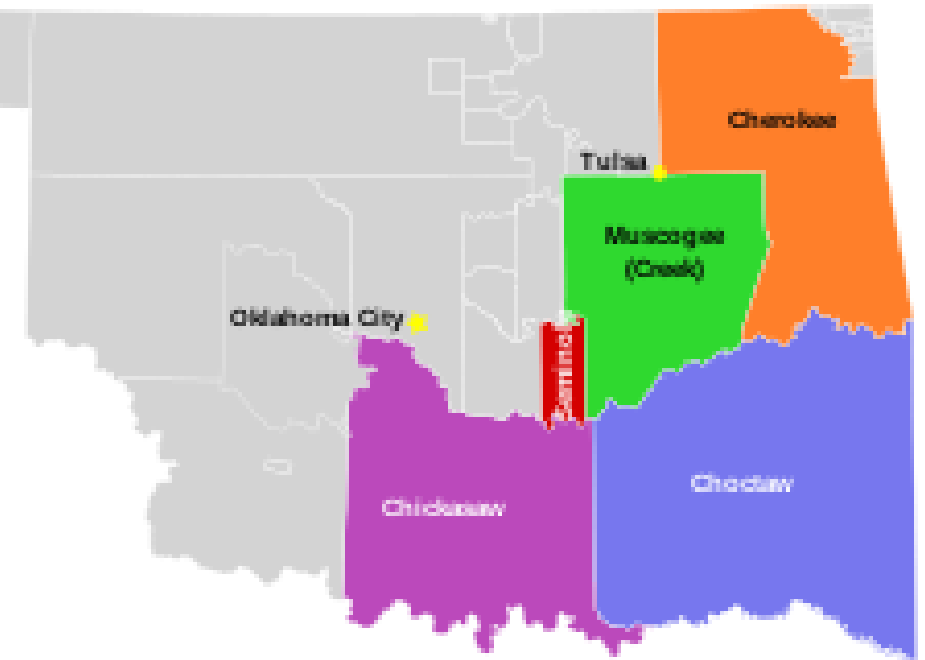
McGirt v. Oklahoma – Decided July 9, 2020

- Case concerned whether Oklahoma could try a citizen of a Tribal Nation for criminal matters.
- McGirt contended that because his offenses occurred on lands guaranteed to the Muscogee Creek Nation in an 1866 treaty—one never legally extinguished by Congress—only Federal authorities could prosecute his case.

In a 5-4 decision, the Court ruled that Oklahoma remains Native Land.



Tribal rights, sovereignty, and jurisdiction are coming to the forefront in a historic way.



Former reservations of Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek (Muscogee), and Seminole.

Respect for Tribal Sovereignty is Foundational



The Treaty of Canandaigua, 1794. Parchment, ink, resin and wafer seals, ribbon. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

- Since the formation of the Union, the U.S. has recognized American Indian Tribes as **sovereign nations**.
- Resulted in the transfer of land under treaties
- Federal programs and services that benefit American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) are based on this **unique government-to-government relationship**.
- **The relationship is political and legal.** It is not based on race.
- The Federal government recognizes **574 Tribal Nations**, each with their own culture, language, government, and history.

Reinforced Commitment to Tribal Sovereignty



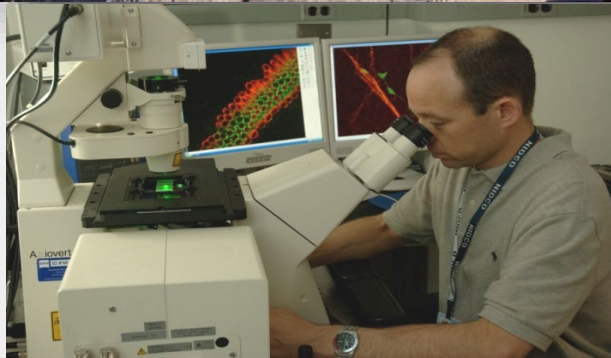
- **Executive Memorandum: January 2021**
 - Respect for Tribal Sovereignty
 - Regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal Nations

- **Presidential Memorandum: November 2009**
 - Requires agencies to prepare and update plans of action to implement EO 13175.

- **Executive Order 13175: November 2000**
 - Charges all executive departments and agencies with engaging in regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have Tribal implications.

NIH: Steward of Biomedical and Behavioral Research for the Nation

WINNING
the
FUTURE

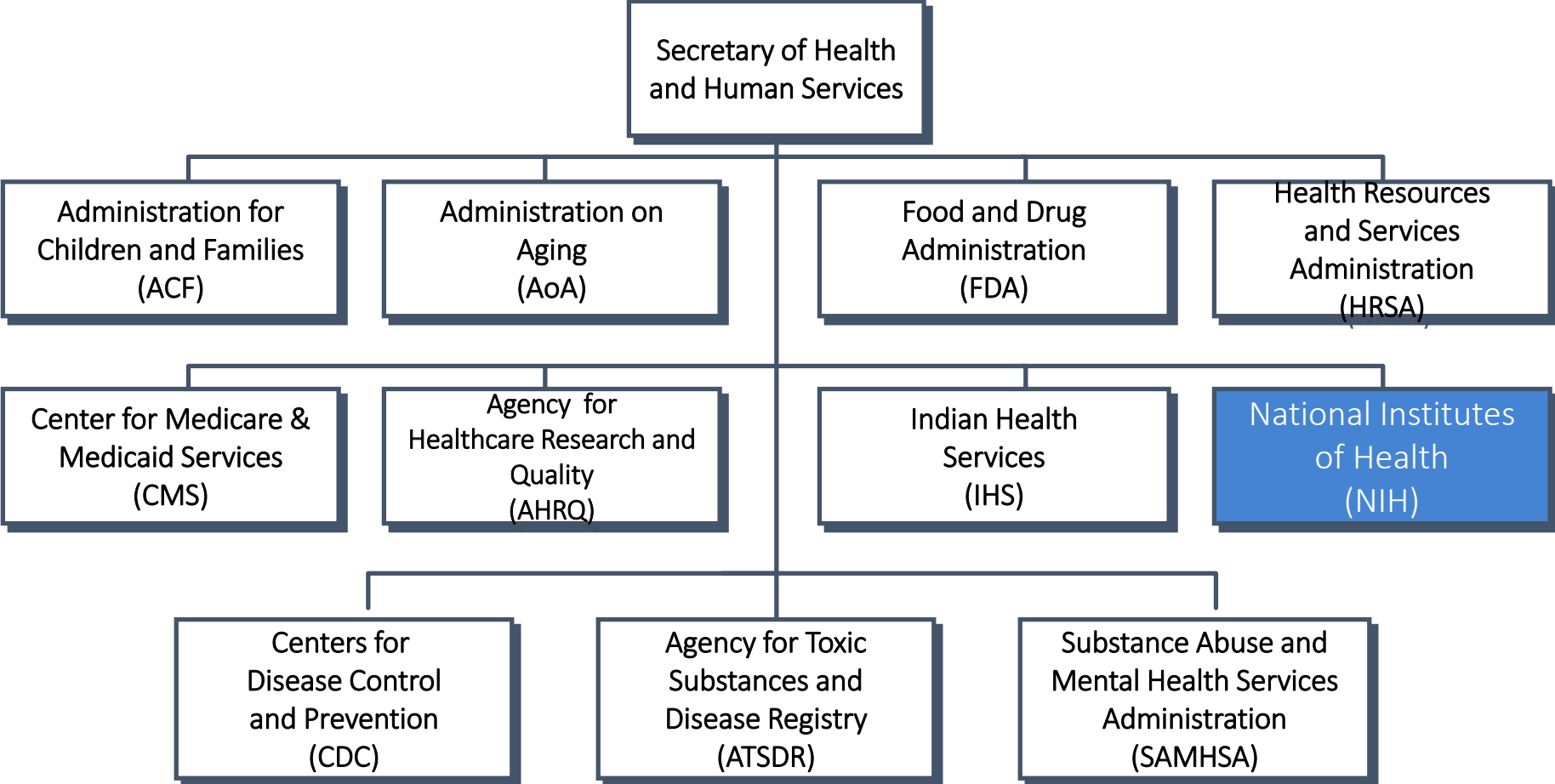


NIH's mission is to seek **fundamental knowledge** about the nature and behavior of living systems...

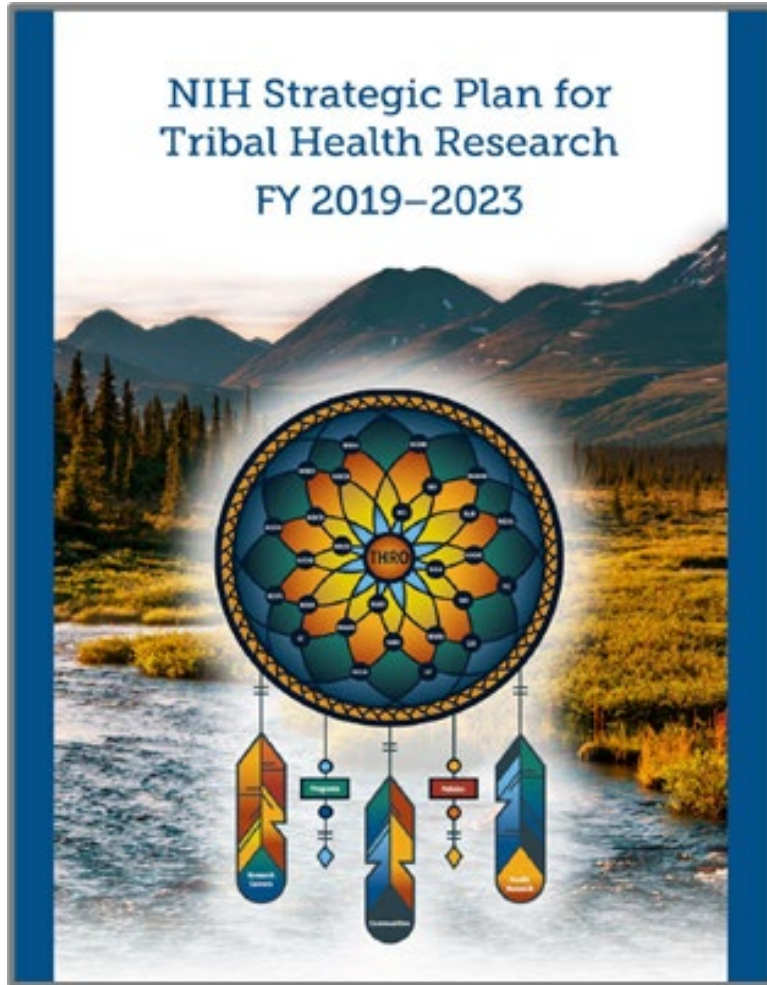
...and the **application of that knowledge** to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability.



The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services



Functions of the NIH Tribal Health Research Office (Established 2015)

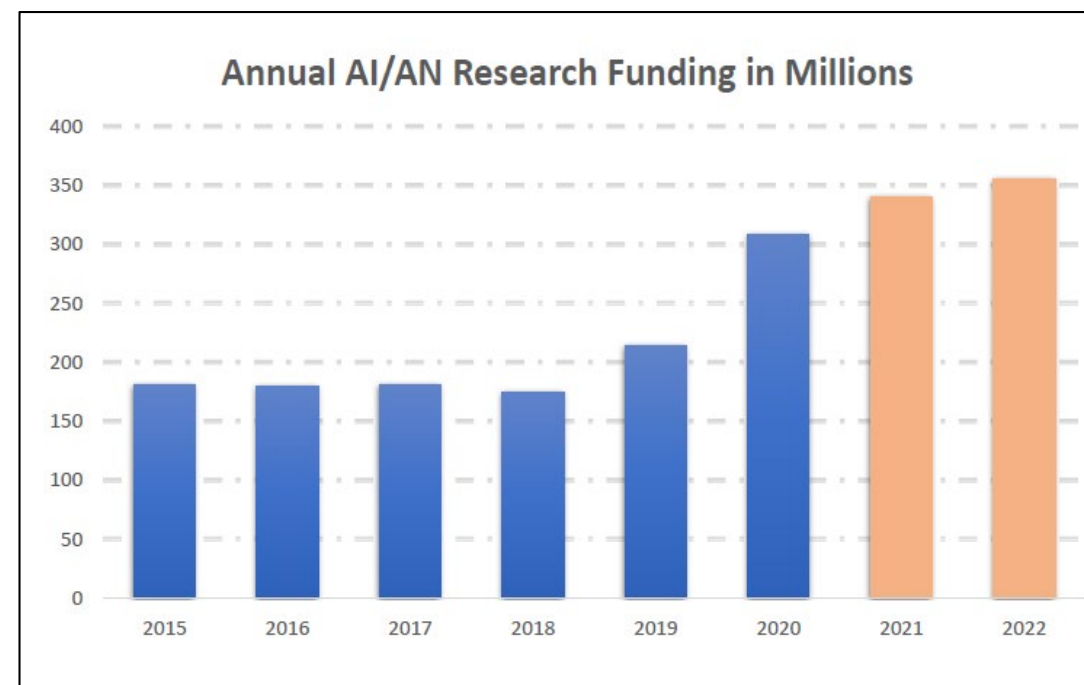


- **Central hub** for coordinating Tribal health research and AI/AN capacity building across NIH
- **Supports ICO efforts** to meet Strategic Plan Goals
- Ensures adherence to the **NIH Tribal Consultation Policy**
- **Gathers meaningful input** from Tribal communities
- Convenes **NIH Tribal Advisory Committee**

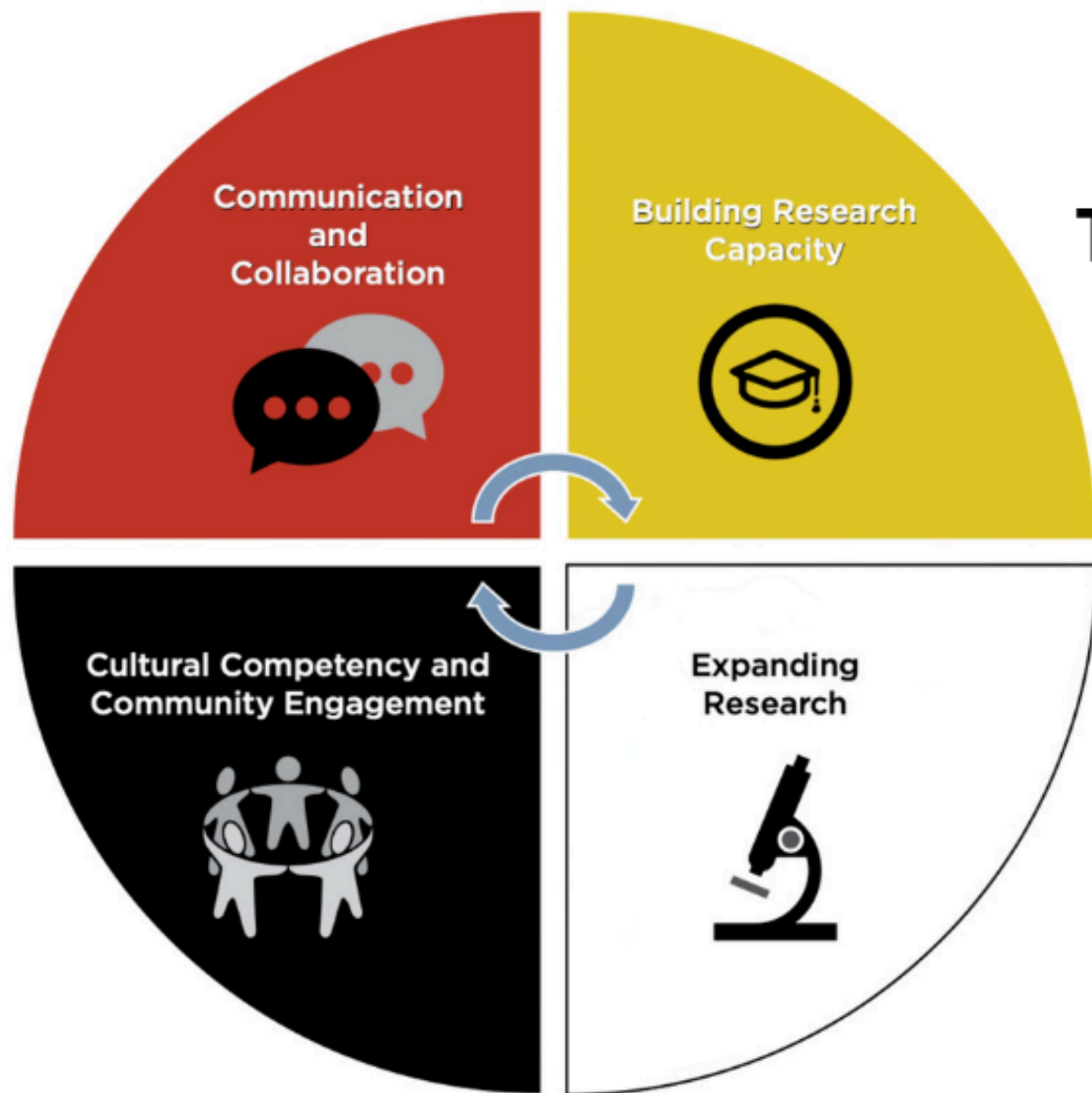
NIH's AI/AN Research Portfolio – An Upward Trend

FY2018 Portfolio Analysis:

- **NIH Investment of \$180M**
- Supported **254** research base projects specifically focused on AI/AN health or community resource needs in FY18
- **10 ICs and the OD** provided approximately \$141M or 78% of the funding
- Funding level has remained relatively constant since FY15.
- **43% - Research**
30% - Infrastructure and community outreach
28% - Workforce development
- 16% of the NIH AI/AN funding fell under umbrella funding opportunities, like **NARCH** and **IRINAH**.



<https://report.nih.gov/>



NIH STRATEGIC PLAN FOR TRIBAL HEALTH RESEARCH

FY 2019-2023

Goals aim to improve NIH relationships and collaborative efforts with American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

LEARN MORE!



NIH National Institutes of Health
Tribal Health Research Office

Building research partnerships for healthy Tribal Nations

Working Across NIH – Partnering on Programs and Problem Solving

NCATS



National COVID-19 Cohort Collaborative (N3C)

NHLBI



Strong Heart Study (SHS)

NIAID



Navajo Nation Town Hall
Facebook Live: COVID-19 Research/Vaccines
Great Plains Tribes and NIH
CFARs and Tribal Epidemiology Centers

NIDDK



Intramural Research Program

NIGMS



Formal Consultation on NARCH Program

NIMHD



Tribal Epidemiology Centers

NINDS



Regional Training Hubs for AI/AN students

Guiding Principles Support Efforts and Strategic Plan Implementation



Respect

Transparency

Communication

New NIH Tribal Consultation Policy: Gathering Meaningful Input from Tribal Nations



 NIH Tribal Health Research Office
March 17 · 🌐

The [National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#) has a new Tribal Consultation Policy! Issuing this policy today is an important step that reflects NIH's commitment to sovereign Tribal Nations, a transparent and consistent Tribal Consultation process, and supporting the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives through biomedical and behavioral health research. With an emphasis on trust and shared responsibility, Tribal Consultation is a formal process for open and free exchange o... See more

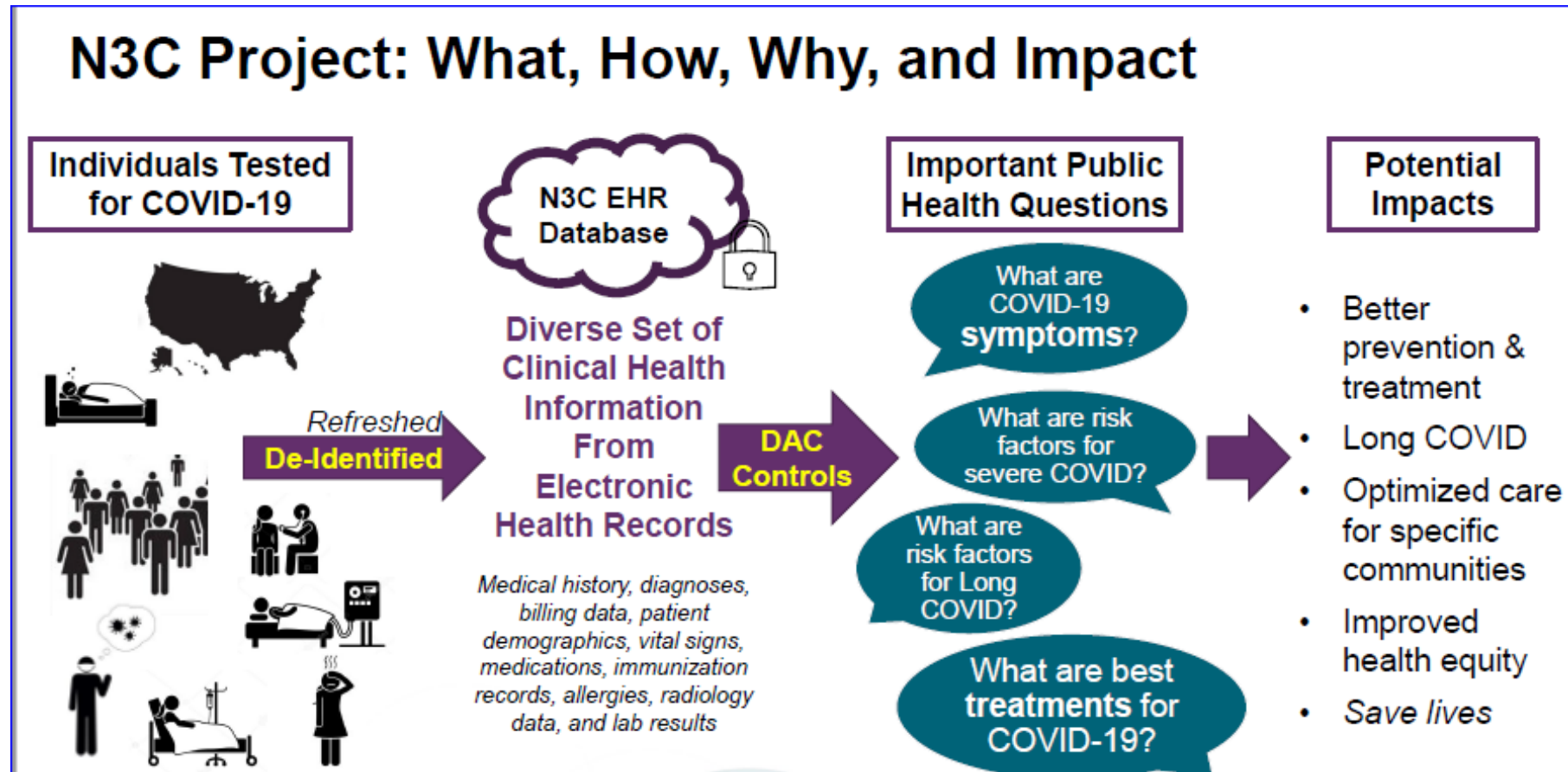
NEW NIH TRIBAL CONSULTATION POLICY

SUPPORTING THE HEALTH OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES THROUGH HEALTH RESEARCH



- Policy includes:
 - Definitions
 - Objectives section
 - Description of roles
 - Details on process
 - Reporting requirements
 - Evaluation of meetings and process
 - Regular assessment

Tribal Consultation on the National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C)



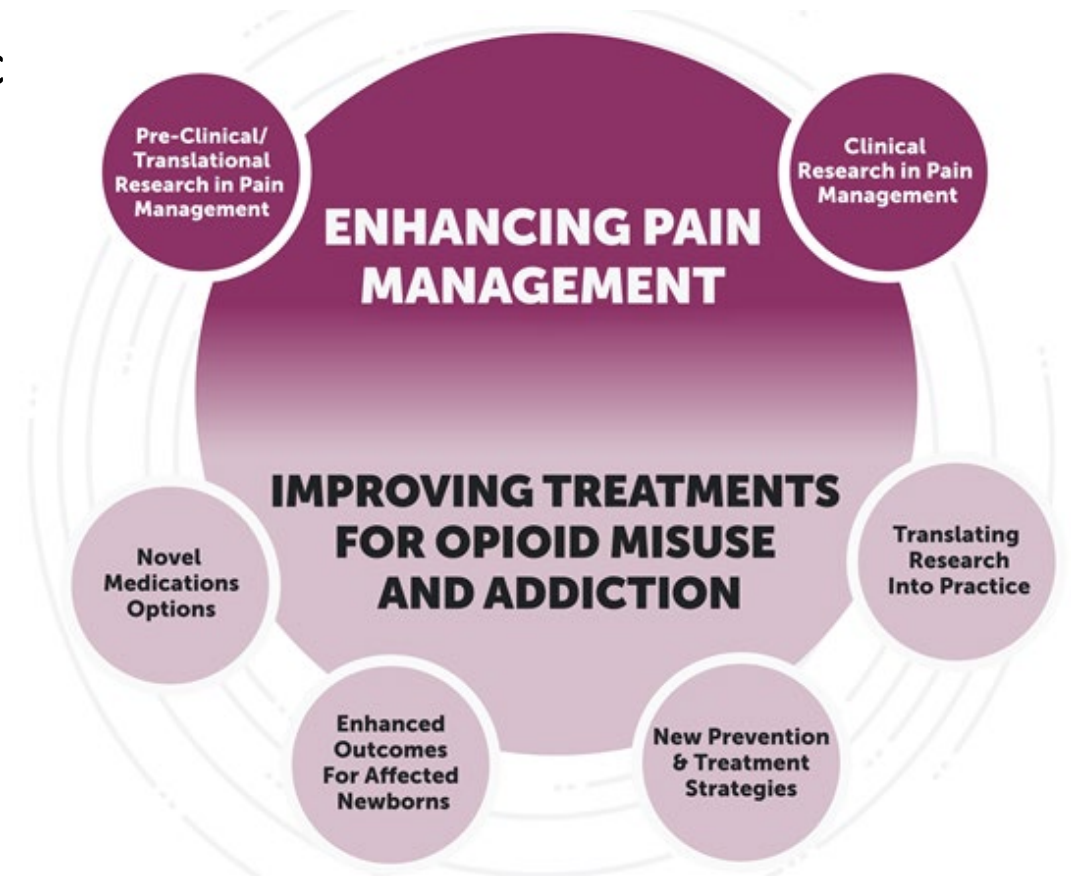
Held by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Feb. 2022

Tribal Consultation on Helping to End Addiction Long-Term Initiative

HEAL = A trans-agency effort to speed scientific solutions to stem the national opioid public health crisis in all communities

March 31, 2022

- What research priorities are important to AI/AN communities?
- How should HEAL engage with AI/AN communities to develop a Tribally focused initiative to speed development of scientific and local solutions to the opioid crisis?



Data Sharing and Management – Emphasizing Tribal Sovereignty

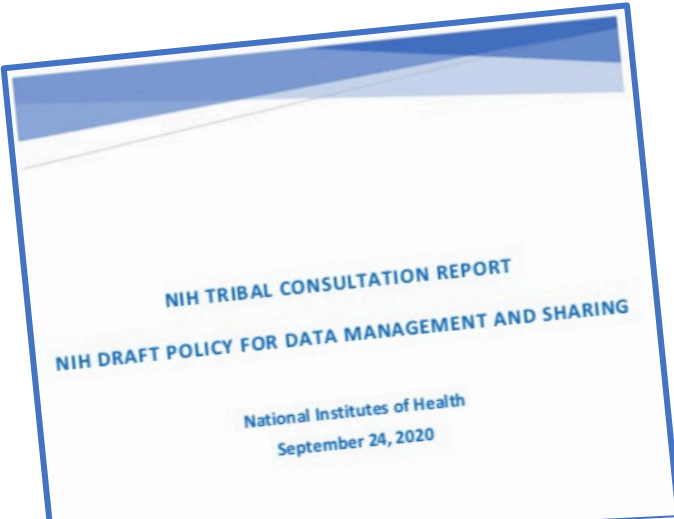


Table 1. Recommendations for Draft NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing Provisions.

Consultation Recommendation	Planned NIH Implementation Activities
<p>Recommendation 1.</p> <p>NIH should emphasize the essential role Tribal sovereignty plays in how AI/AN data should be managed and shared regardless of whether a Tribal Nation has data management and sharing laws and/or policies in place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen policy language: “Applicable Federal, Tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, statutes, guidance, and institutional policies dictate how research involving human participants should be conducted and how the scientific data derived from human participants should be used; NIH also respects Tribal sovereignty in the absence of written Tribal laws or policies”• Clarify in policy background statement: Encourage researchers to approach studies with Tribal Nations through partnerships that respect Tribal sovereignty• Develop AI/AN-specific guidance: Urge researchers to engage AI/AN communities prior to beginning research to ensure deliberative inclusion of Tribal sovereignty and unique data sharing sensitivities in plans for data management and sharing

- “...recognizing that there may be **unique concerns** for AI/AN communities regarding broad data sharing, including circumstances in which broad data sharing may not be appropriate”
- **Consultation themes:**
 - *Strengthen engagement built on trust*
 - *Train researchers*
 - *Align research practices with Tribal laws, policies, and preferences*

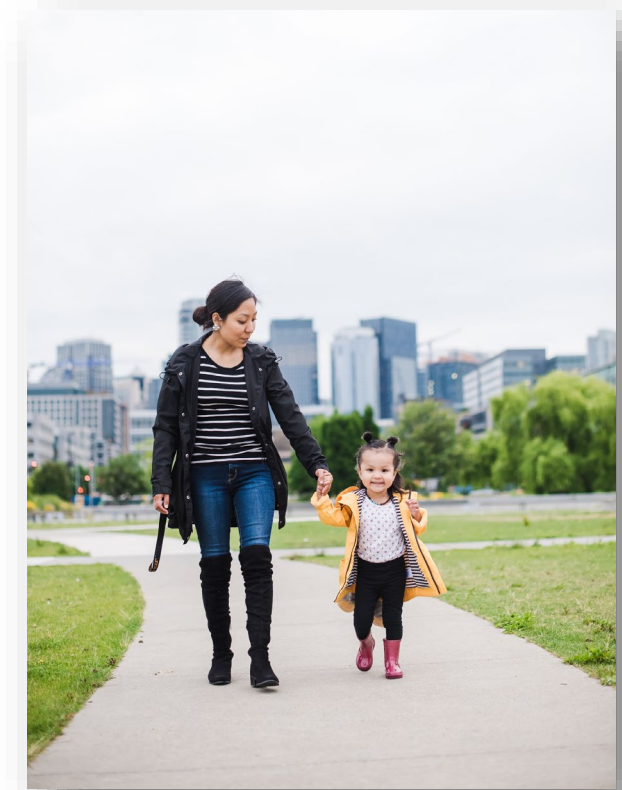
Ethical Inclusion of Urban Indian Populations in Biomedical Research

- >7 out of 10 AI/ANs live in urban areas
- TAC Subcommittee
“to develop a framework and guidance for the ethical conduct of NIH research with Urban AI/AN populations that falls geographically outside the jurisdiction of Federally recognized Tribes under sovereignty-based research regulations”

AJPH PERSPECTIVES

Responsible Research With Urban American Indians and Alaska Natives

Rosalina D. James, PhD, Kathleen M. West, PhD, Katrina G. Claw, PhD, Abigail EchoHawk, MA, Leah Dodge, MPH, Adrian Dominguez, MPH, Maile Taulii, PhD, Ralph Forquera, MPH, Kenneth Thummel, PhD, and Wylie Burke, MD, PhD



Promoting Ethical Research With American Indian and Alaska Native People Living in Urban Areas

| Nicole P. Yuan, PhD, MPH, Jami Bartgis, PhD, and Deirdre Demers, MPH

NIH National Institutes of Health
Tribal Health Research Office

Building research partnerships for healthy Tribal Nations

Communications – Clear, Culturally Appropriate, Responsive



JOHNS HOPKINS
CENTER FOR AMERICAN
INDIAN HEALTH

HANG IN THERE.


Effective and safe COVID-19 vaccines will help to #StoptheSpread.

Art by Joelle Joyner

Can vaccines cause SARS-CoV-2 infection or cause COVID-19?

NO!


The vaccines being tested are made from synthetic (laboratory-made) pieces copied from SARS-CoV-2, not the whole virus. Therefore, the vaccines **CANNOT** cause infection or cause you to get COVID-19.



COVID-19 Prevention Network

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Will a COVID-19 vaccine alter my DNA?




No. COVID-19 mRNA vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way.

Messenger RNA vaccines—also called mRNA vaccines—are the first COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the U.S. mRNA vaccines teach our cells how to make a protein that triggers an immune response. The mRNA from a COVID-19 vaccine never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA is kept. This means the mRNA cannot affect or interact with our DNA in any way. Instead, COVID-19 mRNA vaccines work with the body's natural defenses to safely develop immunity to disease. At the end of the process, our bodies have learned how to protect against future infection. That immune response and making antibodies is what protects us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies.

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Source: Facts About COVID-19 Vaccines, CDC, Updated January 20, 2021
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>



"The choice to be vaccinated is an important community, family, and personal decision that we all must take seriously. I took my first opportunity to #SleeveUp because I **believe in the science** behind the COVID-19 vaccines and that they are safe, effective, and will **save lives**."

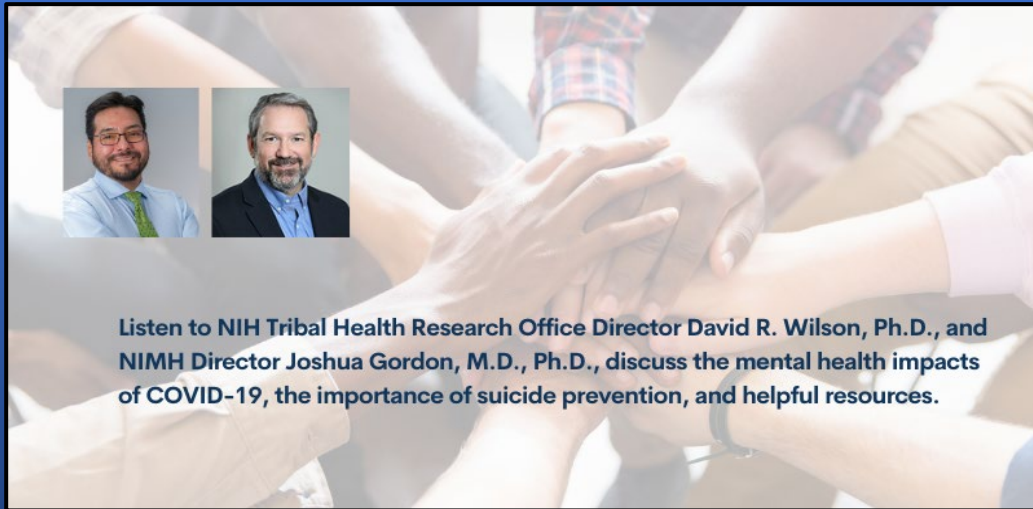
– David R. Wilson, Ph.D., Diné, Director,
NIH Tribal Health Research Office

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Addressing Health in AI/AN Communities



NIH National Institutes of Health
Tribal Health Research Office

THRO Home TAC THRCC Tribal Consultations Research and Funding Resources About Us

COVID-19
• Get the latest public health information from CDC » • Get the latest research information from NIH » | Español » • NIH staff guidance on coronavirus (NIH Only) »

Tribal Health Research Office (THRO)

A Conversation About Drug Use and Addiction
Watch recording »

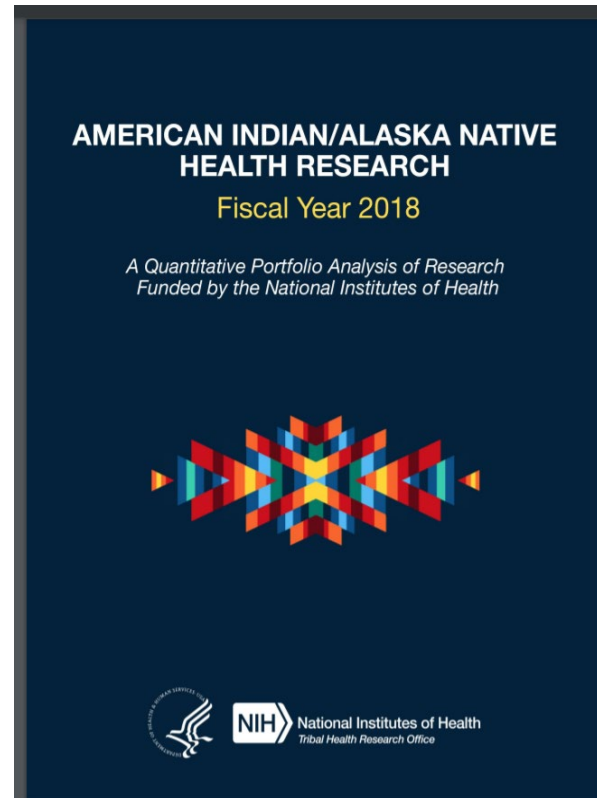
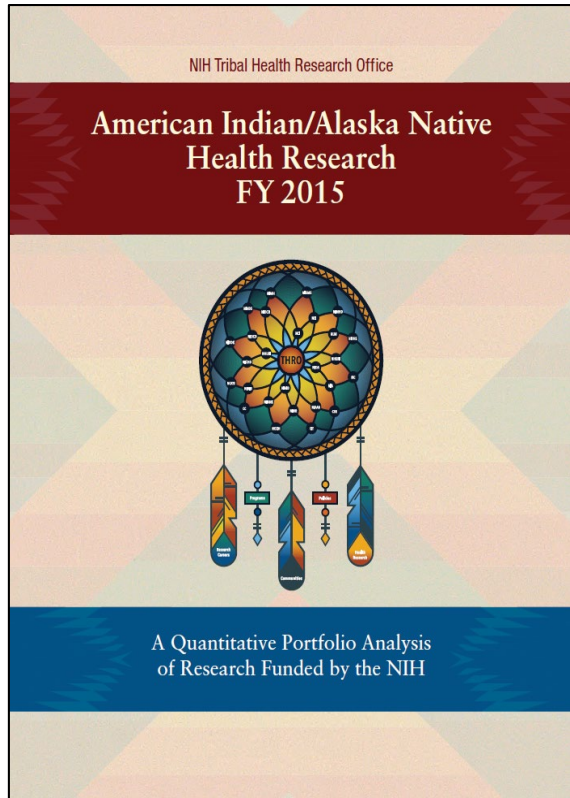
David R. Wilson, Ph.D.
Director, Tribal Health Research Office

Nora D. Volkow, M.D.
Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse

Learn about current issues related to drug use and addiction for American Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the impacts of COVID-19, the importance of cultural strengths, and NIH research.

- Responding to interests of Tribal communities
- Increased interest from other ICs about outreach to Tribes
- THRO supporting ICs to do more
- Enhancing agency interest in cultural competency

Building Research Capacity for AI/AN Communities



- Forming collaborative partnerships
- Expanding support for AI/AN researchers
- Working to increase the number of AI/AN students pursuing research careers
- Engaging ICOs to expand NIH research with AI/AN communities

Summer Internships at NIH

TRAINING & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

High School, Undergraduate, & Post-Baccalaureate

Predoctoral Fellows

Postdoctoral Fellows

Clinician-Scientists

Faculty

Diversity Awards

Individual Fellowships

Career Development Awards

Institutional Grants

Other Training-Related Programs

LATEST UPDATES

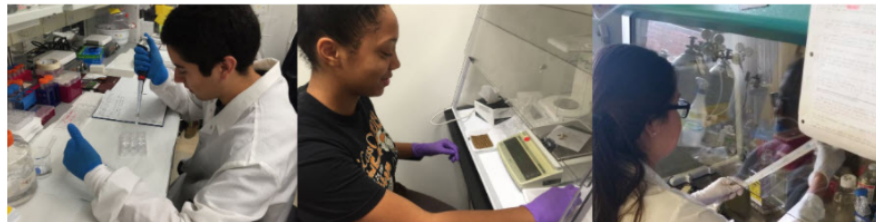


NINDS Strategic Plan 2021-2026

NINDS Health Disparities in Tribal Communities Summer Internship Program (SIP)

COVID-19 UPDATE: We are now able to share information regarding the 2021 NINDS/NIH Summer Internship Program (SIP), High School Summer Internship Program (HS-SIP) and the Health Disparities in Tribal Communities Summer Internship Program. Unfortunately, it is clear that we still face uncertain times with continuing difficulty integrating trainees who started during the pandemic. Therefore, we want to let you know that all **2021 NINDS Summer programs will be fully virtual this summer**. The 2021 Summer Program Cohorts has been selected. We look forward to the next application cycle starting in mid-November 2021.

For information about COVID-19, visit the following link: <https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus>



Graduate and undergraduate students selected for this fully-funded summer internship

Contact

[Angel de la Cruz Landrau, PhD](mailto:Angel.de.la.Cruz.Landrau@nih.gov)

301-496-0899

ninds-sjp@ninds.nih.gov



Expanding Research

COVID-19
• Get the latest public health information from CDC » • Get the latest research information from NIH » | Español » • NIH staff guidance on coronavirus (NIH Only) »

Common Fund » Common Fund Programs » Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity

Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity

For Researchers
Applicant Resources
Funded Research
Frequently Asked Questions
Funding Opportunities
NIH Working Group Members
Scientific Meetings

New Awards Announced for 2021
Read More

New, highly innovative NIH research awards to address health disparities and advance health equity

Notice of Intent to Re-issue RFA-RM-21-022
The purpose of this Notice is to indicate the intent to re-issue RFA-RM-21-022 "Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity at Minority Serving Institutions (U01 Clinical Trial Allowed). The re-issued RFA will solicit new applications or revisions for a proposed March 25, 2022 final due date. View details: <https://bit.ly/3jvtXbe>

Pre-application Webinar Material for RFA-RM-21-021 and RFA-RM-21-022
On April 27, 2021, the NIH Common Fund hosted a pre-application webinar for Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity (RFA-RM-21-021 and RFA-RM-21-022). NIH program, grants management, and review staff discussed the overall scope and

Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity

In America, health disparities remain a persistent issue affecting racial/ethnic minority populations and other groups. These individuals have higher rates of certain diseases and death compared to the general population, despite scientific and

NIH Common Fund Programs

**COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION
FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

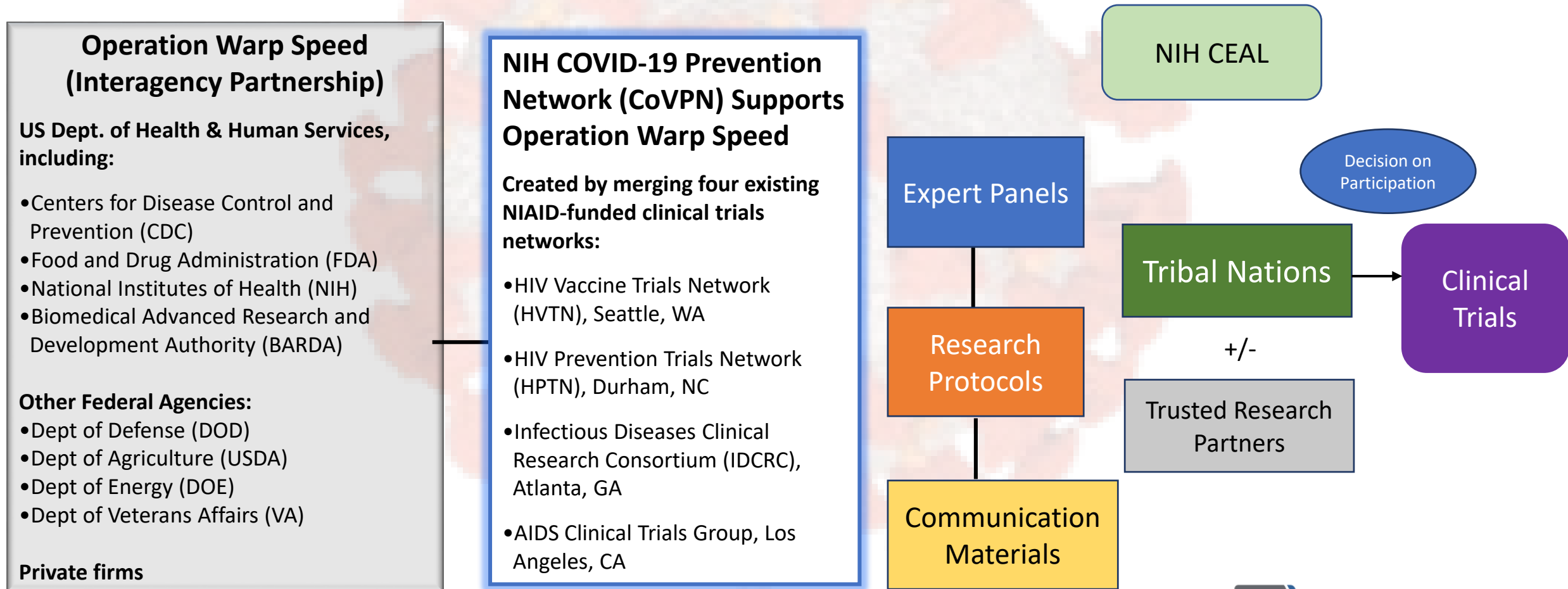
**HELP IDENTIFY NEW SOLUTIONS AND
INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT OF
INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS HEALTH
DISPARITIES AND ADVANCE HEALTH EQUITY**

**NOVEMBER 4, 2021
2:00 – 3:30 P.M. ET**

Sponsored by the NIH Common Fund's Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity Initiative Working Group

  **National Institutes of Health**
Turning Discovery Into Health

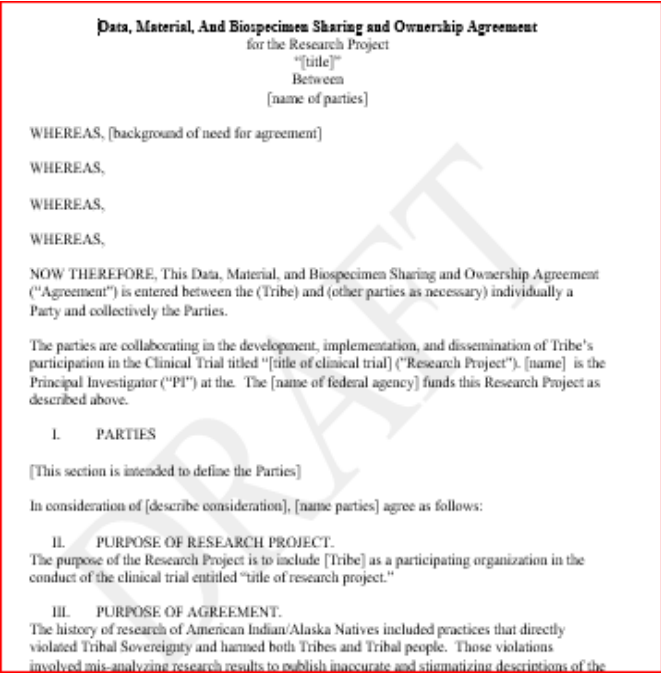
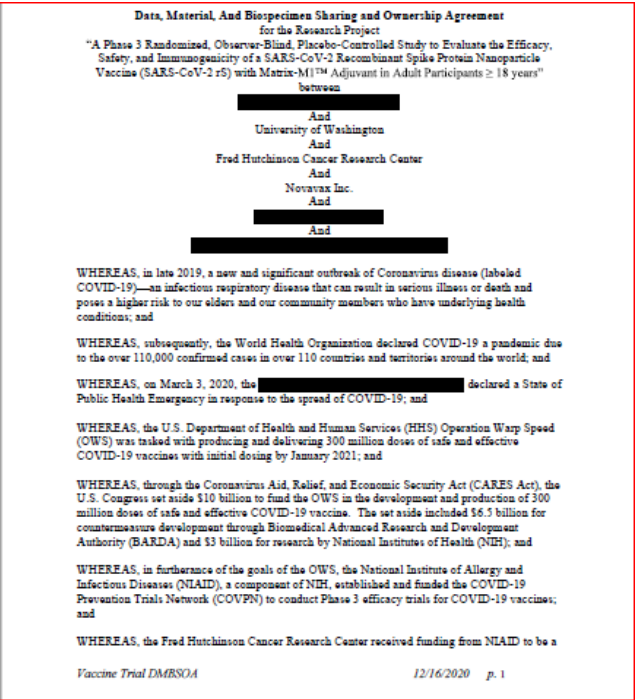
THRO Engagement During Vaccine Development: A Holistic Approach



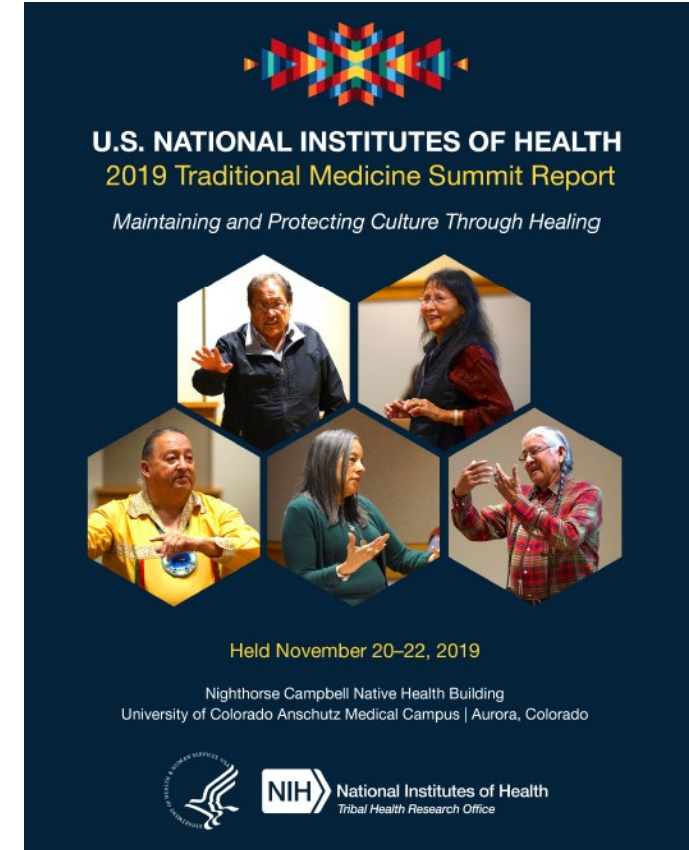
Tribal Consideration to Participate in a Clinical Trial = Success

Groundbreaking agreement between Tribes and pharmaceutical companies

Tribal lawyers prepared template for model DMBSOA



Enhancing Cultural Competency and Community Engagement



- Increase awareness of Traditional ways of healing
- Begin the conversation on how research can benefit from cultural adaption
- Educate scientific community

Social Media: LinkedIn and Facebook

NATIVE AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTERS FOR HEALTH (NARCH) PROGRAM

The NARCH program supports research, research capacity building, and career enrichment to meet the health needs prioritized by American Indian and Alaska Native tribes or tribally based organizations.

LEARN MORE!



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Building research partnerships for healthy Tribal Nations



NIH SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH (SIP)

THE APPLICATION FOR SUMMER 2022 IS STILL OPEN!

Apply by March 1 to this unique summer training opportunity for college, graduate school, and professional school students.



NIH National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health



GIVE YOUR CAREER THE BUTLER-WILLIAMS BOOST THIS SUMMER!

2022 NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING (NIA) BUTLER-WILLIAMS SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Apply by April 15 to this unique summer training opportunity for junior faculty and researchers who are new to aging research.



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Radio Media Tour with Dr. Fauci – March 2021

Dr. Anthony Fauci participated in a radio media tour to address COVID-19 and vaccine hesitancy in AI/AN communities.

Initial Highlights:

- Nearly 4.5 million total impressions
- 371 radio broadcasts with 2 million+ total audience
- Additional soundbite distribution with 2 million+ audience

Listen!  **KNNB APACHE RADIO**



Building research partnerships for healthy Tribal Nations

2021 NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

NIH TRIBAL HEALTH RESEARCH OFFICE

THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF CULTURE & SCIENCE



Native American Heritage Month: The Interconnectedness of Culture and Science

3 2

Dave Wilson

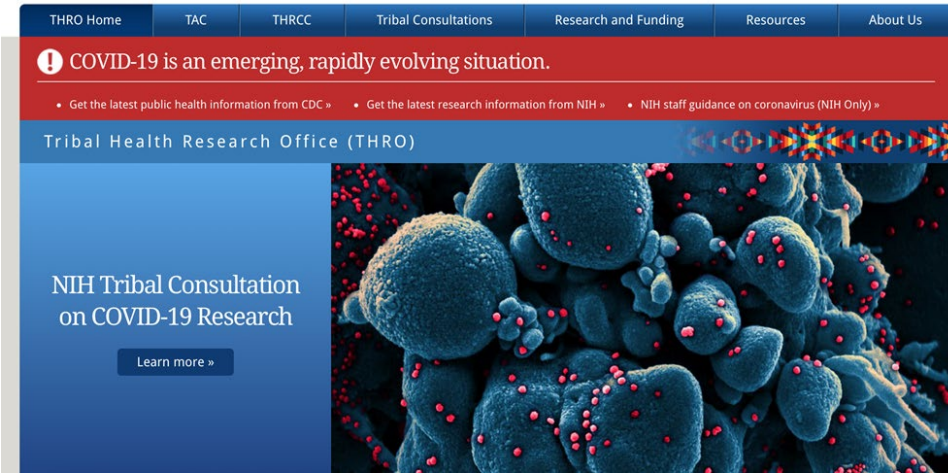
Donald Wame

US AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.

NIH National Institutes of Health Tribal Health Research Office Building research partnerships for healthy Tribal Nations

The image shows a video call interface with two participants. On the left is Dave Wilson, wearing a suit and glasses, with a background of a mountain landscape. On the right is Donald Wame, also in a suit and glasses, with a background of green aurora borealis. The video call title is "Native American Heritage Month: The Interconnectedness of Culture and Science". The NIH logo and name are visible in the top right of the video frame. The text "US AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES." is overlaid at the bottom of the video frame.

Connect With Us and Learn More!



Juliana.Blome@nih.gov

Deputy Director,
Tribal Health Research Office,
DPCPSI, Office of the Director, NIH



A Mother's Love. Mallery Quetawki (Zuni Pueblo). University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy-Community Environmental Health Program.

Website

<https://www.nih.gov/tribalhealth>

Facebook

@NIHTribalHealth

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/nih-tribal-health-research-office>