

California Tribal Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Project

Jessica Nasello
Federal Grants Branch
Community Services Division

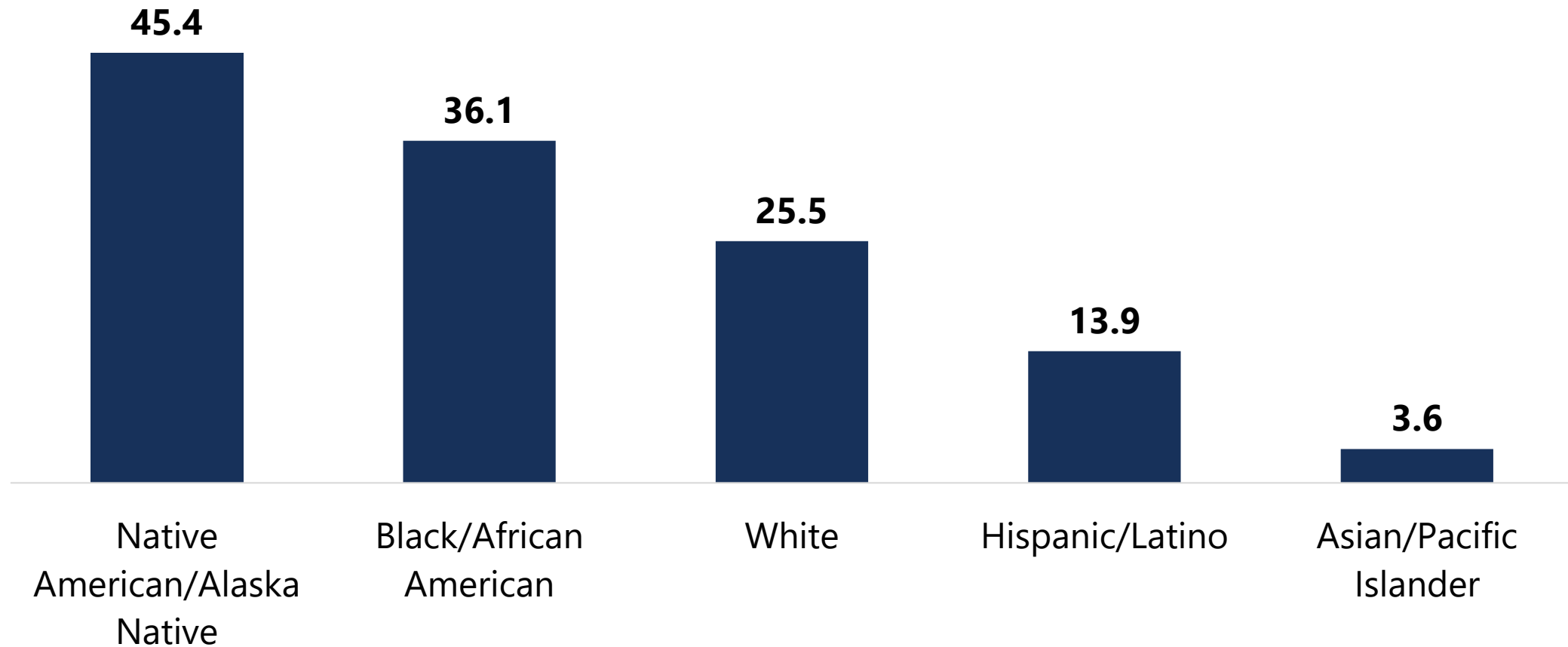
Overview of Presentation

- » Background & Overview
- » Tribal MAT Projects
- » Resources
- » Questions

Background & Overview

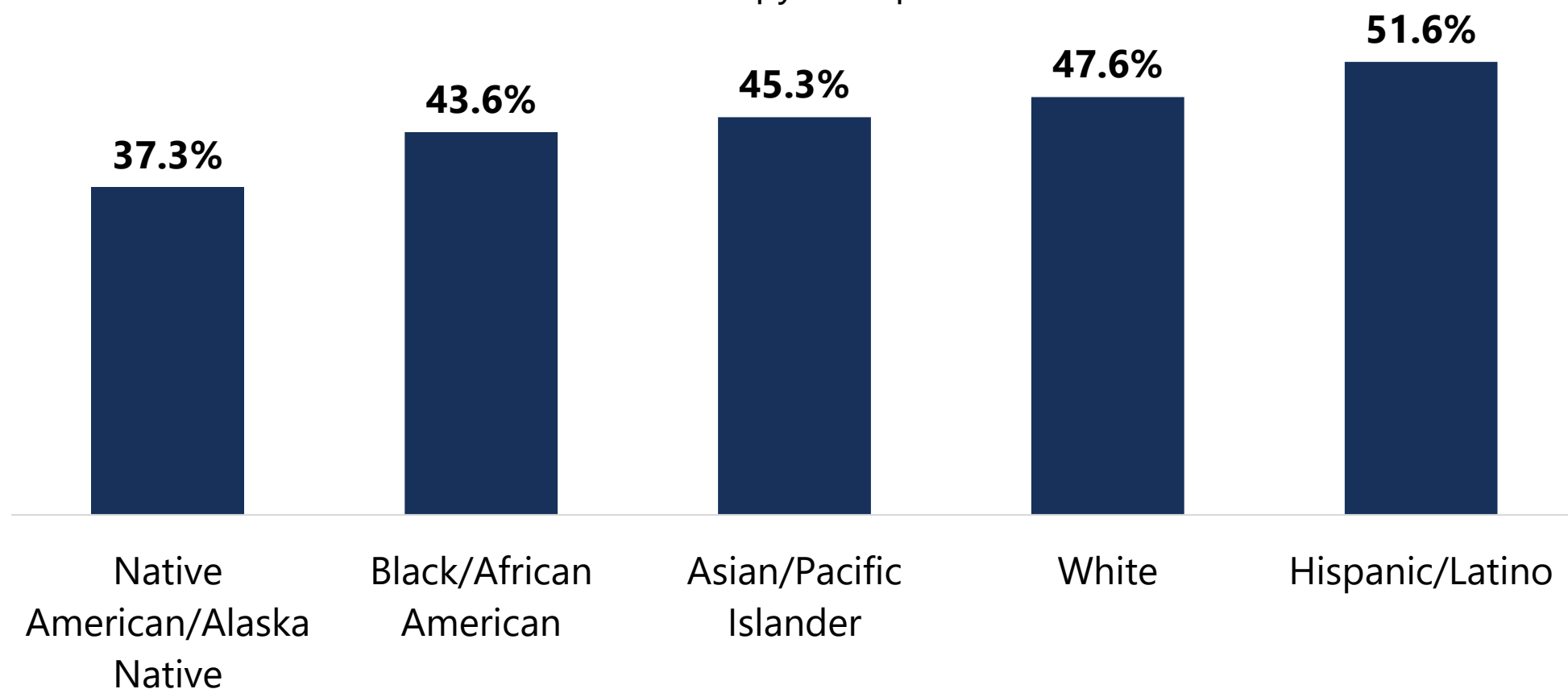


Opioid-Related Overdose Crude Rate per 100,000 Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2021



Medicaid MAT Prescribing by Race/Ethnicity, 2019

Use of Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder



Factors impacting Tribal MAT programs

» External Challenges

- **Patient-level stigma** against seeking treatment and **provider-level stigma** and misconceptions against providing services
- **Patient life circumstances** (e.g., unstable housing, unreliable transportation) and nature of addiction complicate engaging with treatment
- **Lack of treatment providers** offering culturally responsive services for Tribal populations that center native healing practices

» Resources

- **Grant funding and technical assistance** essential to programs development and maintenance
- Adequate levels of **staff** experienced in providing patient care and/or with lived experience
- **Stakeholder** support, internally (e.g., administrators, providers) and externally (e.g., community, key organizations)

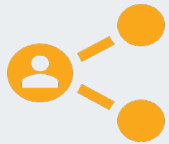
Tribal SUD Statewide Needs Assessment



279 AIAN individuals (33 adult key informants, 163 adults, and 83 youth) participated in key informant interviews or focus groups



Found high prevalence and accessibility of substances in AIAN communities; youth have greater access to substances than in past; family substance use pervasive.



Community and individual stressors are risk factors to opioid use, while historical and intergenerational trauma remain significant drivers of both mental health issues and substance use among AIAN populations.



Barriers to treatment include individual stigma and shame in seeking services, and structural factors including cost, lack of or insufficient insurance coverage, unstable housing, fragmented service delivery, and a lack of residential treatment facilities for substance use disorders.

Effective strategies of TMAT programs

- » **Patient identification and recruitment** methods including outreach, referrals, and word of mouth
- » **Educating clinic staff and communities** to address gaps in patient and provider understanding and encourage MAT acceptance
- » **Removing barriers to care** associated with patient life circumstances, lengthy intake process, and bureaucratic delays to care

CA Tribal MAT Project

The California Tribal Medication Assisted Treatment (TMAT) Project is designed by California's Tribal and Urban Indian communities to promote opioid safety, improve the availability and provision of MAT, and facilitate wider access to naloxone with special consideration for Tribal and Urban Indian values, culture, and treatments.

TMAT shares knowledge among Tribal and Urban Indian communities, Tribal and Urban Indian health programs, and community-based partners on best practices for prevention, treatment and recovery from opioid use disorder (OUD), stimulant use disorders, and other co-occurring substance use disorders (SUDs) across California's 109 federally recognized Tribes.

Tribal MAT Project Objectives



Promote opioid safety



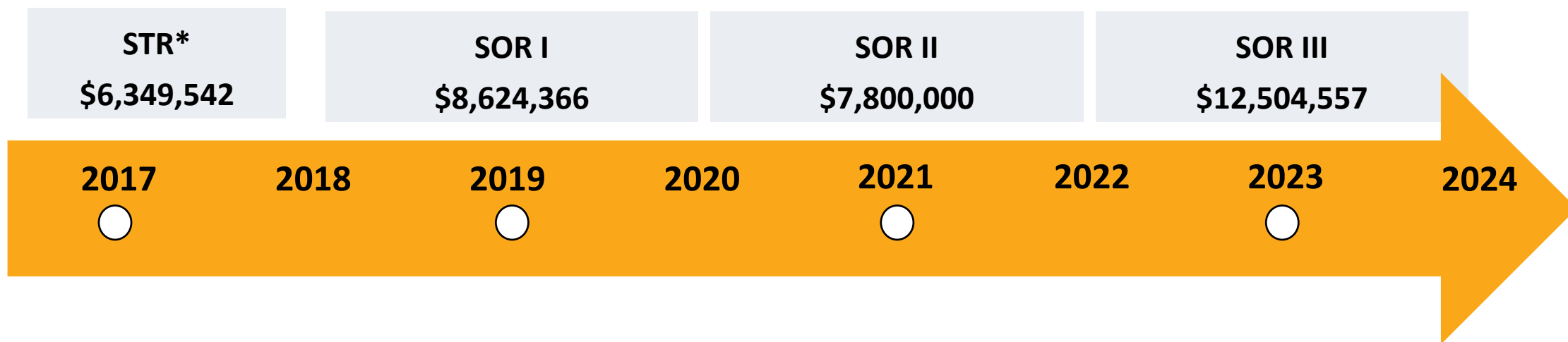
Improve the availability and provision of MAT



Facilitate wider access to naloxone with special consideration for Tribal and Urban Indian values, culture, and treatments

Funding Sources for Tribal MAT

- » More than \$35 million in grant funding from the State Opioid Response (SOR) grant through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) since 2017.



*Precursor to SOR grants

Tribal MAT Partners



Tribal MAT Projects



California Indian Harm Reduction Workgroup

- » The California Indian Harm Reduction Workgroup convenes Tribal and Urban Indian community members from across the state to develop and articulate approaches and principles for Native harm reduction that represent Tribal and Urban Indian communities' values and needs.
 - The workgroup identifies and disseminates best practices for harm reduction strategies within California's American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities.
 - It may also provide funding and technical assistance opportunities for local AIAN harm reduction efforts.
 - Supported by [CCUIH](#), [CRIHB](#), and [KAI](#)

California Indian Opioid Safety Coalition

- » The California Indian Opioid Safety Coalition (CIOSC) is a statewide coalition of AIAN and AIAN-serving organizations collaborating in an organized response to the opioid epidemic in California Indian Country.
 - CIOSC shares successful and emerging examples of Tribal and Urban Indian community health approaches to promote opioid safety, integrate MAT services into health care, and address stimulant misuse during tri-annual CIOSC meetings.
 - Supported by [CCUIH](#), [CRIHB](#), and [KAI](#)



Tribal and Urban Indian Community Defined Best Practices

- » The Tribal and Urban Indian Community Defined Best Practices (TUICDBP) program is a grant funding and technical assistance opportunity for Tribal and Urban Indian health programs.
 - TUICDBP supports the implementation and integration of culturally-validated traditional healing and recovery practices for SUD into clinical services serving Tribes and Urban Indian populations. Grantees support:
 - Identification of types and purposes of California Native traditional healing practices
 - Development of approaches for blending the identified traditional healing practices within the conventional substance use prevention, treatment and recovery service spectrum
 - Implementation of blended approaches into Tribal and Urban Indian SUD services
 - A partnership between [The Center at Sierra Health Foundation](#), [CCUIH](#), [CRIHB](#), [KAI](#), and [USC](#)

Tribal and Urban Indian MAT and Stimulant Use Disorder Learning Community

- » The Learning Community is a funding and technical assistance opportunity for Tribal and Urban Indian organizations to develop, enhance, and sustain MAT and/or stimulant use disorder services in ways that leverage the local Tribal cultural context and facilitate peer-to-peer learning.
 - Establishes a vibrant community of Tribal and Urban Indian MAT and stimulant use disorder treatment providers that integrate treatment best practices with cultural best practices to develop locally meaningful and sustainable community response to substance use disorder.
 - Supported by [The Center at Sierra Health Foundation](#), [CCUIH](#), [CRIHB](#), and [KAI](#)

Tribal and Urban Indian Local Opioid Coalitions

- » Tribal Local Opioid Coalitions, established by Tribal health programs, are multisector, interagency partnerships of community members, stakeholders, and service providers who work together to reduce and eliminate opioid- and stimulant-related deaths and other impacts of opioid and stimulant use in Tribal communities.
 - Coalition activities include a community readiness assessment, Tribal action plans, program evaluation, and implementing plans to combat opioid and stimulant misuse.
 - Urban Indian health organizations participate in CIOSC and Local Opioid Safety Coalitions, all part of the California Opioid Safety Network.
 - Supported by [CCUIH](#), [CRIHB](#), and [KAI](#)

Community Campaign and MAT Champions

- » Develop and disseminate culturally adapted prevention, treatment, and recovery materials that are specific to Tribal and Urban Indian communities, patients, providers, and stakeholders.
- » MAT Champions:
 - Support the development of Tribal and Urban Indian stakeholders' prevention, treatment, and recovery services
 - Coordinate relevant MAT-related resources and technical assistance services available to Tribal and Urban Indian providers.
 - Distribute naloxone and provide trainings for Tribal and Urban Indian communities and health programs on addiction, MAT, harm reduction, opioid safety, and naloxone.
- » Supported by [CCUIH](#), [CRIHB](#), and [KAI](#)

SUD Policy Advocacy Training Program

- » Policy advocacy training course for members of and/or individuals working with Tribal and Urban AIAN communities in California.
 - The goal of the online training is to teach effective approaches to engage local, state, federal, and Tribal policymakers about SUD-related community needs, with a focus on using data-informed approaches to enhance advocacy messaging, leverage stakeholder opportunities, and tailor concrete policy proposals for targeted audiences.
 - From 2021-2022, 39 individuals completed the training program:
 - All reported the training to have greatly increased their knowledge of policy-making processes, impact of SUD policies, and SUD data trends in AIAN communities.
 - Led by the [University of Southern California \(USC\) Keck School of Medicine](#)

Tribal MAT Project Data Analytics

- » The Tribal MAT Project Data Analytics initiative supports strategic planning efforts to identify and reduce disparities for AI/AN individuals with substance use disorder.
 - Data analysis will show how the county-based behavioral health delivery system is meeting the needs of AIAN individuals with substance use disorder as compared to other racial and ethnic groups with respect to access to care, rates and duration of service utilization, quality of care, and health outcomes.
 - The initiative offers starting point resources for counties to foster engagement with local Tribal communities.
- » Project of the UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs (ISAP)

Provider Trainings

- » Regional training opportunities for Tribal, Urban Indian, and community-based behavioral health providers to learn more about culturally driven treatment modalities and practices for AIAN individuals with substance use disorder.
 - Training curriculum and events focus on implementing evidence-based and culturally-informed strategies that providers and clinicians can use to improve their treatment programming and services in ways that incorporate the Tribal beliefs, cultures, traditions, and values of their patients.
 - Events also provide networking and engagement opportunities for other providers, clinicians and communities treating AIAN individuals across the state.
- » Part of the UCLA Opioid and Stimulant Implementation Support-Training and Technical Assistance ([OASIS-TTA](#)) Program.

Tribal MAT Project ECHO

- » Monthly Tribal MAT Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO™) Clinics support health care providers in Indian Country to improve the delivery of culturally responsive, evidence-based treatment for opioid and stimulant use disorders.
 - The ECHO™ model is a distance learning method that links specialists at academic medical centers with primary care clinicians in local communities.
 - A Tribal MAT ECHO™ Clinic is scheduled for the fourth Monday of each month.
 - Each clinic includes topical presentation related to delivery of opioid and/or stimulant use disorder treatment and case or clinical question discussion.
 - Attendees encouraged to bring complex patient cases and clinical questions for peer-to-peer discussion with input and consultation experts.
- » Part of the [UCLA OASIS-TTA](#) Program.

State/Local-Tribal Collaboration Project

- » Supports improvements in state/local-Tribal collaboration around health topics related to OUD/SUD.
- » Trainings in topics such as cultural competency and trauma-informed care are becoming more widely acknowledged as important for health equity.
- » Led by the [University of Southern California \(USC\) Keck School of Medicine](#)

Resources





For more information, visit
<https://californiaopioidresponse.org/matproject/tribal-mat-program/>

Additional Resources

- » [Tribal MAT flyer](#)
- » [Addressing the Opioid Crisis in American Indian & Alaska Native Communities in California: A Statewide Needs Assessment](#)
- » [Tribal Response to the Opioid Epidemic in California: A Community Report](#)
- » [Urban American Indians and Alaska Natives Experiencing Homelessness in California: Strategies for Addressing Housing Insecurities and Substance Use Disorder](#)

Questions?

Email me: Jessica.Nasello@dhcs.ca.gov

