California Area Indian Health Service Tribal Advisory Committee and Program Director Meeting

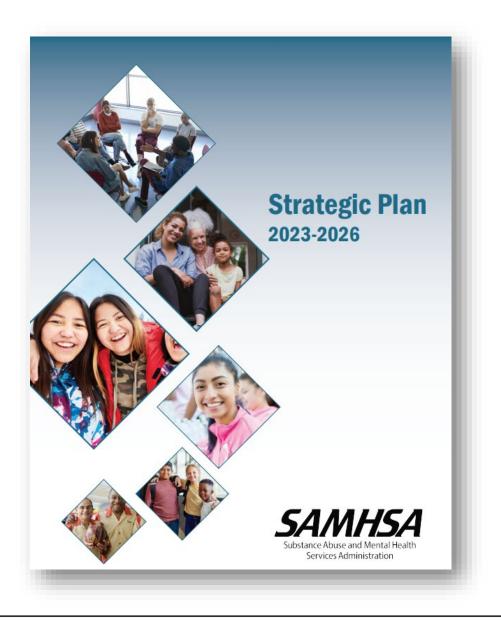
> CAPT Emily Williams, Director SAMHSA Region 9 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration U.S. Department of Health and Human Services





Wednesday October 4, 2023

#### SAMHSA's New Strategic Plan



 The 2023–2026 SAMHSA Strategic Plan presents a new person-centered mission and vision highlighting key guiding principles and presenting new priorities, goals, and objectives. To achieve its mission, SAMHSA has identified five priority areas to better meet the behavioral health needs of individuals, communities, and service providers.



### **SAMHSA's Key Priorities and Guiding Principles**

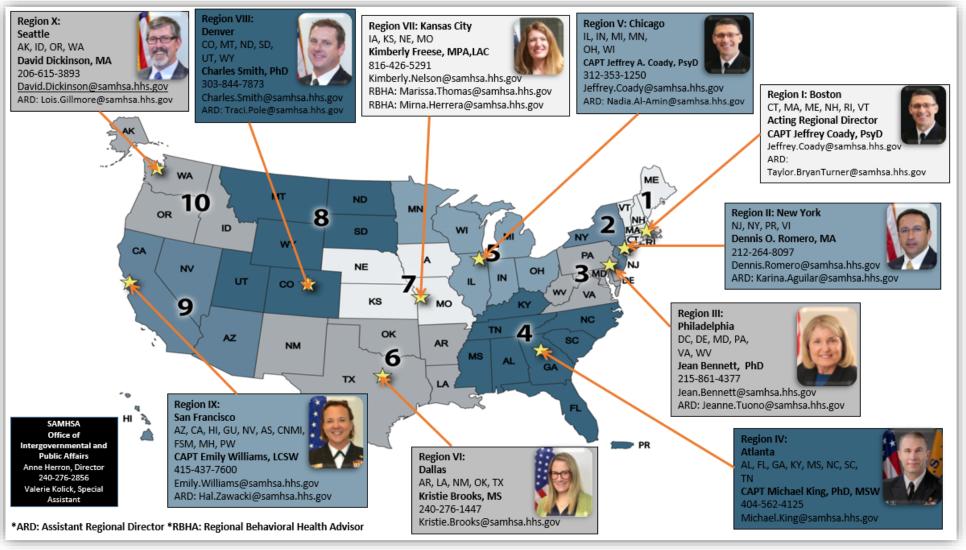




Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D. Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use



#### **SAMHSA Regional Directors**





#### **Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy**



- Serves as the primary point of contact within SAMHSA for Tribes, Tribal organizations, and other partners on Tribal behavioral health.
- Leads and supports SAMHSA-wide actions to improve behavioral health of Tribal communities.
- Leads SAMHSA Tribal consultation, outreach, education, and engagement efforts.
- Leads coordination of Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse (IASA) efforts in response to the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA).



# Overdose Deaths Involving Opioids Among American Indian and Alaskan Natives, U.S. 2010-2021



Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# The Impact of Substance Use on Native Americans

- According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, AI/ANs are greatly impacted by health disparities related to substance use, with the incidence of opioid use disorders (ODUs) and mortality rates from opioid overdoses being significantly higher than the general US population.
- According to data from the <u>National Survey on Drug Use Health</u> (NSDUH), during 2021 the prevalence of past month tobacco product use or nicotine vaping was higher among AI/ANs (36.1%) when compared to multiracial, Black, White, Hispanic or Latino, and Asian people.
- The 2021 NSDUH also indicated that AI/ANs were likelier to have used illicit drugs in the past year (36.1%), used marijuana in the past year (35.0%), have substance use disorder (27.6%) when compared to other groups.



# Factors Contributing to Opioid Use among AI/ANs

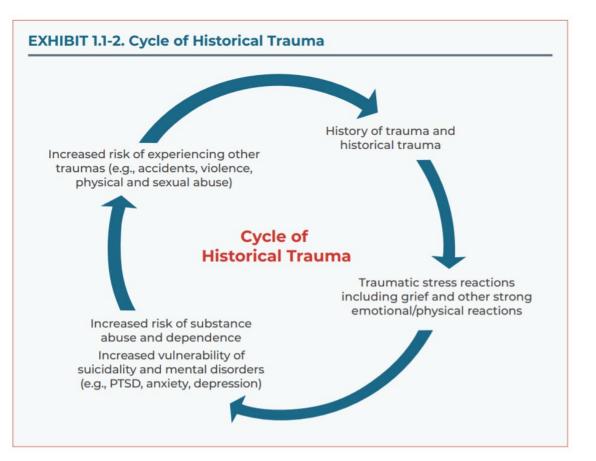
- Per the <u>National</u> <u>Institutes of Health</u>, risk factors for opioid use among Al/Ans include:
  - Discrimination
  - Historical trauma
  - Stigma
  - A lack of resources
  - Workforce shortages

- Although AI/AN communities face numerous challenges, they also have strengths that can aid in recovery, such as:
  - Strong family and community ties
  - Tribal sovereignty
  - Hard-earned resilience



## Impact of Historical Trauma on AI/ANs

• Historical trauma, including the loss of their culture, is a major factor contributing to substance use and mental disorders within AI/AN communities.



TIP 61: Behavioral Health Services for American Indians and Alaska Natives

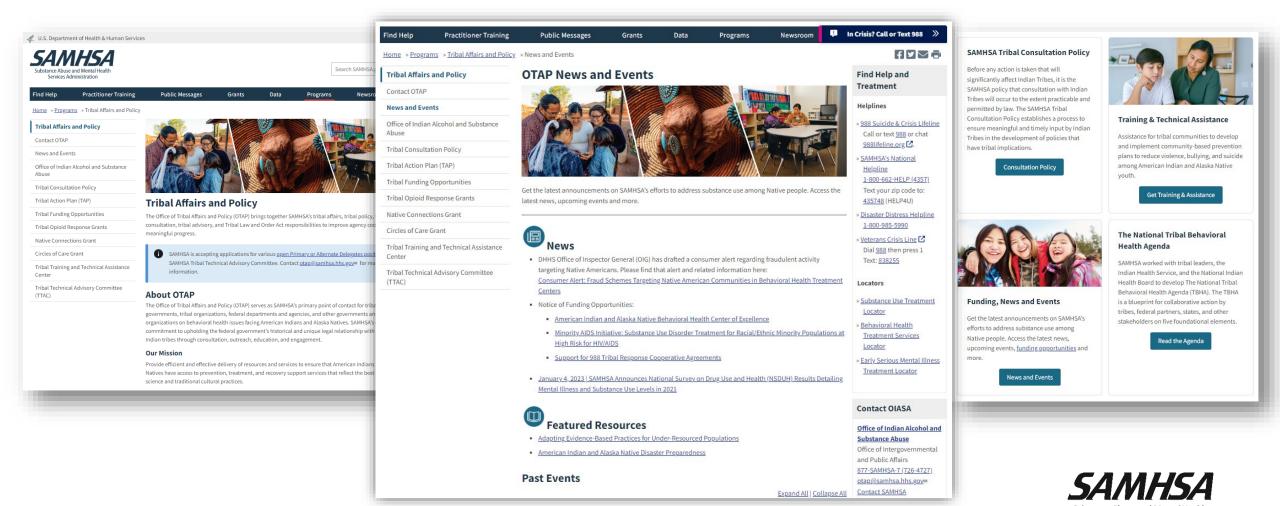




# **Initiatives and Updates**

#### SAMHSA OTAP Website

- OTAP has redesigned its webpage to be more user friendly. Notably, this webpage now has a "News and Events" tab, which gives updates about important happenings regarding Tribal affairs. Past events are listed as well.
  - See the following for a link to the webpage: <u>https://www.samhsa.gov/tribal-affairs</u>



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#### Addressing Overdose through Improved Policy

- Policy changes are presenting new opportunities
- In December 2022, President Biden signed into law H.R. 2617, the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023"
- Also in December 2022, SAMHSA released a proposed rule related to OTPs
- A Tribal Educator Listening Session was held on March 27, 2023, from 12 pm to 2 pm (EST), to gather Tribal educator perspectives on implementing Section 1263 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, better known as the Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act.

Mainstreaming Addiction	Medication Access and Training					
Treatment (MAT) Act	Expansion Act (MATE)					
Removes the DATA-2000 Waiver to prescribe buprenorphine	Requirement for a non-recurring, 8- hour training on substance use disorder for practitioners applying for registration from the DEA					
Lifts caps on number of patients	Met through addiction board					
who can be treated; removes	certification, as part of or post-					
counseling and reporting	healthcare professional degree					
requirements	training					

DOJ/DEA and HHS/SAMHSA are engaged in close collaboration and coordination related to the Implementation of MAT



#### **Proposal to Federal Rules on Opioid Treatment Programs**

- Last year SAMHSA proposed an update to Federal regulations that oversee opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment standards.
- Specifically, the proposed rule change would allow Americans to access treatment by allowing take home doses of methadone and the use of telehealth in initiating buprenorphine at opioid treatment programs (OTPs).
- In its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to update 42 CFR Part 8, SAMHSA seeks to improve Americans' access to and experiences with OUD treatment, specifically through OTPs.
  - The proposed changes reflect a widespread desire by many stakeholders for SAMHSA to provide greater autonomy to OTP
    practitioners, positively support recovery, and continue flexibilities that were extended at the start of the nation's COVID-19
    public health emergency.
- To facilitate expansion of access to care, SAMHSA proposes to update OTP admission criteria in Part 8:
  - Includes removal of the one-year requirement for opioid addiction before admission to an OTP.
  - In conjunction with updated standards that include extended take-home doses of methadone and access to telehealth, changes will likely expand access while also improving retention in treatment.





#### **Tribal Technical Assistance and Resources**

#### **SAMHSA Tribal Technical Assistance**



• The AI/AN TTC has transitioned to the new <u>AI/AN</u> <u>Behavioral Health Center of Excellence</u>.

- The <u>Tribal Training and Technical Assistance</u> (TTA) <u>Center</u> offers technical assistance (TA) on mental and substance use disorders, suicide prevention, and mental health promotion using the <u>Strategic Cultural</u> <u>Framework</u>. Events include the following:
  - Opioids Training and Technical Assistance
  - Gathering of Native Americans (GONAs)
  - Learning Communities
  - Virtual TTA
  - Intensive TTA
  - Information Dissemination



#### **ATTC Resources**

- The ATTC Network is an international, multidisciplinary resource for professionals in the addiction treatment and recovery services field.
- The Addiction Technology Transfer Centers (ATTC) have produced several resources to help providers to improve services capability in response to COVID-19
- See the following for more: <u>https://attcnetwork.org/centers/gl</u> <u>obal- attc/pandemic-response-</u>

<u>resources</u>



#### **MHTTC Resources**





Motivational Interviewing for COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy | New England MHTTC

There are enough COVID-19 vaccines for everyone in the United States, but some people aren't quite sure yet if they are ready to get one. Dr. Emily Kline will teach you to use skills from an evidencebased approach called motivational interviewing to have more successful conversations about COVID-19 vaccines in this webinar.



#### Ask a Peer: COVID-19 Vaccine Q&A for Youth and Families New England MHTTC

Young people who have experienced psychosis and their families may have unanswered questions about the COVID-19 vaccine. With walk-in vaccine appointments now available across Massachusetts, this panel of early psychosis peer specialists and local vaccine experts are here to share their experiences. Join the New England MHTTC for a presentation and open conversation on the COVID-19 vaccine, equity, and mental health.

- The purpose of the MHTTC Network is technology transfer disseminating and implementing evidence-based practices for mental disorders into the field.
- Responding to COVID-19, the Mental Health Technology Transfer Centers (MHTTC) offers products and resources that can be useful when coping with the effects of widespread public health crises such as:
  - Psychosocial Impacts of Disasters: Assisting Community Leaders
  - Supportive Practices for Mental Health Professionals During Pandemic-Related Social Distancing
- See the following for more: <u>https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/global-</u> <u>mhttc/responding-covid-19</u>



#### **PTTC Resources**



Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

- The purpose of the Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC) Network is to improve implementation and delivery of effective substance abuse prevention interventions, and provide training and technical assistance services to the substance misuse prevention field.
- The Prevention Technology Transfer Centers (PTTC) have produced several resources to help providers to improve services capability in response to COVID-19.
- See more via the following: <u>https://pttcnetwork.org/center</u> <u>s/global-pttc/pandemic-</u> response-resources



#### **Opioid Response Network (ORN)**

- The ORN has local consultants in all 50 states and nine territories.
- Designed to respond to local needs by providing free educational resources and training to states, communities and individuals in the prevention, treatment and recovery of opioid use disorders and stimulant use.
- ORN has disseminated information provided by SAMHSA, CDC, and other Technical Assistance Centers pertaining to COVID-19 and include the following:
  - <u>The Opioid Epidemic and COVID-19: How Social Determinants of</u> <u>Health Create Differential Impacts</u>
  - <u>Compassionate Fatigue and Self Care: For Helping Professionals</u> Working with Opioid Related Disorders
- See the following for more: <u>https://opioidresponsenetwork.org/index.aspx</u>



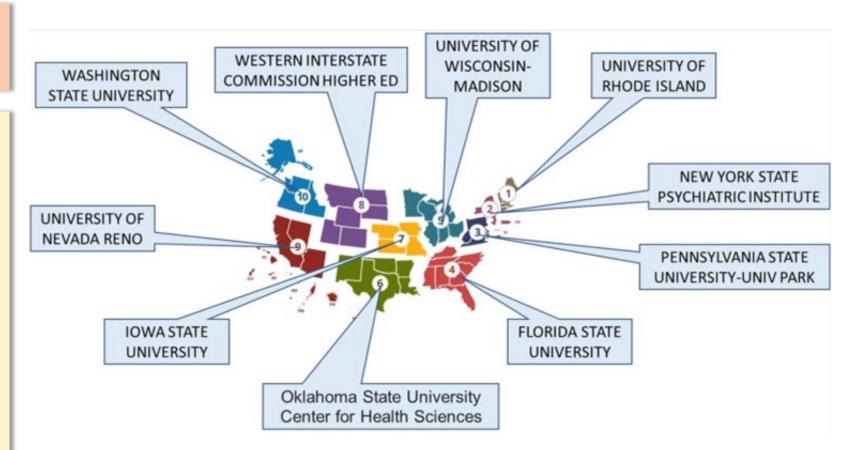


#### **ROTA** Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Program

#### Collaboration between SAMHSA and USDA

**MISSION:** To develop and disseminate training and technical assistance for rural communities addressing opioid and stimulants issues affecting their communities.

The ROTA grantees facilitate the identification of model programs, develop and update materials related to the prevention, treatment, and recovery activities for opioid use disorder (OUD), and provides high-quality training.





Contact: <u>Humberto.Carvalho@samhsa.hhs.gov</u>

#### Harm Reduction at SAMHSA



 Harm reduction is critical to keeping people who use drugs alive and as healthy as possible and is a key pillar in the multi-faceted Health and Human Services' <u>Overdose Prevention Strategy</u>.

- SAMHSA has awarded 25 grants for the first-ever SAMHSA Harm Reduction grant program.
  - This funding, authorized by the American Rescue Plan, will help increase access to a range of community harm reduction services and support harm reduction service providers as they work to help prevent overdose deaths and reduce health risks often associated with drug use.
- SAMHSA will distribute \$10 million between 2022-2025. Grant recipients receiving Federal funding must adhere to applicable Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and other requirements as specified in Federal grant terms and conditions of award.
- See the following for more: <u>https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/harm-reduction</u>



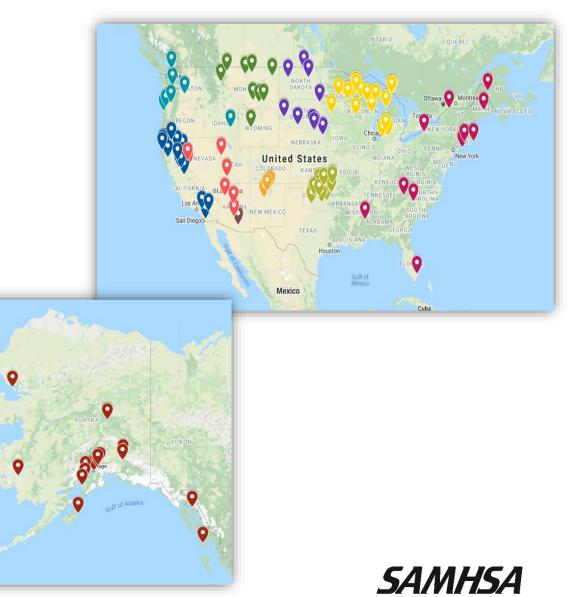


### **SAMHSA Tribal Grants**

### **Tribal Opioid Response**

#### **Tribal Opioid Response Program**

- The program aims to address the opioid crisis in Tribal communities by increasing access to culturally appropriate and evidence-based treatment, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) using one of the three FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD).
- Awarded to Federally-recognized Tribes and Tribal organizations.
  - Award amounts vary based on Tribal population size.
- Addresses opioid crisis in Tribal communities by increasing access to culturally appropriate and evidence-based harm reduction, prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for opioid and stimulant use disorders.
- Emphasizes the use of medication-assisted treatment using one of the three FDA-approved medications for OUDs.
- Encourages the use of traditional practices.



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#### **Native Connections**

#### Tribal Behavioral Health Grant (TBHG/Native Connections)

- The purpose of this program is to prevent suicide and substance misuse, reduce the impact of trauma, and promote mental health among AI/AN youth through the age of 24 years.
- Native Connections is intended to reduce the impact of mental and substance use disorders, foster culturally responsive models that reduce and respond to the impact of trauma in AI/AN communities.



In FY21, SAMHSA awarded 40 Tribes and Tribal organizations.

In FY 22 SAMHSA awarded 41 Tribes and Tribal organizations.

The Native Connections grant is funded up to \$250k for up to 5 years.

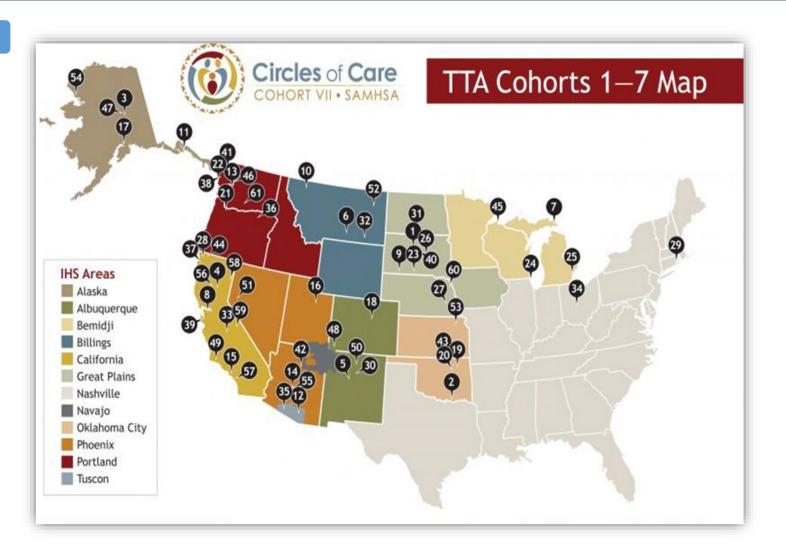
2024 SAMHSA NOFO Forecast



#### **Circles of Care**

#### **Circles of Care (COC) Program**

- Supports children with severe emotional disturbances and their families.
- Plan for the development of a community-based system of care model for children with mental health challenges and their families.
- Develop local capacity and infrastructure to assist Tribal communities in obtaining funding and resources to implement a system of care model to improve the mental health and wellness of their children, youth, and families
- FY 23 Circles of Care Awards





#### **SAMHSA** Grants and NOFO Forecasts

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Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

#### Thank You

SAMHSA's mission is to lead public health and service delivery efforts that promote mental health, prevent substance misuse, and provide treatments and supports to foster recovery while ensuring equitable access and better outcomes.

#### Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration <u>www.samhsa.gov</u>

To contact SAMHSA's Region 9 office, please email the following:

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