

SAMHSA Tribal Affairs Overview

About SAMHSA

Leadership: Kana Enomoto, Acting Administrator

Website: <http://www.samhsa.gov/>

Mission: To reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

Organization: SAMHSA is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's behavioral health work for American Indians and Alaska Natives is achieved through the Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy, four Offices, and the following four Centers:

- Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (CBHSQ)
- Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)
- Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP)
- Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT)

Information on SAMHSA's Offices and Centers can be obtained at <http://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers>.

Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy (OTAP): is organizationally housed within the Office of Policy, Planning, and Innovation (OPPI) and serves as SAMHSA's primary point of contact for tribal governments, tribal organizations, federal departments and agencies, and other governments and agencies on behavioral health issues facing American Indians and Alaska Natives. OTAP brings together SAMHSA's tribal affairs, tribal policy, tribal consultation, tribal advisory, and Tribal Law and Order Act responsibilities to improve agency coordination and meaningful progress.

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OTAP Email: otap@samhsa.hhs.gov

Tribal Affairs website: <http://www.samhsa.gov/tribal-affairs>

SAMHSA Regional Administrators (RAs): are SAMHSA's point of contact with the 10 HHS regional offices.

Information on the RAs can be obtained at <http://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/regional-administrators>.

SAMHSA Strategic Initiatives: SAMHSA has Strategic Initiatives (SIs) that guide the agency's work and focus its resources. More information on the SIs is available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/strategic-initiatives>.

SAMHSA Help Lines (toll free)

- Disaster Distress Help Line – 24/7 counseling assistance: (800) 985-5990 or text "TalkWithUs" to 66746
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: (800) 273-TALK (8255)
- Treatment Referral Line: (800) 622-HELP (4357)

SAMHSA's Tribal Funding Opportunities

Tribes and tribal organizations are eligible to apply for most of SAMHSA's grant programs. Each grant program has its own application deadline and information is available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants>. The following are SAMHSA's grant offerings that may be of particular interest to tribes:

- Campus Suicide Prevention Grant
- Circles of Care
- Cooperative Agreements for Tribal Behavioral Health (Native Connections)
- Drug-Free Communities Support Program
- Minority AIDS Continuum of Care
- Pregnant and Postpartum Women
- Project LAUNCH
- SAMHSA Treatment Drug Courts
- State and Tribal Youth Suicide Prevention Cooperative Agreements
- Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships for Success
- System of Care Expansion Planning Grants

SAMHSA's Tribal Affairs, Policy, and Technical Assistance Resources

SAMHSA provides training and technical assistance to tribes, such as help with prevention program planning and Tribal Action Plan development.

Tribal Consultation: SAMHSA considers consultation an enhanced form of communication that emphasizes trust, respect, and shared responsibility. Consultation is an open and free exchange of information and opinion among parties which leads to mutual understanding and comprehension, the purpose of which is to reach consensus to the greatest extent possible. A copy of the most current consultation policy is available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/tribal-consultation.pdf> and feedback on consultation topics may be provided through the following e-mail address: tribalconsultation@samhsa.hhs.gov.

SAMHSA Tribal Technical Advisory Committee (SAMHSA TTAC): The SAMHSA TTAC was established in 2008. The TTAC meets with senior leadership no less than twice per year to provide advice on AI/AN behavioral health concerns and workable solutions. The TTAC roster is available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/advisory-councils/tribal-technical-advisory-committee-ttac/council-roster>.

SAMHSA American Indian and Alaska Native Team (SAIANT): The SAIANT is an internal SAMHSA workgroup chartered in 2013 to ensure positive behavioral health outcomes for American Indian and Alaska Native people. SAIANT coordinates agency-wide resources and services and includes leaders; managers; and, project, grant, and policy staff who strive to ensure SAMHSA's resources are culturally appropriate and accessible to tribes and tribal organizations and the American Indian and Alaska Native population at large.

Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA): TLOA amended the Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 1986 and requires SAMHSA's Office of Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse to work with other federal agencies and offices to ensure a coordinated federal effort to address substance use concerns among American Indian and Alaska Native people. TLOA promotes the development of comprehensive tribal action plans. To learn more about TLOA please visit: <http://www.samhsa.gov/tloa>.

SAMHSA Tribal Training and Technical Assistance Center (Tribal TA Center): The Tribal TA Center uses a culturally relevant, evidence-based, holistic approach to support Native communities in their self-determination efforts through infrastructure development and capacity building, program planning, and implementation. It provides training and technical assistance on mental and/or substance use disorders, suicide prevention, and mental health promotion. Additional information is available at: <http://www.samhsa.gov/tribal-ttac>.