

CDC/ATSDR Tribal Consultation Advisory Committee (TCAC)

Summary of Recommendations **November 2006 and January 2007**

November 2-3, 2006

TCAC recommends that CDC,

- Continue to fully implement the procedures of the CDC/ATSDR Tribal Consultation Policy (TCP) giving high priority to:
 1. Expanding efforts to ensure that funds currently awarded to state health departments through CDC cooperative agreements are appropriately benefiting AI/AN people in those states
 2. Developing standardized language for CDC program announcements that specifies tribal eligibility when appropriate and provides authoritative guidance on item #1.
- Establish a formal 'orientation to CDC' process for TCAC members.
- Through the Financial Management Office, establish guidelines as to how tribal stakeholders can best provide input into the CDC budget formulation process.
- Develop a CDC-wide AI/AN action plan that will:
 1. Strategically integrate AI/AN – focused policies, resources, and programs
 2. Align these activities with CDC's health protection goals and starter objectives
 3. Serve as a roadmap and portfolio management tool for CDC's overall efforts to optimally impact the public health of AI/AN people and communities
- Increase tribal stakeholders' knowledge of CDC funding opportunities and how to obtain technical assistance during the grant application process.
- Continue to engage TCAC and other tribal stakeholders in the CDC goals management process
- Reconsider recent decisions regarding funding for HIV and STD prevention programs in Indian country.

January 30-31, 2007

TCAC recommends that CDC,

- Act upon its commitment and obligation to fully implement the procedures of the CDC/ATSDR Tribal Consultation Policy (TCP) by:
 - Assuring that adequate staff and resources are available within the Office of the Director to support TCP implementation;
 - Responding in a timely and effective manner to the recommendations made by TCAC.
- Provide written descriptions of the roles, responsibilities, and scopes of work for CDC's two Senior Tribal Liaison positions.
- Assist in the orientation of TCAC members and other tribal leaders to CDC and ATSDR by developing and distributing a directory of CDC and ATSDR services and resources.
 - Consider producing an educational film clip that would include an overview of CDC's history, its domestic and international activities over the years, highlights of CDC's programs for tribal communities, and CDC's vision for improving public health in Indian country.
- Develop, in partnership with the National Indian Health Board, a process to assure ongoing communication of important information, funding and training opportunities, major issues, and updates on CDC responses and actions to tribal stakeholders.
- Continue discussions with the Financial Management Office to establish guidelines and a timeline to allow tribal stakeholders to provide annual input into the CDC budget formulation process. TCAC further suggests that CDC:
 - Monitor and track where tribal recommendations have influenced CDC priorities and goal process, and have enhanced tribal access to CDC resources.
 - Re-analyze the CDC AI/AN Resource Allocation Portfolio such that resource allocations are a) stratified by categorical programs (e.g., diabetes, cancer, smoking, HIV/AIDS, etc.) that are of high priority to Indian country; and, b) stratified geographically (e.g., by IHS Areas or HHS regions).
- Within selected CDC programs, explore the possibility of designating a certain proportion of cooperative agreement funds as intended for tribal/tribal organization awardees.
- Assist TCAC in establishing a technical subcommittee to evaluate how CDC program announcements and the grant application process could be modified to encourage more tribal applicants and to help ensure that tribal applicants have equal opportunities to compete successfully.
- Ensure that the TCAC, NIHB, Direct Service Tribes, Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee, National Tribal Environmental Council, and the National Council on Urban Indian Health are all on the master list for the Annual CDC Leaders to Leaders Conference.
- Strengthen the relationship between the Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) and tribal stakeholders to maximize resources and opportunities to address issues facing AI/AN youth.