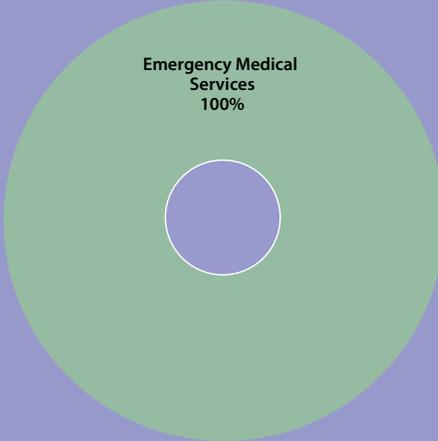


Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Santee Sioux

How Santee Sioux Invested PHHS Block Grant Funding

Total FY 2015 Funding: \$45,615



Emergency Medical Services
100%



Because of the PHHS Block Grant, people living on the Santee Sioux Tribal Nation reservation now receive faster care from their emergency medical service.

Improving Access to Emergency Medical Services on a Tribal Reservation

People living on tribal reservations don't always have the same access to medical care as people living in other communities. In 2012, the Santee Sioux Tribal Nation in Nebraska had about 1,200 members living on the reservation, but emergency medical services (EMS) had only five emergency medical technicians (EMTs) on staff. The average time for EMTs to respond to a call for help was almost 7 minutes. EMTs were on call for extended periods and were not always onsite at the ambulance station. Although all EMTs knew how to use the automated external defibrillator (AED), a machine that can start someone's heart beating again after it stops, only one EMT was trained in advanced airway management, which involves putting a tube down someone's throat to aid breathing.

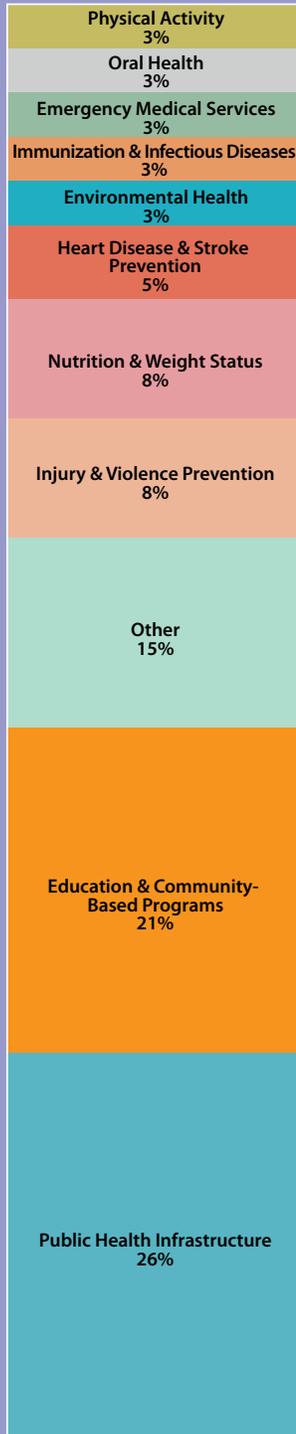
The Santee Sioux Tribal Nation used a portion of its Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant funds in 2013 to improve emergency response time and quality of medical care. Through recruitment efforts at health fairs and other community events, the Nation more than doubled the number of its EMS staff (from 5 to 13). An EMS director was hired and part-time EMT-Paramedics (EMT-Ps) were hired to lighten staff members' workloads. The Nation also hired drivers so that EMTs and EMT-Ps could concentrate on responding to medical emergencies. All 13 EMTs learned to use the AED machine, and 8 of the 13 became certified in advanced airway management, substantially improving medical care for the reservation. The Nation also created a shift schedule to balance work times for EMTs and EMT-Ps so no one was working too many hours. Staff members scheduled to work stayed at the ambulance station during their shifts instead of staying at home.

By the end of that year, the average response time for emergency ambulance service went from 7 minutes to less than 5, and the quality of medical care provided by EMTs and EMT-Ps improved with the help of PHHS Block Grant funds.



Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

2015 Top-Funded Health Areas



Excludes all non-discretionary funding: administrative costs (up to 10%), direct assistance, and funds set aside for sexual violence (rape prevention).

What is the PHHS Block Grant?

The Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant provides flexible federal funding to 61 states, tribes, and US territories. These grantees use the funding to meet vital public health needs within their jurisdictions that align with national priorities—the Healthy People (HP) 2020 objectives.

Block Grant Investment Across the Nation

In fiscal year 2015, the 61 grantees received about \$126 million from the PHHS Block Grant to support critical programs and services. Most funds (85%) supported HP 2020 objectives in 10 key areas: 1) Public Health Infrastructure, 2) Education and Community-Based Programs, 3) Injury and Violence Prevention, 4) Nutrition and Weight Status, 5) Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, 6) Environmental Health, 7) Immunization and Infectious Diseases, 8) Emergency Medical Services, 9) Oral Health, and 10) Physical Activity.

Public Health Infrastructure was the most funded area (26% of total funding); 43 grantees directed funds toward public health systems assessment, health improvement planning, accreditation, quality improvement, laboratory services, and other infrastructure activities. Education and Community-Based Programs was the second-most funded area (21% of total funding); 29 grantees directed funds toward community-based primary prevention services, worksite health promotion programs, and culturally appropriate community health programs.

Grantees also directed funds toward supporting local organizations working to improve community health (27% of total funding) and reduce health disparities (23% of total funding).