

Office of Tribal Affairs and Strategic Alliances

Federal-Tribal Relationship

The United States has a unique legal and political relationship with Indian tribes, as provided in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, and federal statutes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is committed to working with federally recognized tribal governments on a government-to-government basis, and strongly supports and respects sovereignty and self-determination for tribal governments in the United States.

The Office of Tribal Affairs and Strategic Alliances focuses on activities that reflect the agency's role in helping to ensure that American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities receive public health services that keep them safe and healthy.

Our Mission

Our mission is to affirm the government-to-government relationship between CDC and AI/AN tribes by advancing connections, providing expertise, and increasing resources to improve tribal communities' public health.

Our Role

- Principal advisor to policy-level officials about AI/AN public health issues
- Principal contact for all public health activities affecting AI/AN communities
- Coordinator for CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) programs and policies that benefit or affect AI/AN tribes

Our Work

- Serve as CDC's principal point of contact for tribes and tribal-serving organizations (TSOs)
- Manage the CDC/ATSDR Tribal Advisory Committee
- Connect tribes and tribal-serving organizations to CDC and ATSDR programs
- Develop communication and information resource for tribes and TSOs
- Support and collaborate with TSOs and public health partners to improve tribal public health capacity
- Educate about tribal health issues, policies, activities, and strategies, while serving as a principal advisor to CDC leaders and staff
- Guide and coordinate CDC's tribal-related partnerships and activities with the US Department of Health and Human Services and other federal agencies

More Information

Contact the Office of Tribal Affairs and Strategic Alliances at tribalsupport@cdc.gov or visit www.cdc.gov/tribal

