



National Institutes of
Health Bethesda,
Maryland 20892

September 29, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to inform you of the release of a new document “[Responsible Management and Sharing American Indian/ Alaska Native \(AI/AN\) Participant Data.](#)”

This Supplemental Information serves as guidance to the [NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy](#) that was developed in response to [Tribal Consultation on the NIH Draft NIH Data Management and Sharing \(DMS\) Policy](#). The Supplemental Information is designed to promote trustworthy and mutually beneficial research partnerships respectful of Tribal sovereignty.

In October 2020, NIH issued the DMS Policy to promote the responsible management and sharing of scientific data generated from NIH-funded research. In respect of Tribal sovereignty, NIH initiated a Tribal Consultation to inform the agency’s final policy. NIH is further implementing recommendations from Tribal Consultation through the publication of this document.

The Supplemental Information is intended to be used by researchers subject to the DMS Policy when conducting research with AI/AN Tribes. It provides considerations and best practices for submission of a Data Management and Sharing Plan that appropriately manages and shares AI/AN data in accordance with Tribal laws, regulations, policies, and preferences.

NIH is committed to strengthening its partnerships with Tribal Nations. We hope that NIH’s release of this guidance will enhance trust and respect among NIH, AI/AN communities, researchers, and the research enterprise. Together, we can improve the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives through biomedical and behavioral health research.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyric Jorgenson".

Lyric Jorgenson, Ph.D.

Acting Associate Director for Science Policy
National Institutes of Health