



May 16, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to notify you that the National Institutes of Health (NIH), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is initiating a formal Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer to inform the *NIH Strategic Plan for Tribal Health Research, FY2024-2028*. The purpose of the plan is to improve NIH's relationship and collaborative efforts with American Indian and Alaska Native Communities with the goal of addressing health research needs.

The NIH mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and to apply that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability. NIH primarily accomplishes this work through research, research training, and the dissemination of research findings.

The [*NIH Strategic Plan for Tribal Health Research, FY2019-2023*](#) serves as the first roadmap to guide the agencies activities related to Tribal Nations. To ensure that the next version of the five-year plan meets the research needs and priorities of American Indian and Alaska Native communities, NIH seeks input on the strategic goals and objectives of the current plan.

I encourage you to participate in the NIH Tribal Consultation about the next plan, which will occur during HHS regional consultations:

Participant information:

- **HHS Region 1** June 28, 2022: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsfuGspzgiEngy-hLYPNRGbp9RiuY77og>
Contact: Paul Jacobsen; Paul.Jacobsen@hhs.gov
- **HHS Region 3** June 21–22, 2022: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsf-mopj0iGWEIJcueKSQMwymK0WBArVw>
Contact: Melissa Herd; Melissa.Herd@hhs.gov
- **HHS Region 4** June 15-16, 2022: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIIf-6sqTojG3Rul0EFo2Fp8uytCcmI5EU>
Contact: Natalia Cales; Natalia.Cales@hhs.gov
- **HHS Region 5** July 19-20, 2022:
Little River Casino Resort 2700 Orchard Hwy, Manistee, MI 49660
https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIIsf--opz0vHzQpmer1i0T7UOe_eJoMupE
Contact: Gregg Ross; gregg.ross@hhs.gov
- **HHS Region 6** August 16–17, 2022:
https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIIsdOurrDliGy_7IHoeQOjKIH7yuYu6nUE
Contact: Julia Lothrop; Julia.Lothrop@hhs.gov

- **HHS Region 7** July 12–14, 2022:
Haskell Indian Nations University 155 E Indian Ave, Lawrence, KS 66046
<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsfuuvpzktHWyLS9bkoLTk5ipQwKuF1Gw>
Contact: Kit Wagar; Kit.Wagar@hhs.gov
- **HHS Region 8** June 7–8, 2022: https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsf-CoqD8iEzG2WbuRUsl7urxQ1EK6j_4
Contact: Elsa Ramirez; Elsa.Ramirez@hhs.gov
- **HHS Region 9** July 26–28, 2022: https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsf-iqrzosH7M4gdSZUKXYOmijk3_rLeI
Contact: Schuyler Hall; Schuyler.Hall@hhs.gov
- **HHS Region 10** August 22–24, 2022:
<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsf-OisrzsE6YqK1XKWqL-naa4n9UZmCA>
Contact: Priya Helweg; Priya.Helweg@hhs.gov

If you have technical questions related to connectivity or audio/visual matters regarding these meetings, please contact the HHS lead listed for the relevant region.

If you are unable to participate, we invite you to send written testimony, comments, or questions by 4:00 p.m. ET on Friday, October 14, 2022, to NIHTribalConsultation@nih.gov. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Dave Wilson, director of the NIH Tribal Health Research Office, at Dave.Wilson2@nih.gov.

Thank you for your continued partnership to strengthen our foundation for working together with the goal of improving the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives through research.

Sincerely,



James M. Anderson, M.D., Ph.D.
NIH Deputy Director for Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives
National Institutes of Health