

TAC Priorities 2022

A Qualitative and Quantitative Report

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Introduction

- In August 2022, the NIH Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) shared their health research priorities with the NIH Tribal Health Research Office (THRO).
- This report provides the most up-to-date information for each TAC priority, organized under the current NIH Tribal Health Research Strategic Plan, FY 2019-2023, Goals and Objectives, and should serve as a reference to inform future strategic planning for FY 2024-2028.

Methods

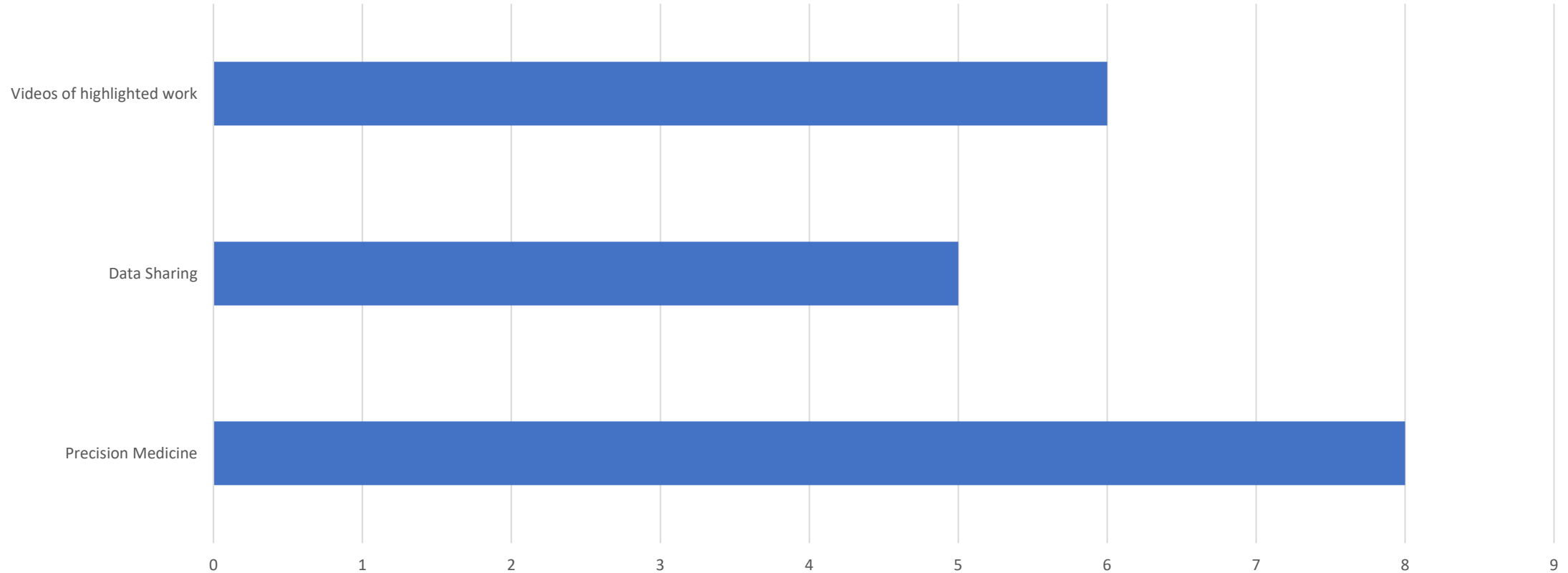
- TAC Priorities (43) were categorized under most related strategic goal
- The most recent data set available was used to identify: total # of active projects for FY 2020 (562); and the subset of active projects dealing with research topics falling under the TAC priorities
- The subset of active projects were reviewed to ensure the aims of the project reflected the specific TAC priority
- Active projects were aggregated and depicted in a series of figures
- Highlights of active projects were added to each TAC Priority where there was activity to provide examples of funded research

TAC Priority Alignment with NIH Tribal Health Research Strategic Goals

<p><i>Strategic Goal 1: Enhancing Communication and Collaboration</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share more information about AI/AN participation in the Precision Medicine Initiative • Break down boundaries across federal agencies by sponsoring data mining activities • Support and feature short video with AI/AN investigators and their work highlighted 	<p><i>Strategic Goal 3: Expanding Research</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsor a FOA to support AI/AN junior investigators to conduct secondary data analyses • Food security and food deserts • Environmental Justice and Traditional ways of environmental management • Impact of racism on health, healthcare and health disparities. • Impact on AI/AN people and Tribal economies of a lack of access to timely and effective care • Alzheimer's • Inflammation • Cancer screening • Behavioral health: suicide, homicide • Workforce shortages • Lack of or substandard housing effects on AIAN health • Boarding schools continued effect on health • Traditional processes and government management effects on health • Social determinants of health • Complementary AI/AN medicine to treat long COVID • Vaccine side effects experienced by AI/AN. • Long COVID across the lifespan. • Public health messaging • Sponsor a trans-NIH FOA modeled on the Native Intervention FOA • Fund evaluation research to inform program planning and development. • Fund retrospective cohort studies in addition to prospective studies, e.g. on children • Support FOAs on research on both individual health and health systems • Develop FOA on comorbidities involving historical trauma, mental and behavioral health, environmental health, cancer, and diabetes. • Foster more collaboration between NIH and other agencies to address health care systems and environmental health research. • Fund pilot data research.
<p><i>Strategic Goal 2: Building Research Capacity for AI/AN Communities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a chart that notes NIH opportunities for investigators at different stages of development • Build the capacity of Tribal nations to collect, manage, and use research data • Tribal funding in a non-competitive environment • Work with the TAC to establish and fund a Central Data Repository for AI/AN research • Continue and expand NARCH, IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) program • Provide pre-college financial support for STEM students • Consider enlisting TCUs, TECs, and AISES, et al. in NIH partnerships and apprenticeships • Use the Common Fund to facilitate co-funding for grants, specifically with regard to junior investigators 	<p><i>Strategic Goal 4: Enhancing Cultural Competency and Community Engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resilience and basic Indigenous concepts of health presented in a positive framework. • Measuring and validating the health effects of historical, intergenerational, and current trauma • Develop an AI/AN subcommittee to oversee the RadX repository.

STRATEGIC GOAL (SG) #1: ENHANCING COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION

Number of funded projects for each TAC Priority



Highlighted Research Activities under SG #1

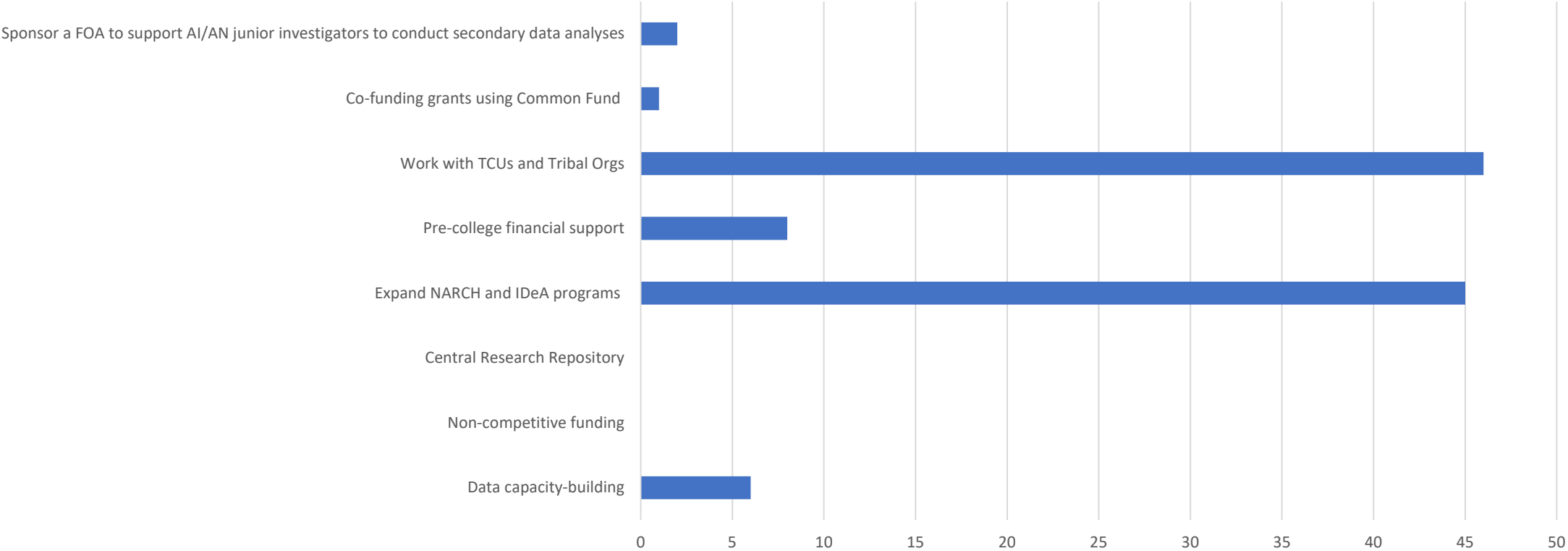
- Over 300 unique viewers logged in to the Center for Alaska Native Health Research (CANHR) researchers' and community partners' presentation on the prevention of alcohol and suicide in Alaska Native youth.
- A time sensitive grant award led to the production of four 10-minute videos in the Navajo language. Video 1: Introduction to the Gold King Mine Dine Exposure Project. Video 2: Water Results within One Year of the Gold King Mine Spill of 2015. Video 3: Soil and Sediment Results Within One Year of The Gold King Mine Spill of 2015. Video 4: Gold King Mine Spill Dine Exposure Project Household Results.
- Native American Heritage Month webinar with Pam Miller and Vi Waghiyi on Alaska Community Action on Toxics.
- Honoring Health e-newsletter

Highlighted Research Activities under SG #1

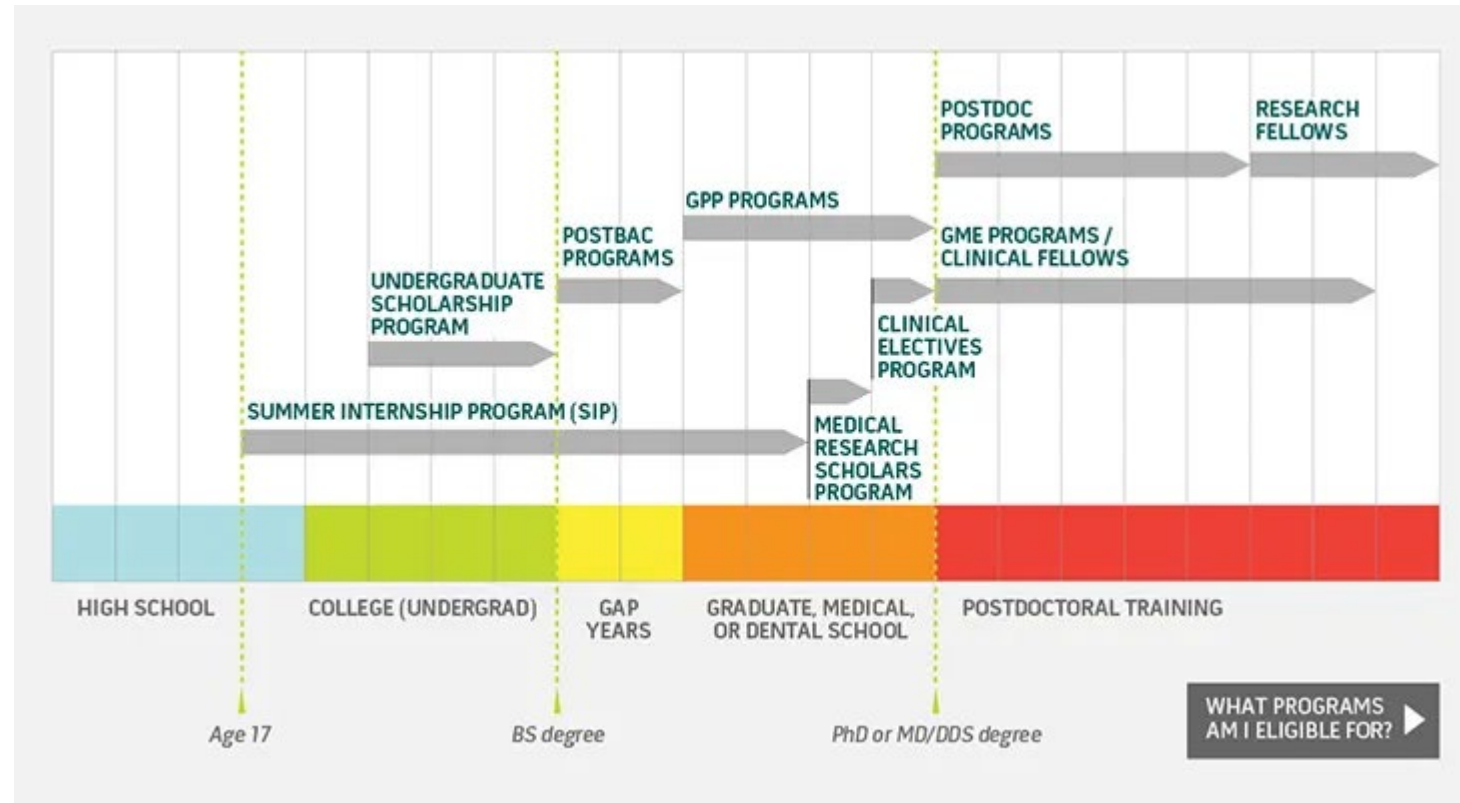
- “Community Engaged Research Towards Precision Medicine Research with Alaska Native and American Indian (AI/AN) People.”
 - Grant award
 - Meeting
- "Engagement of American Indians of Southwestern Tribal Nations in Cancer Genome Sequencing"
- NIH released a new Research Opportunity Announcement (ROA) soliciting proposals to support outreach, community engagement, and participant enrollment and retention efforts. The ROA spans four areas of interest, including Tribal Nation engagement.

STRATEGIC GOAL #2: BUILDING RESEARCH CAPACITY FOR AI/AN COMMUNITIES

Number of Funded Projects for each TAC Priority



NIH Career Training Opportunities under SG #2



Highlighted Research Activities under SG #2

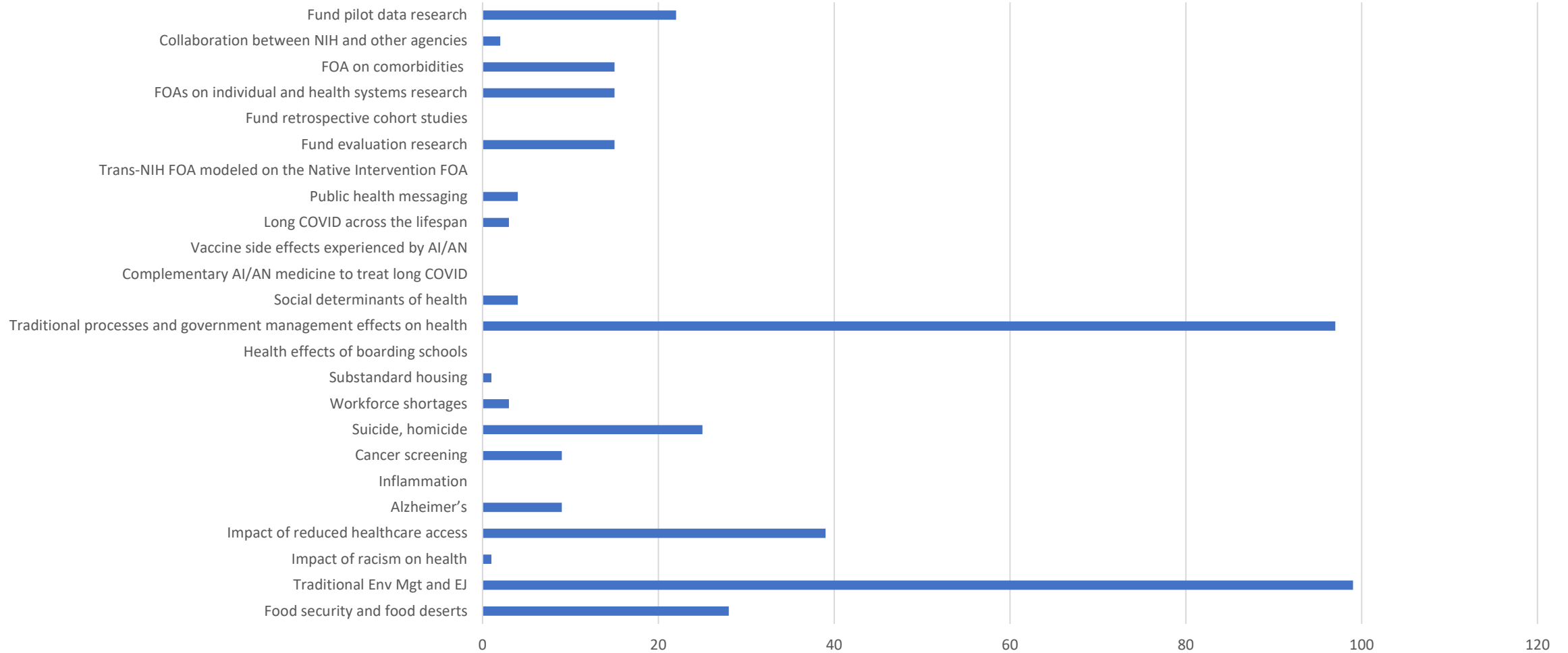
- University of Arizona (UofA) Environmental Health Disparities Center
- The Colorado Resource Center for Tribal Epidemiology Centers (TEC)
For more info: <https://reporter.nih.gov/project-details/10532624>
- The Cancer Research Education Program (C-REP)
- NIH recently awarded 10 new Native American Research Centers for Health awards totaling \$9.2 million per year
- NIH-funded collaboration between the University of Kansas and Haskell Indian Nations University. For more info, visit: <https://reporter.nih.gov/search/7kYfKaTXeEeqgPEOQj3YRw/project-details/10495944>

Highlighted Research Activities under SG #2

- Summer Preparatory Research Internship Program (SPRIP)
- Encouraging Excellence: Health Science Education in Native American Communities
- Data Science Training Curriculum with Tribal Colleges and Universities
- NIH-funded Genomic Data Science Community Network (GDSCN)
- Implementing a Multistage Optimization Strategy to Identify the Best Combination of Program Adaptations to Promote Breastfeeding at the Lummi Indian Reservation. For more info:
 - https://reporter.nih.gov/search/PdWPTkuTOEyBxN85_BMsGQ/project-details/10570412

STRATEGIC GOAL #3: EXPANDING RESEARCH

Number of Funded Projects for each TAC Priority



Highlighted Research Activities under SG #3

- NIH-supported Data Sharing for Demographic Research
- RFA: “Expanding and Enhancing Research Addressing Diabetes in Native Communities.”
- “Culturally Adapted Pain Management for Indigenous Peoples in the Pacific Northwest (CAP-I)”
- Native Spirit for AI adolescents program

Highlighted Research Activities under SG #3

- National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C) Tribal Consultation Report
<https://dpcpsi.nih.gov/thro/tribal-consultations/national-covid-cohort-collaborative-n3c>
- The Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Against COVID-19 Disparities
- “The Community as the Unit of Healing: Conceptualizing Social Determinants of Health and Well-Being for Older American Indian Adults”
- “Reducing Sugared Fruit Drinks in Alaska Native Children”

Highlighted Research Activities under SG#3

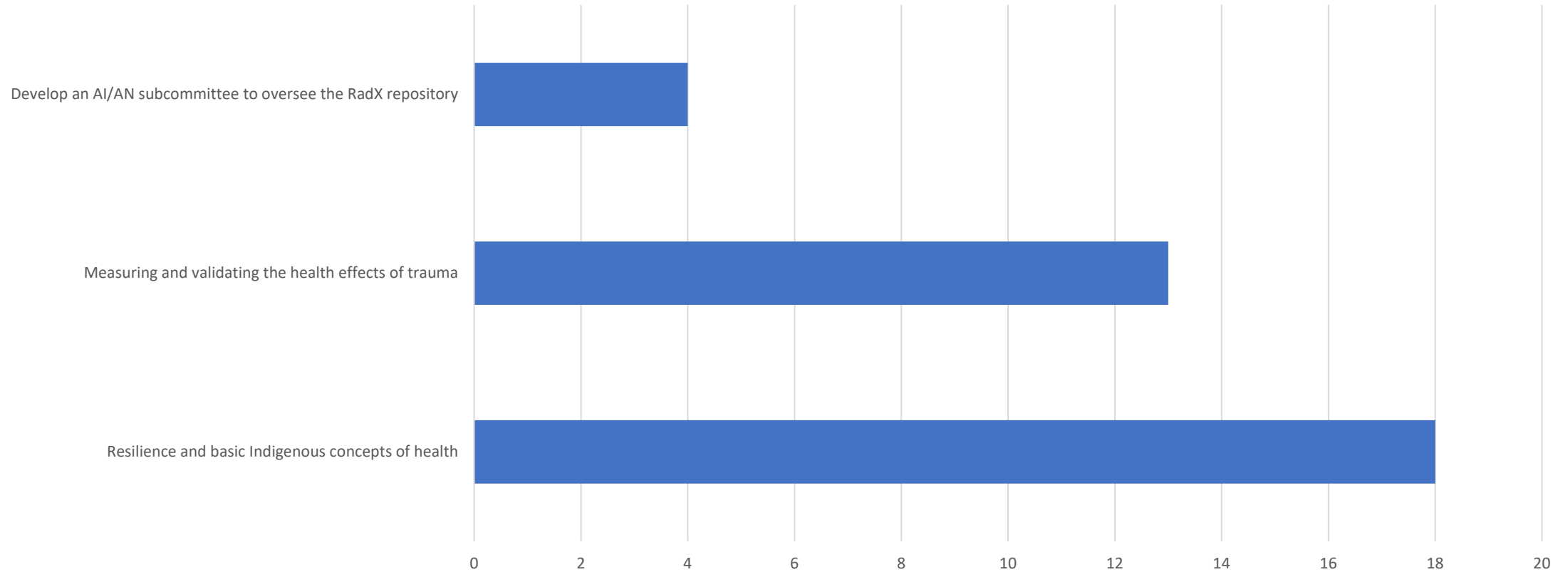
- “The Link: A Collective, Place-Based Approach to Inspiring Missoula’s Next-Generation Healthcare Work Force”
- “Development and Cultural Adaptation of Psychological First Aid for COVID-19 Frontline Workers in AI/AN Communities.”
- “Suicide and the Opioid Overdose Crisis Among AI/ANs: A Storm on Two Fronts Demanding Swift Action.”
- "Dissemination of a Colorectal Cancer Screening Program Across American Indian Communities in the Southern Plains and Southwest United States"

Highlighted Research Activities under SG#3

- “NIH Seeks to Better Understand Arthritis in Native American Communities”
- “Dementia Epidemiology, Health Service Utilization, and Treatment Costs among AI/AN Elders”
- “Wabanaki Native American Research Center for Health (NARCH)”
- “Racial and Ethnic Equity in Care for Hypertension and Diabetes in an Urban Indian Health Organization (UIHO).”
- White House guidance on consideration of Indigenous Knowledge in federal decision-making <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2022/12/01/white-house-releases-first-of-a-kind-indigenous-knowledge-guidance-for-federal-agencies/>

STRATEGIC GOAL #4: ENHANCING CULTURAL COMPETENCY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Number of Funded Projects for each TAC Priority



Highlighted Research Activities under SG#4

- “Centering Indigenous Knowledges and Worldviews: Applying the Indigenist Ecological Systems Model to Youth Mental Health and Wellness Research and Programs”
- “Promoting Linguistic and Cultural Identity through Bilingual Children's Stories to Address Nutrition and Health in Indigenous Communities”
- “Resources, Optimizing Outreach, Teaching and Science for Native American Cancer Prevention (ROOTS)”
- “Wa’Kan Ye’Zah (Little Holy One): Breaking Cycles of Intergenerational Trauma”

Summary

- This report provides the most up-to-date information for each TAC priority, organized under the current NIH Tribal Health Research Strategic Plan, FY 2019-2023, Goals and Objectives, and should serve as a reference to inform future strategic planning.
- The relatively large number of priorities (43) presented challenges in terms of alignment with the current strategic plan and identification of relevant research projects
- Overall, most of the TAC Priorities were addressed across a range of projects; however some priorities were included in only a few projects or not at all. Those priorities are listed on the next 2 slides.

Summary

- TAC Priorities included in only a few projects or not all:
 - Tribal funding in a non-competitive environment
 - Sponsor an FOA to support AI/AN junior investigators to conduct secondary data analyses
 - Sponsor a trans-NIH FOA modeled on the Native Intervention FOA
 - Work with the TAC to establish and fund a Central Data Repository for AI/AN research
 - Use the Common Fund to facilitate co-funding for grants, specifically with regard to junior investigators

Summary

- TAC Priorities included in only a few projects or not all:
 - Fund retrospective cohort studies in addition to prospective studies, e.g. on children
 - Impact of racism on health, healthcare, and health disparities
 - Boarding schools and continued effects on health
 - Lack of or substandard housing effects on AI/AN health
 - Vaccine side effects experienced by AI/AN
 - Complementary AI/AN medicine to treat long COVID
 - Long COVID across the lifespan
 - Foster more collaboration between NIH and other agencies to address health care systems and environmental health research

Questions?
