

Alliance for Community Engagement Climate & Health (ACE-CH)

NIH Tribal Advisory Committee Briefing
Mary Masterson | Scientific Program Lead

June 26, 2024

NIH CEAL
Community Engagement Alliance

Alliance for Community
Engagement-Climate
and Health (ACE-CH)



Alliance for Community Engagement – Climate and Health (ACE-CH)

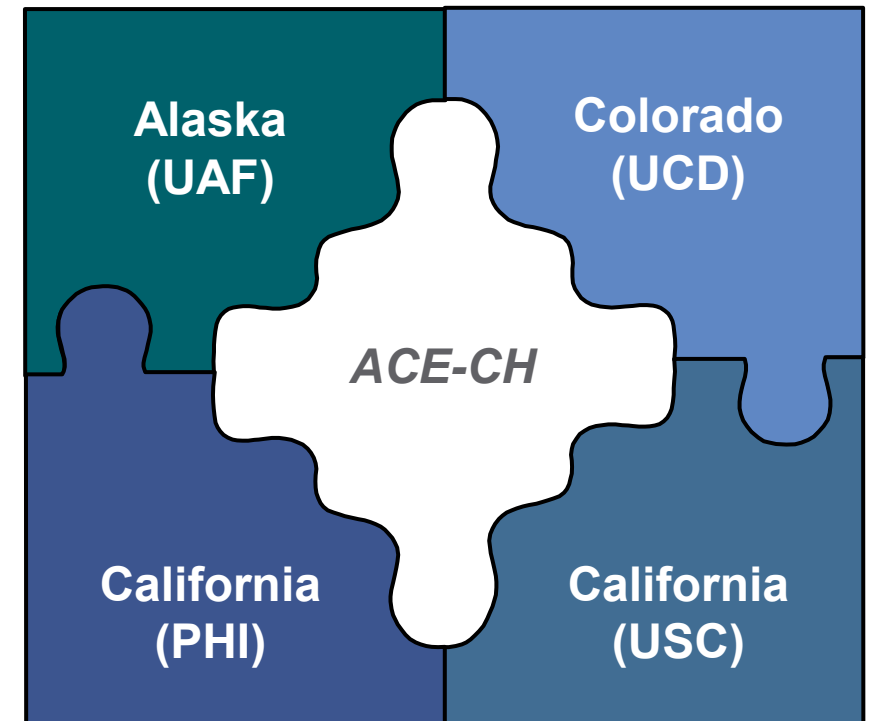
VISION FOR ACE-CH

A community-engaged alliance to empower community-driven, sustainable strategies to address the impact of climate change on vulnerable populations and promote health equity.

ACE-CH is a program within the **NIH Community engagement Alliance (CEAL)** and is funded through the **NIH Climate Change and Health Initiative (CCHI)**.

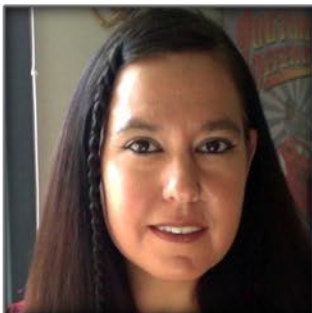
ACE-CH is charged to

- Conduct community-engaged research
- Co-design sustainable solutions
- Assess the impacts of climate change
- Improve health equity and outcomes



ACE-CH Teams Principal Investigators & Community Partners

**University of
Alaska Fairbanks**
AK ACE-CH



Stacy Rasmus

**University of
Southern California**
PLACE



Jill Johnston

**Public Health
Institute**
CHARM



Susan Paulukonis

**University of
Colorado-Denver**
Mountain West



Katie Dickinson



Karsten Hueffer

***Co-designing strategies and
solutions to promote health equity,
environmental justice, and
sustainable change***



Kathy James

Phases of ACE-CH

Formative Phase I (2023-2025)

Current

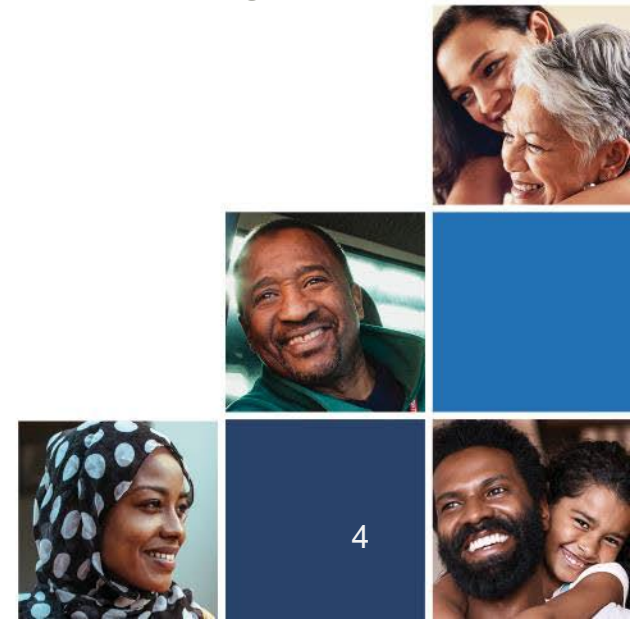
- Support community-engaged research and outreach
- Assess the potential multi-level impact of current CC induced stressors
- Evaluate community knowledge, attitudes and beliefs about the health impacts of CC
- Build strong partnerships

Interventional Phase II

Future

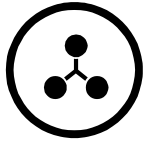
Development and testing of community-based and culturally sensitive implementation strategies to enhance the adoption, integration, and sustainability of adaption and mitigation interventions

Activities



Summary | University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)

Alaska Alliance for Community Engagement – Climate and Health (AK ACE-CH)



Center Indigenous knowledge, attitudes and beliefs about climate change and its impacts on health and well-being in Alaska



Develop and pilot test strategies to **assess multi-level risk and resilience factors** in rural AN communities in two highly impacted regions of Alaska



Disseminate and implement Indigenous-led strategies to **build adaptive capacity** in rural AN communities disproportionately affected by social determinants of health, health disparities, and climate change



Partners

- UAF Center for Alaska Native Health Research (CANHR)
- UAF College of Natural Science and Mathematics (CNSM)
- Alaska Climate Research Center
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Subsistence
- UAF International Arctic Research Center (IARC)
- UAF Geophysical Institute
- National Park Services, AK Region
- UAF Center for One Health Research (COHR)
- UAA -Div. of Population Health Sciences
- Native Village of Emmonak
- Chuloonawick Native Village
- Native Village of Hooper Bay
- Native Village of Toksook Bay
- Native Village of Scammon Bay
- Arctic Village
- Native Village of Tanana
- Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)
- Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC)

<u>Location</u>	Alaska
<u>Communities of Focus</u>	Rural and remote Indigenous Alaska Natives (AN)
<u>Climate impact</u>	Food systems impacts infectious diseases, and mental health



Alaska Alliance for Community Engagement- Climate and Health (AK ACE-CH) 2nd Annual Meeting

University of Alaska Anchorage Campus • Gorsuch Commons Room 107 • May 30-31, 2024



ALLIANCE AGREEMENTS

- *Prioritize what is most important to communities.*
- *Build on the strengths and resources within the communities.*
- *Promote trust and respect among partners and within communities.*
- *Partners inform and shape the work of the AK ACE team.*
- *Time and resources are built into the plan to communicate with communities.*
- *All perspectives have value.*

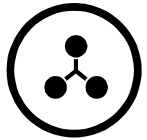


Meeting Objectives:

- To convene AK ACE-CH and engage new community partners in the Alliance
- To learn about the climate and health impacts in Alaska Native communities
- To engage in an interactive research activity to assess climate change and health priorities
- To plan AK ACE-CH data collection activities and community strategic plan development

Summary | Public Health Institute (PHI)

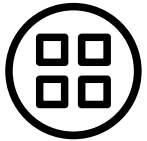
Climate Health Adaptation and Resilience Mobilizing (CHARM) Lake County Project



Conduct a thorough **characterization of facilitators and barriers** by integrating perspectives and experiences from community members



Develop a **coordinated emergency response and communication plan**, including developing and pilot testing communications targeting key audiences



Identify **best practices and lessons learned** about the CHARM model through evaluation activities, which can then be used to **inform adaptation or expansion** of the model within and outside of Lake County



Partners

- Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Habematolel Pomo
- Middletown Rancheria
- North Coast Opportunities
- Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Tracking California
- California Department of Public Health, Office of Health Equity
- County of Lake Administrative Office and Office of Climate Resiliency
- County of Lake Health Services Department,
- County of Lake Water Resources Department
- North Coast Opportunities
- Seigler Springs Community Redevelopment Association

Location

Lake County,
California

Communities of Focus

American
Indian,
immigrant,
rural and
agricultural

Climate impact

Extreme heat,
Harmful algal
blooms (HABs)



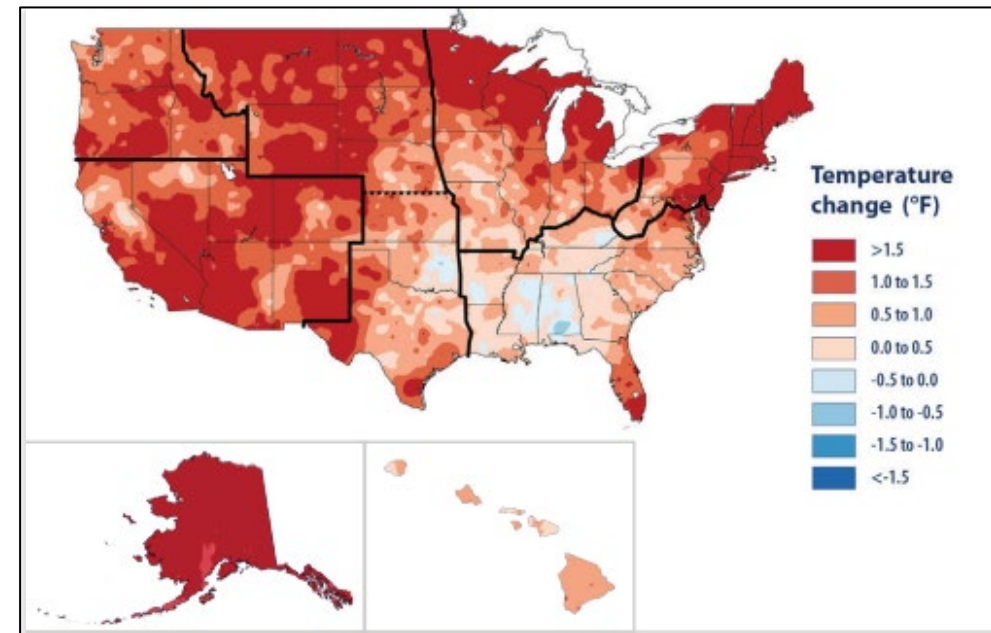
Public Health Institute (CHARM)

➤ Extreme Heat Emergency Tabletop Exercise in May 2024

- Lake County, CA does not have a heat emergency preparedness or response plan.
- CHARM organized a multi-day In-person simulation to inform planning for a severe heat event.

➤ Tabletop Exercise Reflections:

- Increased awareness of CH resources
 - Sharing lived experiences between partners
 - Coordination, collaboration and inclusion especially as it relates to tribal representation in planning and exercises.
-
- The exercise will further inform the development of the action plan for Lake county and potential strategies used for Phase II



AIAN-NHPI Enrichment Initiative Overview

The AIAN-NHPI EI contributes to CEAL's efforts to address health inequities impacting AIAN and NHPI communities. (Scientific Program Lead: Dr. Maliha Ilias)

AIAN-NHPI EI Background

*The American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AI/AN-NHPI) Enrichment Initiative encourages **community-driven, scientifically rigorous, intervention-based research to address disparities in social and structural determinants of health** impacting the prevention and management of **chronic conditions** and public health challenges in these communities.*

AIAN-NHPI Enrichment Initiative Details



Target Populations

This initiative focuses on **AIAN NHPI populations**, across Alaska, South Dakota, Hawaii, and other states with US-Affiliated Pacific Islands & states.



Key Health Areas

The three teams are implementing interventions in the following health areas, tailored for their respective populations:

- **CHW-delivered** diabetes prevention intervention adapted for NHPI, **incorporating NHPI-specific SDoH**
- **Qungasvik Tools for Life intervention targeting youth and elders** in rural Yup'ik communities
- Tailored Diabetes Prevention **Intervention for youth/adult family dyads emphasizing community-defined overall wellbeing**



Biphasic Approach

Biphasic projects will create sustainable research infrastructures that foster healthy and resilient communities.

Thank You

