

Office of the Tribal Liaison Community Development Service

Mission: To demonstrate a respect for sovereignty and advocate for tribal nations by fostering inclusive partnerships using sound public health practices.

We Recognize

Tribal Sovereignty

Oklahoma tribal nations possess inherent selfgovernance powers over their citizens and lands.

Collaboration

Tribal and state collaboration yields greater impact for healthier indigenous people and Oklahoma overall.

Our Partners

Tribal Nations

Tribal leaders, health directors, public health managers, and health board members

Oklahoma State Department of Health

Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) leadership, county health department regional directors, managers, and colleagues

Tribal Serving Entities

Indian Health Service, urban health clinics, tribal public health authorities, researchers, universities, foundations, etc





What We Do

- Conduct government-to-government tribal consultation
- Foster collaboration among customers and partners at community, state, tribal and federal levels
- Coordinate cultural competency training to foster diversity and build OSDH staff capacity
- Implement culturally appropriate and open communication between tribal partners and OSDH
- Appropriately disseminate and translate American Indian public health findings into practical knowledge



Office of the Tribal Liaison Community Development Service

Key Successes for 2020 & 2021

Data Sharing

Successfully navigated and facilitated 3 tribal and OSDH partnerships granting data sharing access to the statewide infectious disease monitoring system (PHIDDO).

Conducted cultural competency trainings for central office and county health departments statewide to build staff competencies in better working with tribal nations and Indigenous people in Oklahoma.

Training & Cultural Competency

COVID Response

Established a process and facilitated tribal-OSDH joint partnerships for tribal and tribalserving contact tracing and case investigation programs

Conducted annual and ad hoc governmentto-government tribal consultations on agency rules promulgation and possible impacts to tribal health systems and Indigenous people in Oklahoma.

Policy Efforts & Tribal Consultation

Staff Members

- Stephen Weaver, Tribal Liaison
 - stephenw@health.ok.gov
- John Morton, Tribal Partnership Consultant
 - ≥ johncm@health.ok.gov

Emergency Response

Worked closely with the OSDH Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Warehouse, Indian Health Service (IHS) and tribal emergency preparedness programs to assure PPE and other resources were shared and distributed.

Coordinated tribal/state/federal vaccine planning efforts. Facilitated and supervised contact tracing call center operations and revised processes to assure tribal/state partnership efficiency.

Vaccine Planning