



Office of Tribal Liaison (OTL)

Lunch and Learn, Session #2

February 27, 2025

Agenda

- Introductions:
 - Name, department, and one thing you want to learn today.
 - Place this information in the chat.
- State-Tribal Collaboration Act (STCA).
- Office of Tribal Liaison:
 - Introductions:
 - Janet Johnson.
 - Adriana Dominguez.
 - Tribal contacts.
- Communication Pathways:
 - Inclusion.
- Service map.
- Importance of Tribal Outreach.
- Discussion.



The State-Tribal Collaboration Act

The State-Tribal Collaboration Act of 2009 (SB196) promotes effective communication and collaboration, and positive government-to-government relations between the State of New Mexico and New Mexico's 24 Federally recognized Pueblos, Tribes, and Nations.

- **Bonus question:**
 - Which was the most recently added Tribe?

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Government to
Government
Relationships



Effective
Communication
& Collaboration

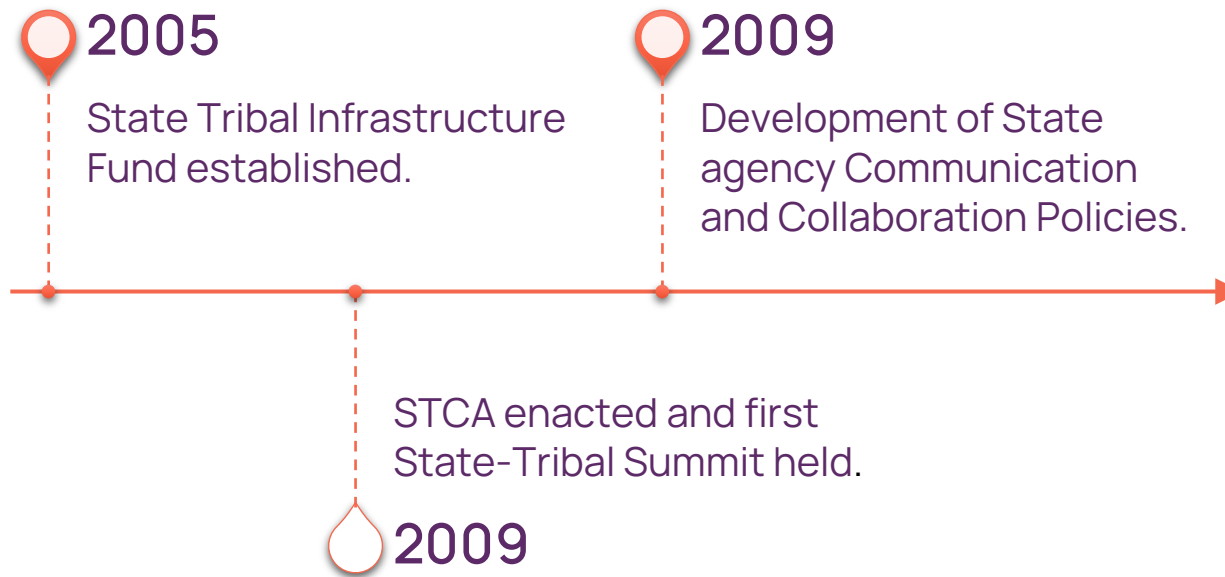


Cultural
Humility (and
Best Practices)



NM State-Tribal Relations

- Post STCA State law and policy development includes:
 - Education, Child Welfare, Healthcare Accessibility, and Public Safety, just to name a few.



STCA Tribal Liaisons

Section E of STCA:

Every state agency shall designate a tribal liaison, who reports directly to the office of the head of the state agency, to:

- 1) The head of the state agency with developing and ensuring the implementation of the policy as set forth in Subsection A of this section;
- 2) serve as a contact person who shall maintain ongoing communication between the state agency and affected Indian nations, tribes or pueblos; and
- 3) ensure that training is provided to the staff of the state agency as set forth in Subsection B of Section 4 of the State-Tribal Collaboration Act. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude tribal liaisons from providing or facilitating additional training.

NM IAD State Agency Tribal Liaisons



Home > Programs > Tribal Consultation & Collaboration > Tribal Liaisons

TRIBAL LIAISONS

STATE OF NEW MEXICO TRIBAL LIAISONS

OFFICE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS (OAAA) Charles Reado, Deputy Director/Tribal Liaison 310 San Pedro NE, Suite 230 Albuquerque, NM 871082 Tel: (505) 389-6702 Email: charles.reado@oaaa.nm.gov	AGING & LONG-TERM SERVICES DEPARTMENT (ALTSO) Melissa Sanchez, Director of Office of Indian Elders Affairs 2550 Cerrillos Road Santa Fe, NM 87505 Tel: (505) 603-7186 Email: melissa.sanchez@altsd.nm.gov Website: https://aging.nm.gov/	AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT Candie Sweetser, Government Manager/Tribal Liaison 3190 S. Espina St. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003 Tel: (575) 339-5037 Email: csweetser@nmda.nmsu.edu
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT (CYFD) Donalyn Serrano, Director Office of Tribal Affairs	CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT (NMCD) Kevin Everett, Religious and Volunteer Coordinator & Tribal Liaison	DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS 407 Galisteo St Ste 260

<https://www.iad.nm.gov/programs/tribal-consultation-and-collaboration/tribal-liaisons/>

Office of Tribal Liaison

Mission Statement:

The mission statement of the Office of Tribal Liaison is to promote better health and wellness outcomes among sovereign nations in New Mexico through ongoing communication, consultation, and collaboration.



Office of Tribal Liaison

Janet Johnson, Tribal Liaison.
Santa Clara/Nambe Pueblos and Mandan-
Hidatsa.

Family names:

Santa Clara Pueblo: Chavarria.

Nambe: Mirabal.

Mandan-Hidatsa: Birdbear and Snow.

Adriana Dominguez, OTL Projects Coordinator.



NMDOH Tribal Contacts

- [Desirae Martinez](#), Tribal Epidemiologist.
- [Toney Johnson, Jr.](#), Tribal Alcohol Coordinator and Mescalero Primary Care Pilot Manager.
- [Devona Quam](#), Office of Community Health Workers Director.
- [Camie Nelson](#), Health Promotion Manager/Tribal Outreach Coordinator.
- [Ophelia Hudson](#), NW Region Health Promotion Manager/Tribal Outreach.
- [Mallery Chino](#), Health Equity Specialist.
- [Diana Good](#), Health Promotion Coordinator-Sandoval county.
- [Mattee Jim](#), Corrections and Community Program Manager.
- [Teresa Turietta](#), Tribal Opioid Response Coordinator.
- Tribal Overdose Prevention Coordinator-Vacant.

Office of Tribal Liaison



State-Tribal Collaboration Act July 31, 2024 Agency Report

New Mexico Department of Health - Celebrating Health
in Partnership with New Mexico Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations

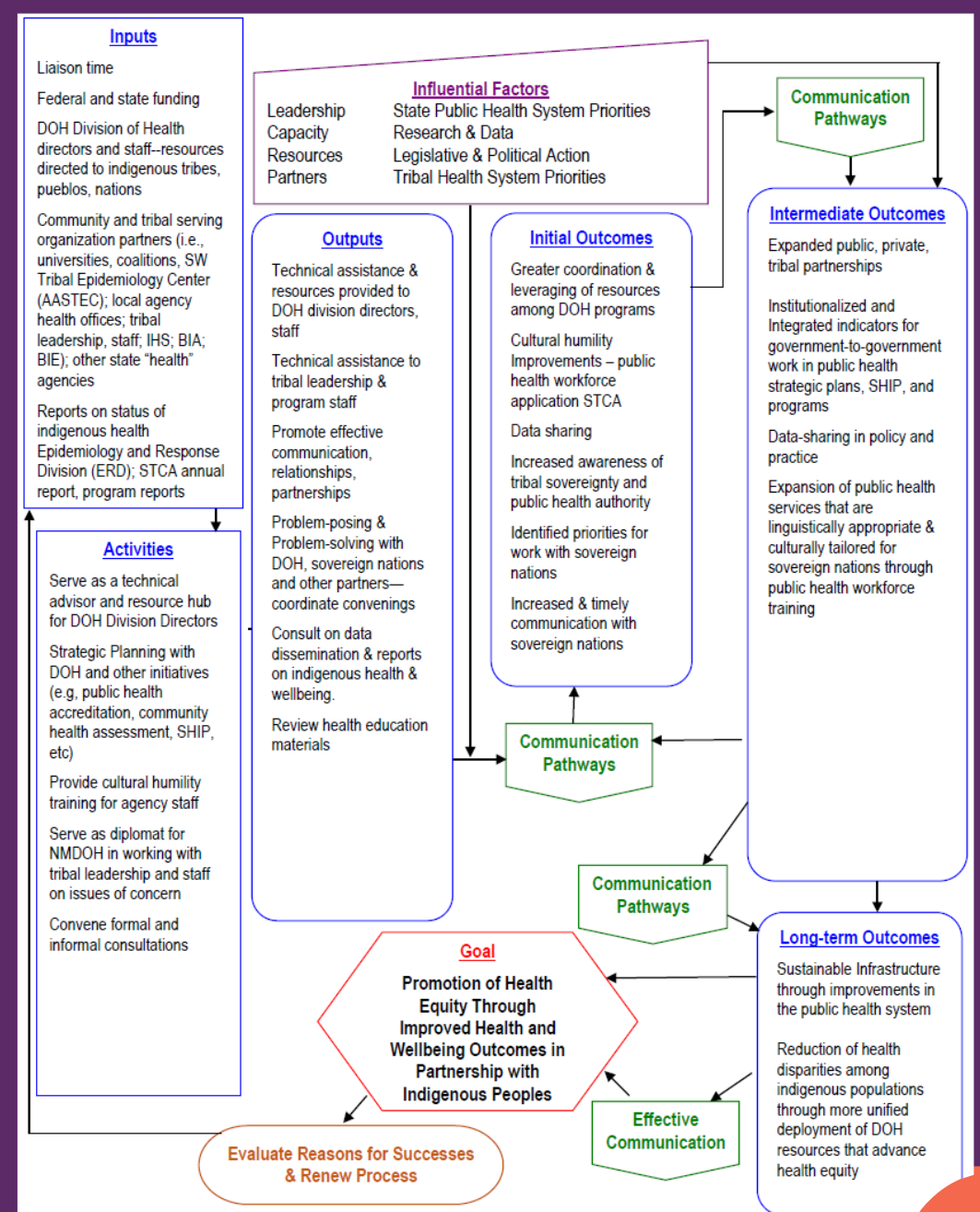
Patrick M. Allen - Cabinet Secretary

- Per the STCA:
 - Tribal Liaisons are the hub of communication between the agency and the 24 Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations.
 - Tribal Roundtables.
 - External training opportunities.
 - Ensure that agency staff have access to cultural humility trainings.
 - Working More Effectively with Tribes training events:
 - In-person:
 - Albuquerque, NUSENDA (4/8).
 - Santa Fe, Runnels Auditorium (4/9).
 - Virtual:
 - May 6th and 8th.
 - Coordinate the collection, collation, and distribution of the Agency's Annual STCA report.

Communication Pathway

Examples of OTL activities:

- Serve as a technical advisor and resource hub for NMDOH.
- Strategic Planning with DOH and other initiatives (e.g., public health accreditation, community health assessment, SHIP, etc.).
- Provide cultural humility training for agency staff.
- Serve as diplomat for NMDOH in working with Tribal leadership and staff on issues of concern.
- Convene formal and informal consultations.

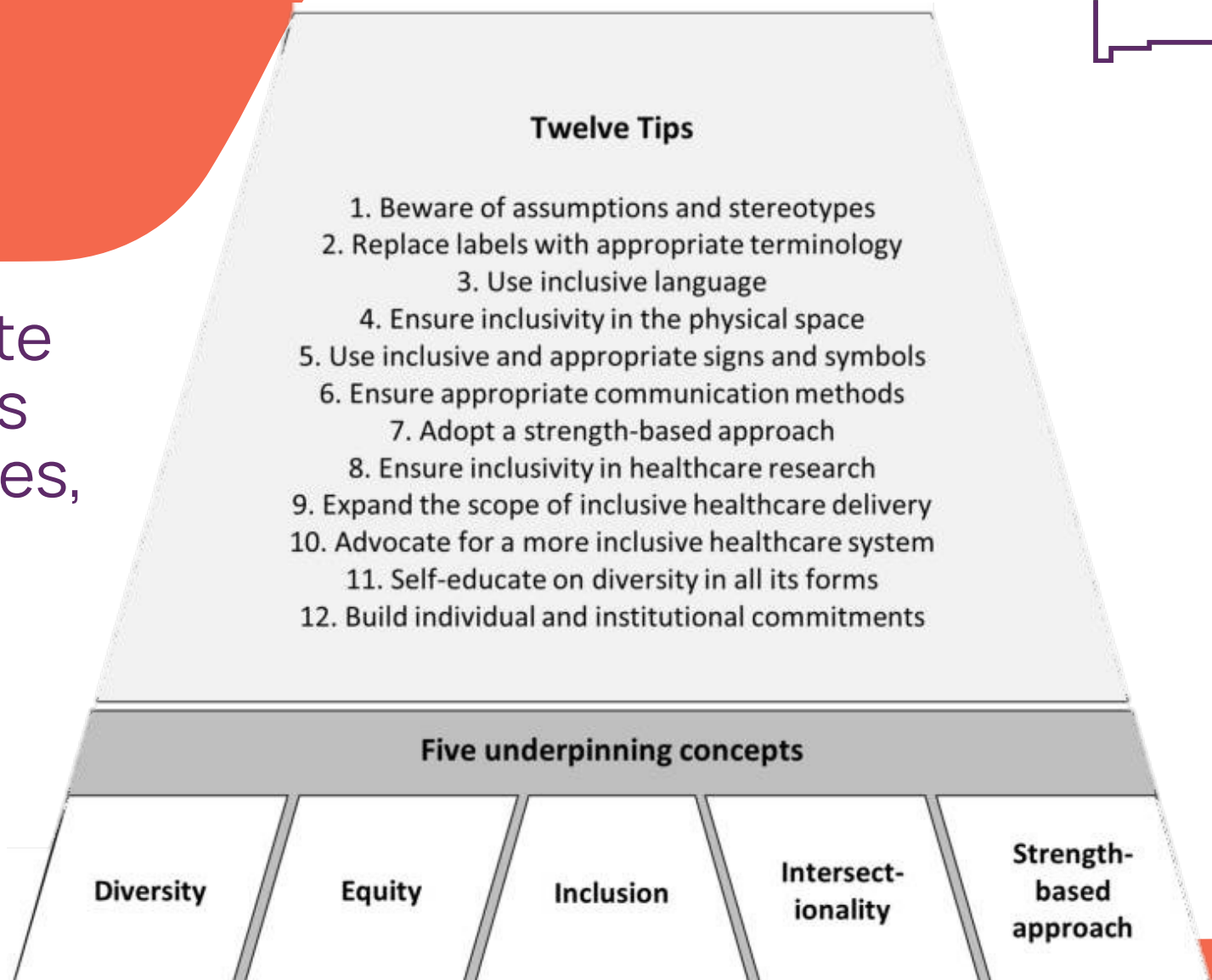


Inclusion

Health is a basic human right, as outlined in the World Health Organization constitution, and the highest attainable state of health is a fundamental right of every human being. Yet, marginalized groups experience poorer mental and physical health outcomes than the general population due to health inequities largely driven by social determinants of health—the conditions in which people live throughout their lifespan. There is a causal, vicious cycle between disadvantages due to social determinants of health and the poor health outcomes.

Inclusion

- OTL's mission is to promote better health and wellness outcomes among our Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations.
- To be effective in our mission, OTL must be included in critical conversations.



NMDOH Programs and Services



NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SERVICES AND RESOURCES IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Administrative Services Division

Office of Tribal Liaison

- Cultural competency training
- Technical assistance to Tribes
- Translation of materials (Navajo)
- Constituent requests support
- IAD (Infrastructure Fund Board)
- State Health Improvement Plan
- Intergovernmental Agreements/Contracts

Office of the Secretary

- Technical assistance to Tribes

Office of General Counsel

- Technical assistance to Tribes

Office of Health Equity

- Translation services

Facilities Management

- Fort Bayard Medical Center
- New Mexico Behavioral Health Institute
- New Mexico Veterans Home
- New Mexico Rehabilitation Center
- Sequoyah Adolescent Treatment Center
- Turquoise Lodge Hospital
- Los Lunas Community Program

Key

- NMDOH American Indian Specific
- Technical Assistance
- Partnership/collaboration with Tribes & Tribal entities
- Inclusion in NMDOH program services if qualifications are met
- MOU, MOA, or Provider Agreement

Public Health Division

Center for Access & Linkage to Care

- Regional Public Health Offices

Center for Health Protection

Vital Records Bureau

- Improving access to vital records
- Environmental Health Bureau
- Asthma Control Program
- Occupational Health
- NM Environmental Health Tracking Program
- Tribal Cancer Concerns
- Safe Water Program

Health Emergency Bureau

- Cities Readiness Initiative for Medical Countermeasures
- Dispensing & Public Health Preparedness
- Emergency Operations Center
- Department Operations Center
- Tribal Health Emergency Preparedness Conference
- Medical Reserve Corp Tribal Medical Care & Training
- Medical Reserve Corp Dental Screening
- Partners in Preparedness Conference

Injury Prevention & Harm Reduction Bureau

- Substance Use Epidemiology Section
- Overdose Prevention Section
- Childhood Injury Prevention
- Suicide Prevention Program
- Adult Falls Prevention Program
- Sexual Violence Prevention
- Violence Prevention

Community & Health Data Systems Epidemiology Bureau

- YRRS & BRFSS Survey
- Tribal Epidemiology
- Health Equity Epidemiology Program
- AI/AN COVID Epidemiology Team
- Health Systems Epidemiology Program

Emergency Medical Service Bureau

- Technical assistance to Tribes

Infectious Disease Epidemiology Bureau

- Water Testing Training & Support

Center for Healthy & Safe Communities

Communicable Disease Bureau

- HIV Services Program
- HIV Prevention Program
- Infectious Disease Prevention Team
- Tuberculosis Program
- Immunization Program
- Better Together Coalition
- Department of Health Mobile Vaccination Team

Population & Community Health Bureau

- Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program
- Comprehensive Cancer Program
- Native American Partnership for Health & Wellness Promotion
- National Diabetes Prevention Program
- Kitchen Creation Cooking Schools for People with Diabetes
- Chronic Disease Self Management Education
- Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Program
- Office of Community Health Workers
- Office of Oral Health
- Nicotine Use Prevention & Control Program
- Obesity, Nutrition, & Physical Activity Program
- Healthy Kids Healthy Communities Program
- School-Based Health Centers

Family Health Bureau

- Family Planning Services
- Women, Infants, & Children Program
- Farmer's Market Nutrition Program
- Farmer's Market Nutrition Enhancement Program
- Newborn Genetic Screening Program
- Newborn Hearing Screening Program
- Children's Medical Services
- Maternal Child Health Epidemiology
- Maternal Health Program

Medical Cannabis

- Technical Assistance to Tribes

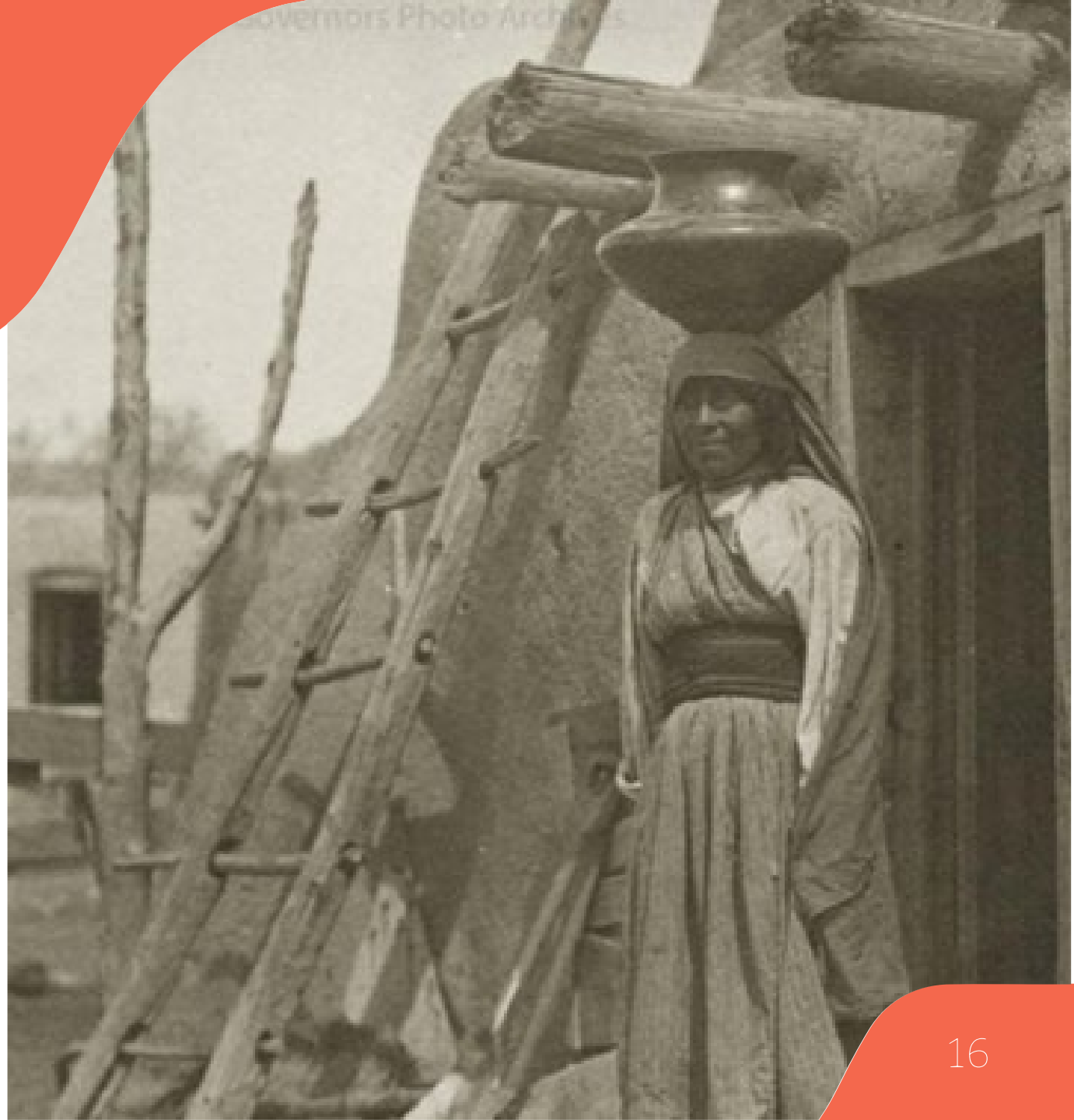
Scientific Laboratory

- Environmental Analysis
- Implied Consent Training and Support
- Implied Consent Sample Analysis

Tribal Outreach

Why is Tribal outreach important?

- Tribal outreach from a state agency builds trust, ensures effective service delivery, and upholds government-to-government relationships.



Importance of Tribal Outreach:

Respecting Sovereignty & Government-to-Government Relations

Tribes are sovereign nations with unique legal and political statuses. State agencies must engage with them as equal partners, recognizing their self-governance and decision-making authority.

Ensuring Equitable Access to Services

Many state programs, such as healthcare, education, infrastructure, and economic development, affect Tribal communities. Outreach ensures that these communities have access to resources tailored to their specific needs.

Compliance with Legal and Policy Requirements

Federal and state laws often require consultation with Tribes on policies or projects that impact Tribal lands, resources, or people. Failure to engage properly can lead to legal challenges or delays.

Cultural Competency & Relationship Building

Understanding Tribal history, traditions, and governance fosters mutual respect and collaboration. Long-term relationships built on trust lead to more effective policies and initiatives.

Importance of Tribal Outreach Continued

Health & Social Services Collaboration

Addressing public health, education, and social issues often requires coordination between Tribal and state agencies to ensure culturally appropriate and effective services.

Crisis Response & Emergency Preparedness

During natural disasters, pandemics, or other emergencies, state agencies and Tribes must collaborate to ensure effective response and recovery efforts.

Reducing Historical Mistrust

Many Tribal communities have experienced historical injustices and broken promises from government entities. Proactive outreach demonstrates a commitment to fairness, inclusion, and reconciliation.

Promoting Mutual Benefit & Shared Success

Strong partnerships lead to positive outcomes for both Tribes and the state, fostering economic resilience, cultural preservation, and improved quality of life.

Being PROACTIVE

Provide Opportunities for Tribal employees:

P

- This can look like technical assistance and/or helping to identify potential resources on a shared activity.

Research:

R

- The investment in thorough research is the bridge that connects us with Tribal governments on a deeper, more meaningful level. By demonstrating respect for Tribal history and culture through research it paves the way for authentic partnerships, where the exchange is not just transactional but enriching for all parties involved.

Opportunities for the future:

O

- By involving Tribes in discussions about future projects, businesses send a powerful message: they are not merely interested in short-term gains but are invested in the sustained well-being and growth of the tribal community.

Being PROACTIVE

Advocate for Tribal Collaboration:

A

- Advocacy stands as a powerful catalyst in the realm of Tribal engagement, shaping attitudes, policies, and perceptions within industries and communities. By becoming advocates for respectful and meaningful engagement with Tribes, we initiate a transformative process that extends far beyond the immediate projects.

Consult early and often:

C

- Establishing a continuous line of communication from the outset is vital for building trust, preventing misunderstandings, and fostering a relationship built on mutual respect and understanding. By embracing a flexible and inclusive approach, can create initiatives that align with the community's values and traditions, ensuring that the collaboration is not only successful but also sustainable in the long run.

Truthful in Words and Actions:

T

- Honesty and transparency stand as the bedrock principles in the establishment of any successful partnership, especially when it comes to collaborations between state government and Tribes. In the context of engagements with Tribes, these values are not just ethical imperatives but pivotal elements that lay the foundation for a relationship built on trust, integrity, and mutual respect.

Being PROACTIVE

Incorporate traditional knowledge:

I

- Respecting and incorporating traditional knowledge is not just a matter of cultural sensitivity; it is a fundamental step towards sustainable and responsible initiatives. Tribal communities are deeply connected to their ancestral lands and hold a wealth of knowledge about their community acquired through generations of lived experience and close observation.

Visit:

V

- Visits provide a unique opportunity to go beyond surface-level understanding, offering firsthand insights into the operations, challenges, and cultural contexts of Tribal program administrations. Such visits not only demonstrate genuine interest but also pave the way for collaborations that are truly mutually beneficial and culturally sensitive

Engagement on ALL levels:

E

- Engagement on all levels is the key to fostering enduring partnerships between NMDOH and Tribal communities. This comprehensive approach not only demonstrates a commitment to the immediate projects at hand but also signifies a dedication to the overall well-being and empowerment of Tribal nations.

Purposeful

Tribal engagement and outreach require a holistic approach grounded in fundamental principles of respect, honesty, advocacy, and active involvement. These guiding values form the essence of genuine collaboration between NMDOH and Tribal nations.

Respect ensures that cultural heritage is honored, traditions are preserved, and Tribal wisdom is acknowledged. Honesty and transparency build trust, fostering open communication and understanding. Advocacy promotes the importance of Tribal collaboration, encouraging broader societal acceptance and understanding. Active involvement, spanning from grassroots initiatives to policy-level discussions, cements the commitment to the well-being of Tribal communities.



Resources

- Jicarilla Apache Nation
 - [Jicarilla Agency | Indian Affairs](#)
- Mescalero Apache Tribe
 - [Home - Official Website of the Mescalero Apache Tribe](#)
- Fort Sill Apache Tribe of OK
 - [Contact – Fort Sill Apache Tribe NEW](#)
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
 - [Ute Mountain Ute Tribe](#)
- Navajo Nation
 - [Home](#)
 - Chapter House Directory
 - [Navajo Nation Chapter Directory Listing - Google Drive](#)
- Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
 - [Homepage | Indian Pueblo Cultural Center](#)
 - Feast Day Calendar
 - [Feast Days | Indian Pueblo Cultural Center](#)
 - Map of the 19 Pueblos and Tribes
 - [map_to_pueblos_and_tribes_of_new_mexico](#)
 - Tribal etiquette
 - [Visiting a Pueblo | Indian Pueblo Cultural Center](#)
- NM Indian Affairs Department
 - [Home - NM Indian Affairs Department](#)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - [Bureau of Indian Affairs | Indian Affairs](#)
- Indian Health Service
 - [Albuquerque Area | Indian Health Service \(IHS\)](#)

Discussion



Thank you!

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(505) 470-6584-Cell

OTL webpage:

Tribal Liaison

- State-Tribal Collaboration Act
- State Tribal Communication, Collaboration, and Consultation Policy
- STCA Annual Reports (2009-2024)

Kun'da woha

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