



Tribal Health Program Support Technical Assistance Services

The United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., Tribal Health Program Support (THPS) department was created in 1995. USET serves thirty-three (33) Tribal Nations from the Northeastern Woodlands, to the Everglades, and across the Gulf of Mexico. They provide up-to-date public health information, advocacy tools, policy analysis, and health promotion and disease prevention programming. THPS believes that elevating the health status of Tribal citizens is integral in restoring and maintaining the heart, spirit, and soul common to every USET Tribal Nation.

See below for some of the technical assistance services THPS is able to provide to USET member Tribal Nations, including full, partial or consultative support for all steps involved in a particular activity. They can provide support during all phases of a project—survey development, data collection, analysis, results dissemination; partial support during a specific phase of a project (e.g., analyze data collected by Tribal Nation staff; prepare dissemination materials) or consultative support (share resources, best practices for a particular project, provide training on a particular data collection instrument, etc.).

Tribal Health Program Support Technical Assistance Services			
Service	Description	Outcome	
Data Collection and Disease Surveillance	Community Health Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An assessment using quantitative and qualitative procedures to systematically collect and analyze data about health priorities within a specific community. Data is collected from Tribal citizens and public health stakeholders directly involved with the Tribal Nation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the prioritization of health problems and decision-making for health improvement plans. Provide highly specific community level health information.
	Ad Hoc Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit a request to understand the prevalence of a particular disease, risk factor or health condition for your Tribal Nation. Previous requests have included rate of diabetes, Hepatitis C. THPS utilizes existing RPMS data and any available state/national level surveillance data. May include comparisons to relevant population groups for reference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform public health program planning. Can inform or help fulfill requirements when grant writing.
	COVID-19 Reports and Surveillance Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly surveillance report of COVID-19 tests, cases and vaccines with comparisons to county, state and national rates. Surveillance tool, utilizing the online data collection platform REDCAP, to support contact tracing efforts. Training can be provided on how to utilize this tool. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding COVID-19 rates, testing behaviors and vaccination rates is important for Tribal leaders to make informed decisions for their community.
	Communications Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment to understand the Tribal community's preferred health communications style, channels of communication and preferred health messaging. Utilizes data collected from Tribal citizens through focus groups and surveys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand what the preferred, most effective methods of communicating health information. Useful before starting a health campaign or when promoting health behaviors.
	Survey and Other Data Collection Instrument Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many standardized surveys and data collection instruments exist to collect information on health topics. However, these tools may not have been developed specifically for use in Native American communities and may include items that are not appropriate for this context. THPS staff can identify existing data collection instruments and work with Tribal Nations to adapt these to fit their unique context/needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to collect information on specific health topics in a culturally appropriate manner. Integration with existing surveys could allow for comparison with other reference groups.



USET member Tribal Nations can submit a request for technical assistance to usetepi@usetinc.org or at www.usetinc.org/departments/thps

Tribal Health Program Support Technical Assistance Services (continued)

	Service	Description	Outcome
Data Collection and Disease Surveillance	Disease Outbreak Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist with developing and implementing systems to respond to outbreaks, including emerging infections. This support can include developing surveillance tools and systems, data analysis and reporting, and public health guidance and recommendations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved understanding of infectious and chronic disease in the community to improve program planning and health services.
	Immunization Registry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilizing RPMS and statewide immunization surveillance data, THPS staff identify discrepancies in RPMS data available to Tribal Nations. Missing records are entered into RPMS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to date understanding of immunization rates among Tribal citizens.
	Mortality Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report identifying the top causes of mortality for various population groups (males/females, <5 yrs, 18-24 yrs, etc.). This report utilizes RPMS data, as well as state-level data to produce the most accurate picture of mortality for Tribal Nations. Available state-level data varies by state. May also include a relevant comparison group for reference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide insight into the most pressing immediate and underlying health issues for Tribal citizens.
Training	GPRA 101 Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-site training including a basic overview of the Government Performance Reporting Act (GPRA), importance of collecting these measures. Includes an assessment to understand training needs around CRS, DMS, iCare and PCC management reports. Training can be tailored based on findings from assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff trained in importance of GPRA measures and how to track.
	Training Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USET hosts a number of training opportunities each year including Indian Country ECHO clinics, Evaluation 101, Introduction to Logic Models, grant writing, and RPMS. Additionally, tailored trainings can be provided upon request or can be referred from existing external trainers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tribal Nation staff and citizens trained in key areas of Tribal public health.
General	Grant Writing and Development Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answer questions related to particular funding announcements. Review and edit sections of grant applications. Review evaluation plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive grant applications and comprehensive program planning.
	Recommendations for Tribal Public Health Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> THPS staff consults with public health authorities to compile the most relevant public health recommendations for a requested topic. Previous examples include COVID-19 recommendations for Tribal consideration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date public health guidance.
	Special Technical Assistance Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> THPS staff have a range of expertise and can support additional technical assistance requests. Past examples have included strategic planning support, literature reviews, and summaries of evidence-based programs. Submit a request for any other assistance not listed here. If we are not able to help directly, we can provide referrals to others who are better suited to assist. 	

Health Research Review

Have a health topic or concern you want to learn more about? THPS staff can assist you! Staff have access and are trained in conducting comprehensive research of existing literature and would be more than happy to assist your Tribal Nation identify resources or summarize what is known about a particular health issue.

Strategic Planning

Is your Health Department or a particular public health program looking for long-term and sustainable planning support? THPS staff have a wide variety of Strategic Planning support we can provide.

Other Tribal Nation specific public health assessment support THPS can provide:

- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey
- Dental Infrastructure Gap Analysis
- Behavioral Health Needs Assessment
- Tribal Public Health Infrastructure Assessment
- PRC Data Flow Analysis
- Patient Processes Analysis
- Programmatic Process Evaluation
- Environmental Hazard Investigation



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