

2026 USET Best Practices Agenda

	Monday 6/15	Tuesday 6/16	Wednesday, 6/17	Thursday, 6/18 Special Events	
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	<p>Best Practice Registration <i>(Symphony Foyer)</i></p> <p>USET Committee members only: USET Committee Restructure Meeting</p> <p>Virtual option available <i>(Symphony Ballroom III)</i></p> <p>Nashville Area IHS Meeting <i>(Blackbird A)</i></p>	<p>Opening Remarks Kirk Fransis, USET President</p> <p>Sovereignty in Action: Upholding Our Rights Through Programmatic Strength Panel: Deputy Director Tihtiyas (Dee) Sabattus; Liz Malerba; & Layla Langley Moderator: Christy Duke</p> <p>Healing Wellness Court: Full Circle Support Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians Tribal Court: Chief Clarissa Sabattis; Eric Mehnert; Matthew Erickson; Tiffany Smith; CariAnn Michaud; Leona Alvarado; & James Boyce <i>(Symphony Ballroom I & II)</i></p>	<p>Fireside Chat: In The Language of Our Ancestors Panel: Riki Nia Nia; Donovan Clarke; Danielle Harris; & Bayden Barber Moderator: Ger Carriere <i>(Symphony Ballroom I & II)</i></p> <p>Traditional Healing Panel Panel: Julie Johnson; Kim Russel; Larry Shade; & Ikimoke Tamaki Moderators: Martha Ketcher & Freddie Rundlet <i>(Symphony Ballroom I & II)</i></p>	<p>Strengthening Motherhood, Supporting Our Futures: Tribal Maternal & Child Health Convening 8:30 AM – 2 PM <i>(Blackbird A & B)</i></p> <p>Join physicians, doulas, lactation consultants, perinatal professionals, and community members with lived experience for a dynamic half-day session focused on improving maternal and child health in Tribal communities.</p>	
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM			Break	Break	<p>This interactive convening will feature a snapshot of key data and trends, an overview of USET priorities and planned initiatives, and space for meaningful dialogue across disciplines and experiences.</p> <p>Through facilitated discussions, small group activities, and a roundtable-style listening session, participants will share what's working, identify gaps, and co-create practical, community-informed solutions.</p> <p>This session is designed to elevate Tribal voices, strengthen partnerships, and inform actionable strategies that support healthier pregnancies, births, and families.</p> <p>Topic areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Prenatal & Postnatal Care • Workforce Capacity (Doulas, Lactation, Providers) • Cultural & Traditional Practices in Care • Maternal Mental & Behavioral Health
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM					
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM			<p>Innovative Funding Models That Work Speaker: Payton Batliner <i>(Sound Emporium A & B)</i></p> <p>Tribal Food Systems Speaker: Joanie Beverley <i>(Blackbird A)</i></p> <p>Chronic Care Management The Compliance Team Speaker: Kristen Ogden <i>(Southern Ground A & B)</i></p> <p>Critical Success Factors for Tribal Self-Governance Speaker: Mara Andrews <i>(Ocean Way)</i></p>	<p>Built to Bend: Designing Flexible Projects in Uncertain Times Speaker: Bill Cornealius <i>(Southern Ground A & B)</i></p> <p>6 Steps to Drinking Water Laboratory Certification Speaker: Donnell Ward <i>(Sound Emporium A & B)</i></p> <p>638 Transition Planning: Expanding PSFAs Speaker: Martha Ketcher <i>(Ocean Way)</i></p> <p>Traditional Foods Exchange Veggie Bucks Speakers: Lisa Williams & Kay Booker <i>(Blackbird A)</i></p>	
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM		<p>Opening Prayer Secretary Roderick Beck</p> <p>Welcome Lunch</p> <p>The Braided Path: Leveraging Strength & Connections Speaker: Kitcki Carroll, USET Executive Director</p>	Lunch on your own	Lunch on your own	
		<p>GPRa Updates 1:00 PM – 1:45 PM Speaker: Kelsey Simm</p>	<p>Opioid Task Force Interest Luncheon Registration Required Speaker: Ali Burrell</p>		

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	(Symphony Ballroom I & II)	(Southern Ground A & B)	(Symphony Ballroom III)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breastfeeding & Lactation Support Birth Outcomes & Health Disparities Care Coordination & Referral Systems Family & Community Support Systems Data Gaps, Evaluation & Storytelling Father/Partner & Caregiver Engagement <p>Contact: Kasha Harris, Behavioral Health Manager, kharris@usetinc.org</p>
1:30 PM - 1:45 PM	Break			
1:45 PM - 3:00 PM	Tribal Empowerment and Economic Advancement Initiative Speaker: Russell “Rusty” Martin (Ocean Way)	Stronger Together: Community, Creativity, and the Social Determinants of Entrepreneurial Health Speaker: Jeanine Clarkin (Southern Ground A & B)	Healthy Places, Thriving Economies: Designing Tourism Strategies that Improve Community Speaker: Michelyne Tarbell (Blackbird A)	
	Resilient Garden Planning & Community Engagement Speaker: Emma Phillips (Blackbird A)	Our Children, Our Future: Environmental Health and Infrastructure Strategies for Safe Drinking Water Speaker: Tiffany Witherington (Ocean Way)	Native Plant Nursery Significance and Practices Speaker: McKay Burley (Southern Ground A & B)	
	GPRA: EBCI Dental Screening in a School Setting Speaker: Millie Burns (Sound Emporium A & B)	Stories as Guides: Centering our Origin Stories for Decolonial Health & Evaluation Speaker: Gladys Rowe (Blackbird A)	What’s Age got to do with it? Connecting with Youth in our Community Speakers: Yolanda Saunooke & Robin Callahan (Sound Emporium A & B)	
	Organizational Change Management in Adopting a New EHR Speaker: James Spillane (Southern Ground A & B)	Getting Ready to Get Ready; How to use the guide for EHR Migration HIS Speaker: Mitch Thornbrough (Sound Emporium A & B)	Māori: Raakai “Lifting Immunizations” Research Project Speakers: Shaun Akroyd & Ikimoke Tamaki (Ocean Way)	
3:00 PM - 3:15 PM	Break	Break	Break	
3:15 PM - 4:30 PM	Contracting Best Practices Speaker: Taylour Boboltz (Sound Emporium A & B)	Movement as Medicine Culturally Led Programmatic Work Tohi: Finding Balance & Connection <i>Come prepared to move</i> Moderator: Onawa Miller Speakers: Robin Callahan; Nancy Stephens; Yolanda Saunooke; Ashton Montez; Stormie Miles; & Jessica Stewart (Symphony Ballroom I & II)	In the Round: Facilitated Roundtable Discussions Moderator: Onawa Miller Cultural Closing Amanda Rouke Closing Prayer (Symphony Ballroom I & II)	
	From Detection to Protection: Overcoming Barriers to Safe Drinking Water in Tribal Communities Speaker: Jon Dawson (Southern Ground A & B)			
	Utilizing Team Huddles to improve GPRA Performance Speaker: Kelsey Simms (Ocean Way)			
	Māori Food Sovereignty Speakers: Danielle Harris & Wayne Blissett			

	(Blackbird A)			
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