NSF: BUILDING TRIBAL DATA CAPACITY

Amber Ebarb
Program Manager, Policy Research Center
National Congress of American Indians

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Mission

- The mission of the NCAI Policy Research Center is to provide tribal leaders with the best available knowledge to make strategically proactive policy decisions in a framework of Native wisdom that positively impact the future of Native peoples
Fulfilling the mission

Data on the Problem + Data on Solutions, Policy + Political players take action = Policy Change

PRC

NCAI
National Science Foundation Project

• Tribes need accurate data to:
  • Meet the cultural, social, and economic needs of their people
  • Exercise tribal sovereignty and
  • Improve service delivery

• Elements of NSF Project
  • Tribal Data Practices Survey
  • Pilot grants for tribal specific data activities
  • Analysis of data on service areas
  • Federal reporting requirements
Tribal Data Survey

Survey Takeaways

• **Tribes have significant data needs.** 2 out of 3 respondents who completed the Tribal Data Practices Survey report that their tribes have vast data needs.

• **Tribal leaders report concerns about the accuracy of data collection.**

• **Tribal leaders overwhelmingly recognize the importance of data in supporting good governance.**
NSF: Pilot Grants

Pilots to conduct tribal censuses and surveys in their communities: the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Pueblo of Laguna; the Nez Perce Tribe; the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; and the Rocky Mountain Tribal Epidemiology Center, serving tribes in Montana, Wyoming and Idaho

Some Lessons Learned and Best Practices Will be Shared
• Planning for tribal data collection should carefully consider:
  • the purpose the collection,
  • definitions of the population and geography,
  • the use of external partners and ownership of data,
  • need for IT infrastructure, and timing.
Recommendations

• Financial resources are needed.
• Flexibility in the use of existing program planning funds should be permitted.
• Intertribal sharing of technical expertise is important.
• Federal agencies should partner with tribes
• Others

Request for Feedback

Final reports of these activities along with their outcomes and recommendations will be completed by the end of the project period and will be made available on the NCAI Policy Research Center website by Fall 2017.

Please share recommendations for dissemination or TA with the co-PIs, Yvette Roubideaux, Norm DeWeaver, or NCAI staff Amber Ebarb.
Contact Information

Amber Ebarb, MPP
Program Manager, Policy Research Center
National Congress of American Indians
1516 P Street, NW
Washington, DC  20005

Phone: 202-466-7767
Email: amber_ebarb@ncai.org
Website: www.ncai.org/prc