



**SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH
IHS/NIH PROJECT SUB-AWARD
2017 – 2018
Request for Applications
(RFA)**

The Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board (GPTCHB) and the Great Plains Tribal Epidemiology Center is pleased to announce a funding opportunity through the Indian Health Service (IHS) Office of Public Health Support, Division of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention (DEDP), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Funding will contribute to FTE and other costs associated with the completion of projects by the Great Plains Area tribes in support of assessment and response to the leading public health priorities of substance abuse and/or mental health.

**Application Deadline:
DECEMBER 29, 2017**



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

The Great Plains Tribal Epidemiology Center (GPTEC) is a core component of the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board (GPTCHB), providing and building capacity within a wide variety of epidemiological and technical assistance services. GPTEC's mission is to provide leadership, technical assistance, support, and advocacy for the 18 tribal nations and communities serviced by the Great Plains Area Indian Health Service in order to eliminate the disparities in health that currently exist for tribal peoples within the same four-state region.

The Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board (GPTCHB) and the Great Plains Tribal Epidemiology Center is pleased to announce a funding opportunity through the Indian Health Service (IHS) Office of Public Health Support, Division of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention (DEDP), and the National Institute of Health (NIH). Funding will contribute to FTE and other costs associated with the completion of projects by the Great Plains Area tribes in support of assessment and/or response to the leading public health priorities of substance abuse and/or mental health.

Sample projects include but are not limited to the following:

- Identification and examination, summarization, or utilization of primary and/or secondary data sources to document the current impact of, disparities within, or to guide the response to substance abuse and/or mental health at the tribal level;
- Engagement in primary data collection efforts to document the current impact of, disparities within, or to guide the response to substance abuse and/or mental health at the tribal level;
- Development and support for health promotion and/or disease prevention or other outreach materials to raise awareness of and guide the response to the current impact of disparities within mental health at the tribal level;
- Implementation and evaluation of policies, health promotion and disease prevention education, or other programming to address substance abuse and/or mental health at the tribal level;
- Other activities, as determined by GPTEC staff to be relevant.

Projects will be expected to result in increased awareness, documentation, outreach, and response to (through health promotion/disease prevention) substance abuse and/or mental health priorities.

This sub-award or contract may not be used to conduct research. If data is used or collected, it must be for public health practices and purposes and directly benefit the community from which it is collected. Sub-awardees are responsible for following the appropriate Institutional Review Board protocol, if needed.



The GPTEC will provide funding ranging from \$5,000 to \$35,000 per recipient. Up to 6 awards will be available for the 2017-2018 funding cycle. Priority will be given to applications submitted by 11:59 p.m. MT on December 29, 2017. Applications submitted after this deadline will be reviewed dependent on availability of funds. The project period for year one will run from the date of award through September 29, 2018.

ELIGIBILITY

In order to be considered eligible for this funding opportunity, applicants must:

- Be a tribe, tribal agency, tribal program, health care facility servicing tribes or tribal members, tribal non-profit organization, or other non-profit organization serving American Indians from the four-state Great Plains Area (ND, SD, NE, or IA).
- Share the results of their work with GPTCHB, GPTEC, IHS-DEDP, and NIH.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

SELECTED TRIBAL PARTNERS MUST AGREE TO:

- Sign and return a sub-award agreement or contract with the GPTEC that stipulates the amount of funding with a distribution schedule, designates a tribal point of contact, and outlines deliverables and deadlines. The sub-award or contract must be received before distribution of funds occurs.
- Designate **one** main point of contact to serve as the Project Liaison. The Project Liaison will be responsible for submitting all project deliverables, participating in conference calls, and communicating directly with the GPTEC staff.
- Establish or use an existing Community Advisory Board/Coalition/Committee to develop and implement a community engagement process.
- Host a site visit by GPTEC staff to review the project, if needed.
- Share project successes and lessons learned as part of a broader information dissemination strategy.
- Participate in scheduled individual phone calls with GPTEC staff to discuss progress, barriers, or any technical assistance that may be needed.
- Participate in overall project evaluation activities.
- Submit a progress report and all final deliverables to GPTEC at the end of the project period.



THE GREAT PLAINS TRIBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER WILL PROVIDE:

- Funding amount between \$5,000 and \$35,000 to be paid as specified in sub-award agreement or contract.
- Technical assistance and resources for tribes and tribal partners during the application process as well as in identified areas of need.
- A site visit to meet project staff and review the project work plan and progress, as needed.
- Conference calls, as appropriate, to support peer-learning between tribal partners.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Complete the attached application package. The following will comprise a completed application package:
 - ✓ Appendix A: Tribal Affiliation and Contact Information;
 - ✓ Appendix B: Application Narrative and Scope of Work;
 - ✓ Appendix C: Budget Proposal;
- Submit all sections of the project application. See **Instructions** in **Appendix A** for further details.

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications will be reviewed by a team of qualified public health professionals. The review committee will grade applications based on:

- Projects demonstrating potential to develop and implement programs in support of assessment and response to the leading public health priorities of substance abuse and/or mental health.
- Ability to perform program objectives in the specified time frame.
- Demonstration of a high level of commitment from all program participants and partners.
- Strength of the budget as it relates to the scope of work.

The scoring rubric is attached for reference. GPTEC will notify all applicants of the status of their application by **January 15, 2018**.