

OKLAHOMA AREA TRIBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER

A REGIONAL GOOD HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN INDIAN COUNTRY UPDATE

GHWIC BACKGROUND

Between 2014-2019, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) invested over \$78 million in chronic disease prevention efforts through the Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC) initiative. With the support of GHWIC funding, eleven Tribal Epidemiology Centers (TECs):

- Coordinate evaluation activities and data collection to highlight the regional work of GHWIC-funded Tribes and Tribal health organizations.
- Provide technical assistance to GHWIC-funded Tribes and Tribal health organizations.
- Enhance cross-sector partnerships and strengthen American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) networks across the service region.

REGIONAL EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND MANAGE CHRONIC DISEASE

Oklahoma Tribal Epidemiology Center (OKTEC) coordinates GHWIC evaluation in the Indian Health Service (IHS) Oklahoma Area. OKTEC supports chronic disease prevention and management in 20 Tribes and Tribal organizations through:

1. Building Capacity and Knowledge

In year 4, OKTEC provided multiple trainings to C2 sub-awardees. Trainings consisted of: grant writing, social media training, tobacco intervention skills, tobacco policy development and success story development. Additionally, OKTEC provided technical assistance to tribal sub-awardees in regard to survey design, data analysis, logic models and community action plans, development of success stories, and poster presentation training/review for submission to tribal public health conferences. From the trainings and technical assistance, a total of 11 success stories were completed and submitted to the CDC Success Story portal.

2. Annual Public Health Conference

Every year OKTEC hosts an annual public health conference in April and supports the Kansas Tribal Health Summit held each August. Both conferences have grown each year in number of attendees and training opportunities. In Year 4, both conferences had approximately 500 participants. At the conference, OKTEC submitted two poster presentations and offered 25 certifications in “Basic Tobacco Intervention Skills” training. Other trainings included: Chronic Disease Self-Management, Native American Traditional Foods/Contemporary Dishes, Electronic Cigarette Use and Tobacco Exposure: Biomarkers among cohort of all smokers, and Respecting Indigenous Relationships with Tobacco.

3. Increasing GHWIC Impact

The number of sub-awardees has grown each year of the GHWIC program. In Year 1, GHWIC supported 11 sub-awardees, 13 in Year 2, 18 in Year 3 with six sub-awardees that were funded all three years, and 20 in Year 4 with four new awardees. OKTEC has directly funded 60% of the tribal nations, by funding organizations serving all of the Tribes in the area.



By the Numbers

50+

Training opportunities made available in the Oklahoma City Area

30

Instances where OKTEC supported Tribes through technical assistance

4

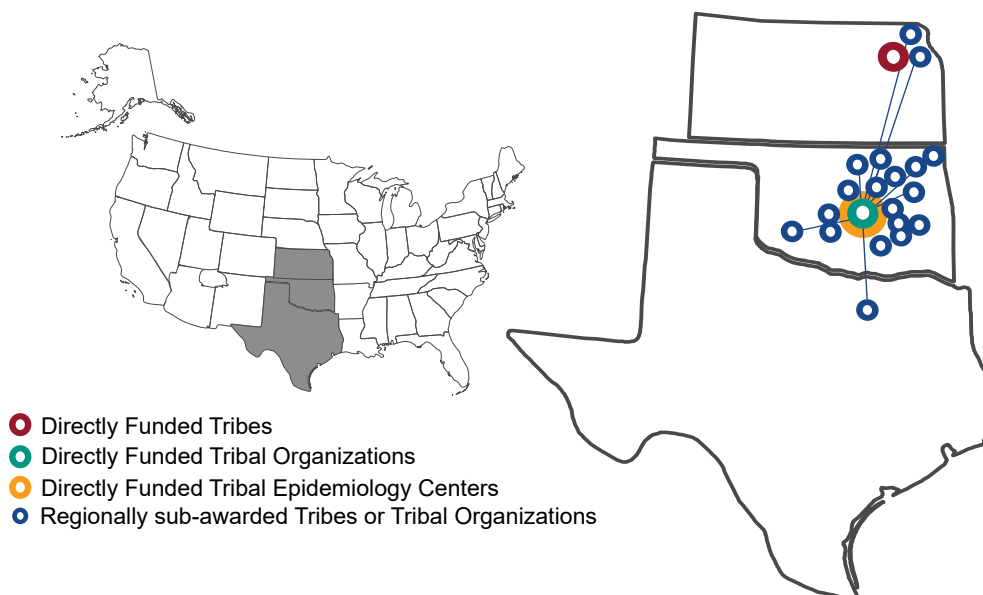
New sub-awardees funded under GHWIC

Activity Spotlight: “Running Strong” Run Club



In 2016, the Indian Health Care Resource Center (IHCRC) implemented the “Running Strong” run club. The club was created to improve the health of AI/AN youth in the Tulsa area, encouraging positive change in multi-generational habits and beliefs regarding health and health care. As grant funding expanded, IHCRC was able to include AI/AN adults and family members into the club. “Running Strong” now consists of 100 members, both youth and adults. Running Strong members are responsible for attending a minimum of three group practices per month and have the opportunity to run in up to 5 community races. Members earn jackets, running belts, medal racks, fitness trackers, and shoes by attending practices and participating.

Map of GHWIC-funded Tribes and Tribal organizations in the IHS Oklahoma City Area



Urban Indian Health Institute
A Division of the Seattle Indian Health Board