



Secondhand Smoke Protections in Tribal Communities

Mission and Core Values

To provide commercial tobacco secondhand smoke awareness and resources to New Mexico tribal communities, improving health outcomes.

Respect, Culture, Family Responsibility to Community, Humility, Health, Love, Empowerment, Sustainability, and Community

Community Successes

Mescalero Tribal Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program (MTTCP)

On October 15th, the MTTCP hosted a traditional plant gathering event for community members to participate in harvesting traditional plants used in ceremonial tobacco mixes. The event garnered around 40 people and collected plants from White Sands as well as the mountain range of the Mescalero Apache Reservation.



Three weeks following, the MTTCP hosted a follow up event teaching attendees how to mix the dried traditional plants and make their own traditional tobacco bags. MTTCP hosts these events to educate community members on the significance of ceremonial tobacco, and as a protective factor for youth on the harms of commercial tobacco.

Oso Vista Ranch Project (OVRP)

OVRP, working in partnership with Diné comedian, Ernie Tsosie, has completed 16 outreach education events at schools serving Diné youth. This outreach presentation was developed in coordination with Navajo Nation DoH Epi Center and **combines humor with commercial tobacco prevention and media literacy**. Ernie has a gift for delighting Native audiences, while connecting his own life experiences to youth in a **meaningful story of overcoming and inspiration to being a role model**. The schools are thrilled with his presentation and grateful to OVRP for their role in bringing him to their school community.

Tobacco in the News

FDA releases e-cigarette myth infographic and calls for voluntary flavored tobacco recall

The Food and Drug Administration released an [e-cigarette myths infographic](#) on Friday, November 16th. The infographic was released in response to the surge in e-cigarette use among youth, named an "epidemic" by FDA commissioner, Scott Gottlieb, M.D.



Dr. Gottlieb released a [statement](#) on November 15, 2018 detailing the epidemic and urging tobacco manufacturers to voluntarily recall flavored tobacco products (excluding mint and menthol flavor) from convenience shelves. Manufacturers could continue to sell flavored tobacco products at smoke shops where a customer must be 18 years or older to enter the store.

Some manufacturers have already responded to the request including the most popular electronic nicotine delivery system, Juul. Juul controls 74% of the e-cig market. Juul announced it would pull all its flavored tobacco pods (excluding mint and menthol flavor) from stores. In addition, Juul shut down its Facebook and Instagram company as youth are highly active on social media; the company maintained its Twitter account for "non-promotional" communications.

Funding Opportunity

Tribal Behavioral Health Grant Program



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Centers for Mental Health Services and Substance Use Prevention, are accepting applications for fiscal year 2019 Tribal Behavioral Health grant program. The purpose of this program is to prevent and reduce suicidal behavior and substance use, reduce the impact of trauma, and promote mental health among American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth through the age of 24 years.

The program is intended to reduce the impact of mental and substance use disorders, foster culturally responsive models that reduce and respond to the impact of trauma in AI/AN communities, and allow AI/AN communities to facilitate collaboration among agencies to support youth as they transition into adulthood.

Eligibility: Eligibility is limited to federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native tribes, tribal organizations, Urban Indian Organizations, or consortia of tribes and tribal organizations.

Deadline: Friday, January 4, 2019

View the funding announcement here: <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-19-005>

Smoke Free Signals can provide grant development support. To request assistance, email us [here](#).

What now?

We encourage you to read all the articles in this and upcoming newsletters, and to share and forward these emails to people within your network to help keep everyone up to date!



This is a free notification service that provides the latest on commercial and traditional tobacco news, events, topics and successes.

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