

Connecting Tribal Communities to New Technology

Kevin, English, DrPH. Judith Espinoza, MPH. Miriam Sosa, BS. ALBUQUERQUE AREA SOUTHWEST TRIBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER – ALBUQUERQUE AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD, INC

Overview:

Information technology (IT) challenges within tribal communities often reduces tribal capacity to electronically capture and share patient/client information, monitor program measures and report grant deliverables. Numerous determinants contribute to this predicament, which may also decrease tribal competitiveness for grants and other resources that can positively impact community health and wellness.



A key aim of the Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (AASTEC) is to strengthen health data capacity and quality among the 27 American Indian Tribes it serves. This has led to the development of a customized, secure web-based database (Southwest Indigenous Database=SID) that will strengthen local data management capacity and quality, and reduce, if not eliminate, existing challenges related to IT infrastructure, security, and data sharing.

TRIBAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) CHALLENGES

OBSTACLES	CONSEQUENCES	CASPIO PLATFORM
Lack of Secure Local or Networked Drives	Flash Drives Lost Computer Virus Inadvertent Data Deletion Vulnerable Data Security	Secure Web-Based Database
Limited or Outdated Computers/ Software	Collect Data by Paper and Pencil	Compatible with most computers, mobile tablets and smart phones
Limited or No Network Capacity	Lack of data sharing/connectivity among tribal programs and departments	Eliminated the need for a local network

AASTEC TRIBAL PROGRAM DATABASE EVOLUTION: 2009-Present

PAST APPROACH

- Developed Individual ACCESS Databases
 - AASTEC Launched in 2012
 - Provided Software & Flash Drives
 - 22 Separate Databases



2016 APPROACH

- CASPIO Database Platform
 - Consolidates and standardizes the 22 ACCESS Databases
 - Allows permission specific sharing of program information
 - On-Line video tutorials will be provided for assistance

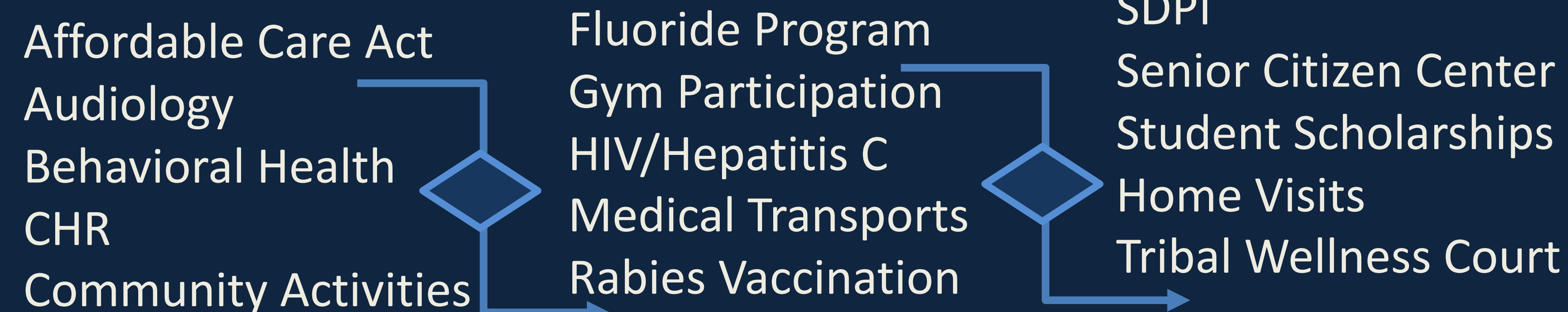


CASPIO DATABASE COMPLIES WITH

- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
- Health Info. Tech. for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH)



Database Types



Project Description

SOUTHWEST INDIGENOUS DATABASE (SID)

	AASTEC ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL	TRIBAL MANAGEMENT LEVEL	TRIBAL USER LEVEL
SECURE-ONLINE PLATFORM	Different levels of secure access	Assigns access privileges to tribe-specific information	Enable users to view specific data while blocking restricted data
EXPAND DATA CAPACITY	Evaluate programs and develop reports	Tribal specific data	Monitor patient health status & track progress
LEVERAGE GRANT FUNDING	No additional cost to Tribes	Strengthen grant competitiveness	Achieve grant deliverables, expands program monitoring
REDUCE IT CHALLENGES	Standardizes data collection and shares expertise	Expands data capacity, consolidates data in one place	Usable on any computer, tablet or phone with internet access

Next Steps

DATA AGREEMENTS

- Tribes own all rights to all data
- AASTEC provides technical assistance, training and support
- Data sharing agreements between AASTEC and Tribal leadership

PILOT TEST MODEL

- Confirm functionality
- Test permission specific sharing at client and program level
- Test report generation
- Troubleshoot challenges
- Make any necessary revisions

TRAINING

- Provide training to tribal partners
- Online modules
- In-person technical assistance

LIVE IMPLEMENTATION

- Import data from prior databases
- Ongoing customization and adaptation
- Evaluation