

NPHR IMPACT EVALUATION



COMMUNITY NEED

From Tribal Epidemiology Center Public Health Infrastructure (TECPHI) technical assistance (TA) requests, OKTEC recognized a powerful call to action: tribes across our region urgently need stronger public health infrastructure. Tribal nations voiced a clear need for deeper skills, greater resources, and sustainable systems to strengthen their own projects. Without addressing this gap, T/TU/UIO communities risk losing countless opportunities to advance public health, safeguard Tribal sovereignty, and expand long-term capacity.

OUTREACH

To meet this need, OKTEC received the Native Public Health Resilience (NPHR) grant through Indian Health Service—a critical investment to help close this gap. With this support, we launched two Tribal Leader Convenings, intentionally designed to unite leaders, ignite dialogue, and identify both infrastructure and community needs.

Through deliberate, community-driven outreach and one-on-one conversations, our team connected with over 100 tribal leaders and staff from across Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas to attend our convenings. By building trust and ensuring each voice in the room belonged to someone respected in their community, we created a safe and powerful space for collaboration.



**TRIBAL LEADER CONVENING 1:
APRIL 30TH AND MAY 1ST**

Each convening was shaped with the guidance of both internal and external partners, bringing in subject matter experts to share practical knowledge on grant writing, financial leadership, and strategic planning.

The first convening on April 30th and May 1st focused on the Southern Plains and centered on grant writing—empowering leaders with hands-on training to find funding opportunities and craft competitive proposals.

The second convening, shaped directly by the voices of the first, shifted to financial leadership, budgeting, and diversifying funding streams. Leaders also engaged in a dynamic world café, where dialogue sparked around urgent community priorities: the opioid crisis, CHAP, Native youth programs, maternal and child health, and HIV/STI interventions. Other conversations opened around clinical healthcare, consortium learning, program development, and fostering stronger intertribal partnerships.



**TRIBAL LEADER CONVENING 2:
JUNE 10TH AND 11TH**

78%

**OF ATTENDEES
LEFT WITH
SOMETHING THEY
COULD IMPLEMENT
IN THEIR JOB**

**“I WAS ABLE TO
NETWORK AND
MEET MANY NEW
PEOPLE!”**

IN TOTAL, more than 100 leaders from 28 T/TU/UIO came together across these two convenings. The momentum they built is already fueling stronger connections, bolder collaborations, and clearer visions for what is possible. These gatherings marked not just events, but the beginning of a movement—one where Tribal leaders stand united to shape the future of public health, strengthen sovereignty, and transform infrastructure across Indian Country.