

Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care
STRATEGIC PLAN
July 01, 2024-June 30, 2027

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care (AACIHC) is to serve as a resource for all Tribal governments and the State of Arizona by *supporting* prevention, training, education, workforce development, policy and legislation to meet the unique health care needs of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) population in Arizona. We seek to educate and advocate for improved health outcomes.

VISION STATEMENT

The AACIHC strives to be recognized as a trusted resource on health equity for all Tribal Nations and American Indian communities throughout Arizona.

VALUES STATEMENT

A - Authenticity
A - Accountability
C - Culture
I - Integrity
H - Holistic
C - Community

GOALS

Goal 1 - Provide technical assistance and support on Medicaid, health care policies, legislation, and operational assistance for standing up health care programs for Tribes and Urban Indian Health Organizations. We do this by collaborating with tribal governments, tribal organizations and Urban Indian Health Organizations in this state to ensure representation in shaping Medicaid and health care policies and legislation that impact the populations they serve.

Objectives:

- Provide technical assistance and/or connecting tribal programs with trusted resources to support their tribal health care infrastructure.
- Provide virtual “Office Hours” - A designated time for Tribes to call for assistance from our agency staff.

Goal 2 – Provide education and advocacy for the American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) population in Arizona, among state leadership and key Tribal stakeholders, on public health care issues identified.

Objectives:

- Increase participation and collaboration with tribal communities.
- Create and implement a workgroup to identify and establish AACIHC’s advocacy plan.
- Participate in the Governor’s Office of Tribal Affairs’ State Tribal Liaison meetings and State Legislative Liaison meetings.

Goal 3 - AACIHC to be a trusted resource for information, education and relevant data on AI/AN health disparities.

Objectives:

- Host informational and training sessions about our programs.
- Engage current followers and grow network of followers on social media accounts.

- Engage partners through various workgroups, inclusive of all 22 Tribes and organizations working with American Indian communities.
- Establish and support health data related initiatives in state, local, and national data workgroups.
- Create a process for sharing events and activities among Tribal Communities and AACIHC activities that can be used to create content for social media and website updates.
- Establish a Public Relations Committee for social media and the AACIHC website.
- Establish easily accessible toolkits that support the Mission of the AACIHC.

Goal 4 - Expand the American Indian Health Care Workforce.

Objectives:

- Increase the number of American Indian Health-Arizona Health Education Center (AIH-AHEC) Clinical & Educational Partnerships.
- Establish a mentorship program supporting student career paths, boosting professional growth, and contributing to the retention of talent within tribal communities.
- Organize and facilitate an Indigenous Health Care Professional Gathering in collaboration with partners to provide information on various opportunities and resources related to Tribal Facility Best Practices and staff retention, and nurturing training.
- Expand existing and new Tribal youth pathway programs to enhance their resources and activities.
- Provide enhanced and expanded Professional Development opportunities and continuing education for the current health care provider workforce working within Tribal facilities.
- Conduct listening sessions with American Indian community leaders and members to better understand health workforce challenges and opportunities.
- Create a resource guide for Indigenous students pursuing a career in healthcare.
- Establish a referral system to provide support for individuals needing to complete their applications for eligibility into higher education, health career pathway programs.
- Provide professional and educational development opportunities through AIH-AHEC agency internships.
- Promote the AIH-AHEC program through outreach and community events.
- Provide continued assistance to advance and support the CHR workforce.

Goal 5 - Develop sustainable initiatives to increase assistance for Tribal/Urban Programs.

- Identify grant funds that meet AACIHC's Mission and Vision and benefit our Tribal stakeholders.
- Expand our partnership network for assistance in obtaining letters of support for grant funding and/or policy advocacy.
- Nurture and Leverage partnerships and networks towards inclusive and comprehensive communication.

Goal 6 - Fill all AACIHC Advisory Council seats and achieve representation of all 22 Federally recognized Tribes of Arizona.

- Identify spaces/opportunities to have conversations with Tribes for recruitment.
- Provide orientation and training for new Advisory Council members.
- Outline rules and responsibilities for Advisory Council members.
- Develop a recruitment and retention strategy.