

# 2023 Forum National Overdose Fatality Review

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

January 20, 2023



**SAMHSA**  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration

# Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy



- Serves as the primary point of contact within SAMHSA for Tribes, Tribal organizations, and other partners on Tribal behavioral health.
- Leads and supports SAMHSA-wide actions to improve behavioral health of Tribal communities.
- Leads SAMHSA Tribal consultation, outreach, education, and engagement efforts.
- Leads coordination of Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse (IASA) efforts in response to the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA).

# Opioid Response Network (ORN)

- The ORN has local consultants in all 50 states and nine territories.
- Designed to respond to local needs by providing free educational resources and training to states, communities and individuals in the prevention, treatment and recovery of opioid use disorders and stimulant use.
- ORN has disseminated information provided by SAMHSA, CDC, and other Technical Assistance Centers pertaining to COVID-19 and include the following:
  - [The Opioid Epidemic and COVID-19: How Social Determinants of Health Create Differential Impacts](#)
  - [Compassionate Fatigue and Self Care: For Helping Professionals Working with Opioid Related Disorders](#)
- See the following for more:  
<https://opioidresponsenetwork.org/COVID19.aspx#Video>



The screenshot shows the Opioid Response Network website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About Us', 'Assistance', 'Lessons Learned', and 'Education', along with a 'SUBMIT A REQUEST' button. Below the navigation bar is a red banner with the text 'COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE >'. The main content area features a large illustration of healthcare workers and the text 'We HELP YOU HELP OTHERS'. Below the illustration, there are several sections of text and links, including 'Opioid Response Network', 'Upcoming Events', 'Latest News', and 'What Can We Do For You?'. The 'Latest News' section includes links to 'SAMHSA Advisories Highlight Updated Guidance On SUD Treatment', 'The Implications of COVID-19 for Mental Health and Substance Use', and 'February ORN Bulletin'. The 'What Can We Do For You?' section lists various services provided by the ORN, such as community trainings, education, and training for justice/corrections law enforcement.

# Harm Reduction at SAMHSA



- Harm reduction is critical to keeping people who use drugs alive and as healthy as possible and is a key pillar in the multi-faceted Health and Human Services' [Overdose Prevention Strategy](#).

- SAMHSA has awarded 25 grants for the first-ever SAMHSA Harm Reduction grant program.
  - This funding, authorized by the American Rescue Plan, will help increase access to a range of community harm reduction services and support harm reduction service providers as they work to help prevent overdose deaths and reduce health risks often associated with drug use.
- SAMHSA will distribute \$10 million between 2022-2025. Grant recipients receiving Federal funding must adhere to applicable Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and other requirements as specified in Federal grant terms and conditions of award.
- See the following for more: <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/harm-reduction>

# CDC-SAMHSA Partnership

## Goals:

- Expand capacity, increase effectiveness, and strengthen the performance and accountability of harm reduction approaches within a comprehensive prevention strategy at the state and community levels.
- Provide TA and consultation services to support implementation of effective, evidence-based harm reduction programs, practices, and policies in diverse settings.
- Decrease health disparities in substance use through application of culturally appropriate harm reduction strategies and approaches.
- Monitor the delivery and quality of the Center's services so the impact of these services can be assessed in relation to states and communities achieving their goals.
- See the following for more:  
<https://harmreductionhelp.cdc.gov>



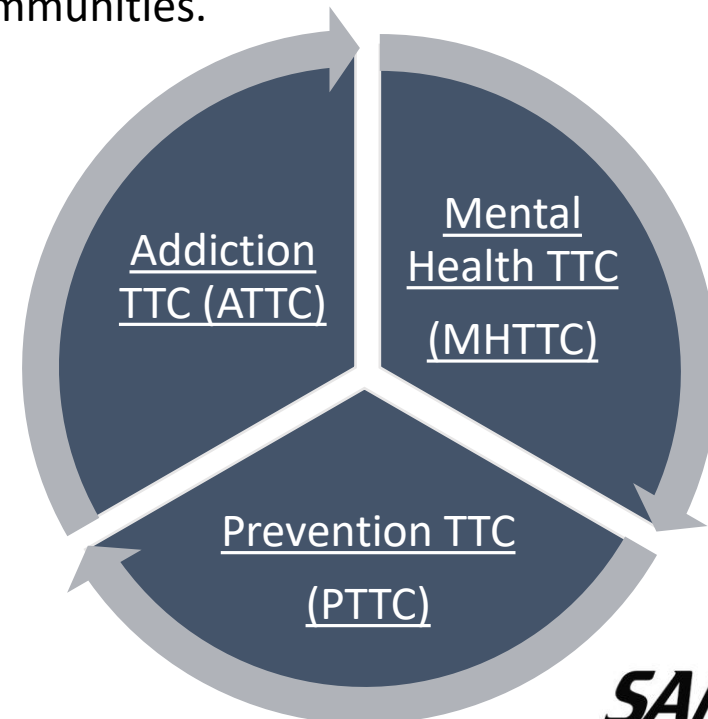
# SAMHSA Tribal Technical Assistance



The [Tribal Training and Technical Assistance \(TTA\) Center](#) offers technical assistance (TA) on mental and substance use disorders, suicide prevention, and mental health promotion using the Strategic Cultural Framework. Events included the following:

- Opioids Training and Technical Assistance
- Gathering of Native Americans (GONAs)
- Learning Communities
- Virtual TTA
- Intensive TTA
- Information Dissemination

The National AI/AN TTCs work to develop and strengthen the specialized behavioral healthcare and primary healthcare workforce that provides substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health prevention, treatment, and recovery support services to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) individuals, families, and Tribal and urban Indian communities.



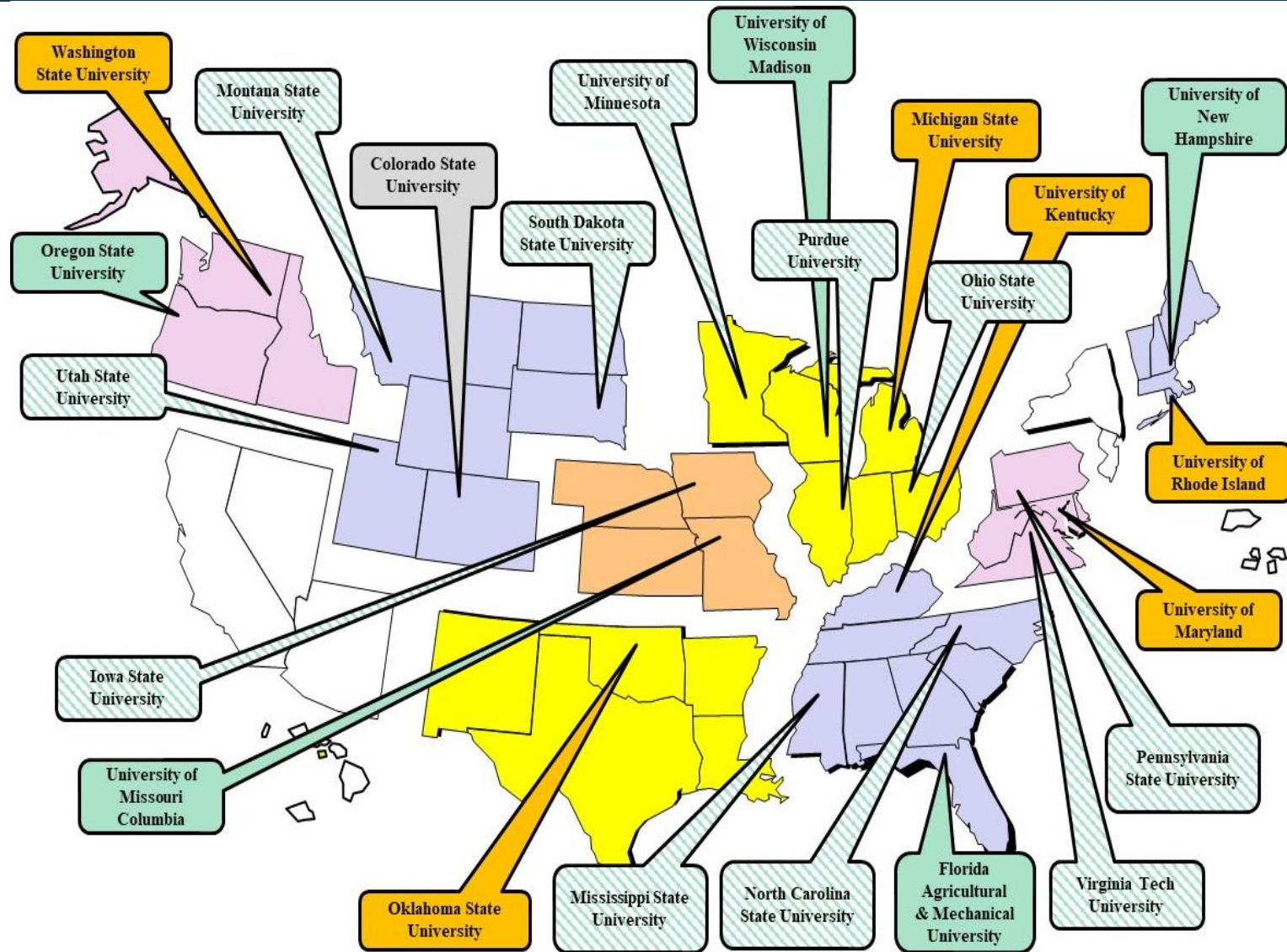
# ROTA

## Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Program

### Collaboration between SAMHSA and USDA

**MISSION:** To develop and disseminate training and TA for rural communities addressing opioid and stimulants issues affecting their communities.

The ROTA grantees facilitate the identification of model programs, develop and update materials related to the prevention, treatment, and recovery activities for opioid use disorder (OUD), and provides high-quality training.



Contact: [Humberto.Carvalho@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Humberto.Carvalho@samhsa.hhs.gov)



# Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy

- [BRSS TACS](#) partners with the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (NFFCMH), the National Family Dialogue on Substance Use Disorders, and others to support families of children, youth, and adults with behavioral health needs.
- Recovery Support Tools and Resources
  - [Peers](#)
    - The role of peer workers and access recovery-related resources about peer supports and services.
  - [Parents and Families](#)
    - Access resources for families and family-run organizations supporting behavioral health recovery and resilience for children, youth, and adults.
  - [Youth and Young Adults](#)
    - Resources that support youth and young adult leadership in recovery programs.





# Parent & Caregiver Resources for Substance Use

- SAMHSA offers “[Talk. They Hear You.](#)”<sup>®</sup> campaign resources to help parents speak with their children about the dangers of substance use.



- Resources include the following:

- Fact Sheets

- [Talking to Kids About Alcohol and Other Drugs: 5 Conversation Goals](#)
- [Why Small Conversations Make a Big Impression](#)
- [Why Your Child Might Start Drinking Alcohol](#)

- Brochures

- [Talking With Teens About Alcohol and Other Drugs: 5 Conversation Goals](#)
- [Talking With Your Teen About Opioids: Keeping Your Kids Safe](#)
- [Talking With Your Child About Opioids: Keeping Your Kids Safe](#)

# Native Connections

## Tribal Behavioral Health Grant (TBHG/Native Connections)

- The purpose of this program is to prevent suicide and substance misuse, reduce the impact of trauma, and promote mental health among AI/AN youth through the age of 24 years.
- Native Connections 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.



In FY21, SAMHSA awarded 40 Tribes and Tribal organizations.

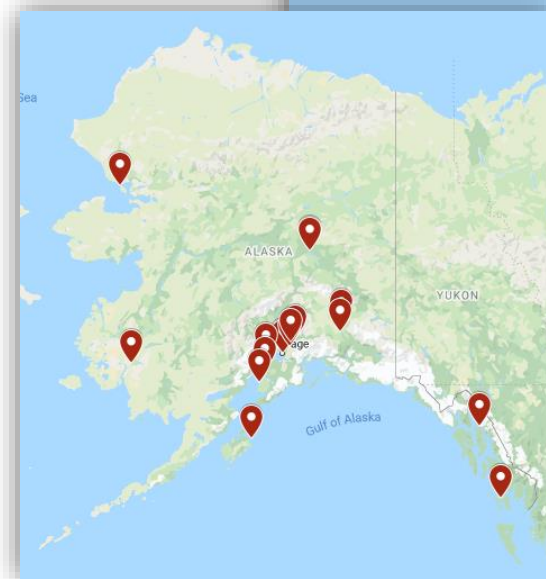
The Native Connections grant is funded up to \$250k for up to 5 years.

[2023 SAMHSA NOFO Forecast](#)

# Tribal Opioid Response

## Tribal Opioid Response Program

- The program aims to address the opioid crisis in Tribal communities by increasing access to culturally appropriate and evidence-based treatment, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) using one of the three FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD).
- Awarded to Federally-recognized Tribes and Tribal organizations.
  - Award amounts vary based on Tribal population size.
- Addresses opioid crisis in Tribal communities by increasing access to culturally appropriate and evidence-based harm reduction, prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for opioid and stimulant use disorders.
- Emphasizes the use of medication-assisted treatment using one of the three FDA-approved medications for OUDs.
- Encourages the use of traditional practices.



# Thank You

SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance misuse and mental illness on America's communities.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

**To contact SAMHSA's OTAP office, please see the following:**

OTAP Mailbox - [otap@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:otap@samhsa.hhs.gov)

1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727) • 1-800-487-4889 (TDD)