

Capacity Building for the New Tribal Home Visitation Program: Key Considerations

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National Congress of American Indians Policy Research Center

National Congress of American Indians

- Oldest, largest, and most representative national Indian organization serving the interests of tribal governments
- Established in 1944 as a representative congress of Indian tribal governments
- Serves as a forum for consensus-based policymaking



National Congress of American Indians

- Addresses the broad spectrum of issues that tribal governments are concerned with: from cultural preservation and natural resources and from education to economic development
- Aspects of our work: advocacy, legal analysis, policy development, public/media education and outreach, policy research, and tribal capacity building



“Outsiders have researched us to death, and the research doesn’t even benefit us.”

*-Former Councilman Eddie Tullis
Poarch Band of Creek Indians*



“Data is political.”

-Dr. Stephen Cornell

*Director, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy,
University of Arizona*



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“Tribes need data to support their own self-determined agendas.”

-W. Ron Allen

Chairman, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe



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NCAI Policy Research Center

- Established in 2003 as a national tribal policy research center that would focus solely on issues facing tribal communities
- Forum for forward-thinking, deliberate, proactive Indian policy discussions and the development of policy scenarios



PRC Vision

*supporting Indian Country in
shaping its own future*



National Congress of American Indians Policy Research Center

PRC Values

- Research in service to community
- Direct implications for communities and improving their well-being
- Community-driven agenda and all aspects of the work
- Honor community and cultural contributions to the work



PRC Values

- Partnership with communities and other organizations
- Respect tribal sovereignty and ownership of data
- Indigenous knowledge is as valid as academic knowledge
- Research should build community capacity



Core Buckets of Work

- Clearinghouse
- Research Support
- Capacity Building
- Think Tank



The Opportunity Behind the Funding

- Tribal home visitation was a top priority for tribes when we were supporting the ACA
- This new funding gives tribes the opportunity to define their own success
- Tribes and their service providers can identify practices that are culturally meaningful and beneficial



Critical Considerations for Implementation

- Tribes have relatively little experience compared to states with these programs
- Tribes come from a wide range of capacities to implement and evaluate these programs
- Over 565 tribes—each with unique local governments and cultural issues—beware of “model think”



Contact Information

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Other resources available at www.NCAIPRC.org



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