

<p>Purpose</p>	<p>This project will enhance knowledge and understanding regarding health needs and the current capacities of NC Tribes/Urban Indian Associations to address their health priorities. Through project participation, Tribes/Urban Indian Associations will discuss gaps in services, as well as identify needs for health training, funding, and consultation. The project process and outcomes will also guide the NC Office of Minority Health & Health Disparities (NC OMHHD), the NC Commission of Indian Affairs (NC CIA), and the Joint Task Force on Indian Health in providing assistance to address Tribal health needs/priorities. The following eight NC American Indian Tribes and four NC Urban Indian Organizations will be invited to participate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Coharie Indian Tribe o Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians o Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe o Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina o Meherrin Indian Tribe o Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation o Sappony o Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe o Cumberland County Association for Indian People o Guilford Native American Association o Metrolina Native American Association o Triangle Native American Society. <p>The assessment is in direct response to recommendations from the NC Department of Health & Human Service (DHHS) Secretary's and the NC Commission of Indian Affairs' (NC CIA) Joint Task Force on Indian Health.</p>
<p>Team</p>	<p>In close collaboration with staff from the NC OMHHD (Mr. Leslie Brown/Ms. Jan Lowery) and the NC CIA (Mr. Greg Richardson/Ms. Missy Brayboy), the assessment process is being led by a Team from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Mr. Robert Letourneau and Dr. Carolyn Crump), who have over 10 years of evaluation, training, and technical assistance experience with American Indian/Alaska Native Tribes/Tribal Organizations across the U.S.</p>
<p>Focus</p>	<p>This historic assessment will 'go beyond health disparities data' by talking directly with Tribal representatives to consider how to improve the health status of Tribal members. During the assessment process, information will be collected to summarize Tribal services and partnerships available to address health needs associated with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o chronic diseases (e.g., hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease) o cancer (e.g., breast, cervical, lung) o mental health/substance abuse o health promotion/disease prevention (obesity, nutrition, physical activity, injury, violence) o environmental health (clean water, air, food, sanitation) <p>The assessment will focus on several components related to health: 1) Tribal Health Agenda/Priorities; 2) Tribal Capacity/Experience in Addressing Health Issues (e.g., staffing, funding); 3) Collaboration/Partnership experiences/ opportunities; 4) Access to Health Care/Services; 5) Data (availability and use); and 6) Training Needs.</p>
<p>Methods</p>	<p>All 12 state-recognized NC Tribes/Urban Indian Associations will be invited to participate in the <i>Overview</i> Assessment. Initially, two will be invited to participate in the <i>In-Depth</i> Assessment, however, it is anticipated that future funding may allow for additional In-Depth Assessments for those Tribes/Urban Indian Associations interested in receiving it.</p>
<p>Overview Assessment</p>	<p>The UNC/OMHHD team will collect and summarize background and health/capacity-related information using existing resources for all 12 NC Tribes/Urban Indian Associations. A one-day site visit including focus-group style interviews with 2-4 knowledgeable representatives will be completed for each NC Tribe/Urban Indian Association participating in the Overview Assessment.</p>
<p>In-Depth Assessment</p>	<p>For the two Tribes participating in the In-Depth Assessment, the UNC/OMHHD team will conduct three additional in-person site visits. These visits will provide the opportunity to meet with more representatives from the Tribe/Urban Indian Association and will build upon information gathered and summarized during the Overview Assessment. The final in-person meeting being held to present and discuss results from the In-Depth assessment.</p>

Project North Carolina Tribal Health Assessment (NCTHA)

Results North Carolina Tribes/Urban Indian Associations will benefit by participating in the assessment because on-site visits will be conducted in a way that will facilitate future strategic health planning. Discussions conducted will identify gaps in services and summarize each Tribe/Urban Indian Association's needs for health training, funding, and consultation. In addition, individual health profiles created will be publicly available so that your Tribe/Urban Indian Association's priorities and needs can guide the future work of the NC OMHHD, NC CIA, and the Joint Task Force on Indian Health.

Overview Using information collected during the in-person interviews/focus groups and other information/documents provided, the UNC/OMHHD Team will create a *Tribal Health Overview Profile* for each Tribe/Urban Indian Association participating in the Overview Assessment. *For Tribes/Urban Indian Associations not participating in the Overview Assessment, abridged Tribal Health Overview Profiles will be developed based on information available from existing resources/documents.*

In-Depth Using information collected during the document review and in-person meetings, the UNC/OMHHD Team will create a *Tribal Health In-Depth Profile* for each of the two Tribes participating in the In-Depth Assessment. During a final in-person meeting, team members will facilitate a discussion about the information summarized in the profiles.

Contact

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