RESEARCH AND EVALUATION IN NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Developing tribal capacity to conduct research and evaluation in tribal communities is an exercise in sovereignty. These resources can provide information to get you started.

A Roadmap for Collaborative and Effective Evaluation in Tribal Communities

A comprehensive guide representing a shared vision for the future of tribal child welfare research and evaluation. Collaboratively developed by tribal child welfare administrators, academic and community evaluators and researchers, TA providers, and federal partners, the Roadmap highlights tribal sovereignty and the meaningful inclusion of tribal voices to enhance tribal research and evaluation capacity.

A Winding Path: Working to Protect, Use, and Manage Data at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

An overview of one tribe's journey toward data sovereignty. You can visit their website to learn more about the continued work of their Data Governance Board.

Changing the Narrative on Research, Evaluation, and Data with Native Communities

A 2021 blog post from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) celebrates Native American Heritage Month by sharing how ACF program and research staff have been working to build a new narrative on research and evaluation in Native communities.

Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health Research Data Management Toolkit, Version 2.0

Helpful information and tools for tribal organizations to use as they explore how to collect and store research data. Covering data sovereignty, the benefits of having a research data management plan, and the lifecycle of data, this toolkit has valuable information to help get you started. Sample research timelines and data sharing agreements are also included.

Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health Tribal IRB Toolkit

A resource for tribal nations interested in starting a Tribal Institutional Review Board (IRB) to approve and monitor research that occurs on tribal lands and/or with tribal members. Practical tools and guidance are offered within the toolkit.

Exploring Pathways to Trust: A Tribal Perspective on Data Sharing

Tribal perspectives emerged from a discussion on federal data access and the collection, management, and use of secondary data in the context of university-tribal research/evaluation partnerships. Authors describe how to hold partners accountable using data-sharing procedures that respect tribal sovereignty and tribal oversight of research/evaluation.

[How to Conduct Research in American Indian and Alaska Native Communities](#)
Developed by the Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention, this guide discusses respectful research and covers tribal sovereignty, health disparities, researcher sensitivity and responsibility, and offers a research checklist that can be used by any joint research partnership.

[Walk Softly and Listen Carefully: Building Research Relationships with Tribal Communities](#)
Practical advice for tribes interested in developing research and evaluation capacity. Authors emphasize the importance of building trusting community relationships to effectively develop an Indigenous community-centered approach.

Additional Resources from the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)

[American Indian and Alaska Native Genetics Research Resource Guide: Tools for Tribal Leaders and Citizens](#)
Information designed to assist tribes to make research/evaluation decisions that support tribal sovereignty. While the primary focus is on genetic research, the same protocols can apply to other research and evaluation efforts. Tribes can use this guide to help define guiding values, decide if participation in research is right for them, and review cases and examples of research agreements and tools from other tribes.

[NCAI Policy Research Center](#)
Data resources, research and policy briefs, and updates on federal policies impacting data and research designed to help tribes and partnering organizations make informed decisions.

[Research that Benefits Native People: A Guide for Tribal Leaders](#)
Designed specifically for tribal leaders, this curriculum was developed to help them make informed research decisions. While originally designed to be delivered in person, [Module 1 – Foundations of Research: An Indigenous Perspective](#), is available online.

[Tips for Researchers: Strengthening Research that Benefits Native Youth](#)
An introduction to considerations for researchers, program managers, system leaders, and others involved in research with American Indian/Alaska Native communities. From determining research needs to disseminating data, this guide offers helpful information on how to center youth voices, engage tribal communities, and make ethical decisions.

[2021 Research Policy Update: Frequently Asked Questions: Partnering with Tribal Nations on Research](#)
General advice provided in response to questions frequently asked by those interested in partnering with tribal nations on research.