

UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES TRIBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER

A REGIONAL GOOD HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN INDIAN COUNTRY UPDATE



GHWIC BACKGROUND

Between 2014-2019, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will invest over \$78 million in chronic disease prevention efforts through the Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC) initiative. With the support of GHWIC funding, eleven Tribal Epidemiology Centers (TECs):

- Coordinate evaluation activities and data collection to highlight the regional work of GHWIC-funded Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations.
- Provide technical assistance to GHWIC-funded Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations.
- Enhance cross-sector partnerships and strengthen American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) networks across the service region.

REGIONAL EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND MANAGE CHRONIC DISEASE

United South and Eastern Tribes Tribal Epidemiology Center (USET TEC) coordinates GHWIC evaluation in the Indian Health Service (IHS) Nashville Area. USET TEC supports chronic disease prevention and management in 27 Tribal Nations through:

1. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Policies

USET Tribal Nations have passed and implemented at least eight health promotion and disease prevention policies and initiatives directly protecting and improving the health of more than 17,000 Tribal Nation Citizens. At least a dozen more policies have been developed and are being prepared for implementation as a result of GHWIC activities at USET Tribal Nations.

2. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Programs

More than 62 health promotion and disease prevention programs focusing on GHWIC priority areas have been implemented or planned at participating Tribal Nations. These programs provide needed services impacting more than 14,000 community members directly and have been a success because the community was engaged throughout the program planning process.



Cultural activities such as powwow dances and practices have been integrated into GHWIC programs.

3. Tribal Partners

Four years of GHWIC activities and evaluations have provided a robust selection of community health and program data for all nine Tribal Partners participating in GHWIC, allowing them to pursue additional funding sources. To date, all nine Tribal Partners have applied for additional funding sources. Collectively, these Tribal Partners have been awarded at least eight additional funding opportunities totaling more than \$7 million to grow or support their current GHWIC health promotion and disease prevention programming.



Traditional activities like canoeing have helped restore community connections to healthy living and the environment.

BY THE NUMBERS

28

Number of new or enhanced partnerships with Tribal Nations and/or Tribal programs

279

Number of instances of technical assistance or consultative support

161

Number of new and/or revised evaluation activities implemented with Tribal Nations or Tribal programs

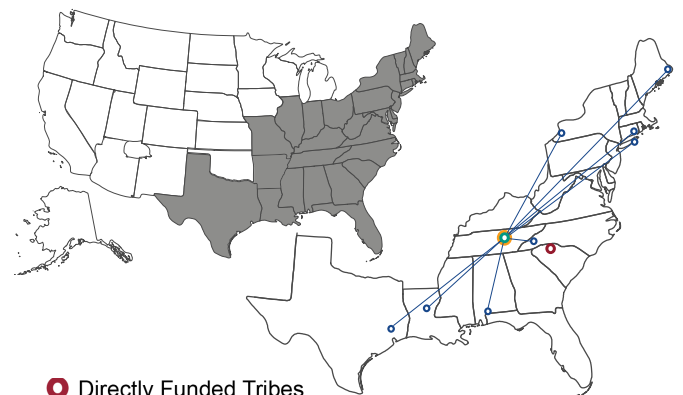
ACTIVITY SPOTLIGHT: ALABAMA COUSHATTA TRIBAL NATION OF TEXAS

Thanks to GHWIC, the Alabama Coushatta Tribal Nation of Texas (ACOT) was able to complete its first community health assessment (CHA) in nearly three decades. With the support of GHWIC and community input, ACOT was able to address many of the health needs identified from the CHA. However, many of the needs identified in the CHA required behavioral health support and prevention programming, priorities not directly addressed by GHWIC. So, while implementing various physical activity programs such as stick ball or chair yoga, creating a community garden, installing safe drinking water sources and working to update related health policies, ACOT and USET utilized CHA and program results to identify and apply for supplemental funding opportunities to allow ACOT to address needs for both behavioral and chronic health. As a result, ACOT has been awarded two additional grants through SAMHSA totaling nearly \$1.3 million a year to support chronic health programming needs and expand to address CHA identified behavioral health needs. But ACOT is not alone. All nine USET GHWIC Tribal Partners have utilized their program successes to apply for additional funding opportunities, with at least four Tribal Partners having been awarded additional funds.



Yoga is a popular intergenerational GHWIC program at Alabama Coushatta.

Map of GHWIC-funded Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations in the IHS Nashville Area



- Directly Funded Tribes
- Directly Funded Tribal Organizations
- Directly Funded Tribal Epidemiology Center
- Regionally sub-awarded Tribes or Tribal Organizations