On September 28, 2018, the Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (AASTEC) hosted a tribal environmental health symposium to engage and network with tribal representatives from the 27 tribes in the Indian Health Service Albuquerque Area.

Who was invited to attend?

- Tribal Community Members
- Environmental & Public Health Practitioners, Health Care Providers, Housing, Injury Prevention, Community Health Representatives & others that work in environmental health
- Tribes, State, Academic, Indian Health Service Health Professionals and other entities that partner with tribal communities in the Indian Health Service Albuquerque Area

Symposium goals:

- Provide networking opportunity for tribal, state and government environmental health representatives
- Provide information about resources available at the NM Department of Health Environmental Public Health Tracking and Indian Health Service Division of Environmental Health Services
- Support the sharing of environmental health projects from various tribal communities
- Facilitate roundtable discussions to identify environmental concerns in tribal communities

In this document you will find:

- An overview of the agenda
- Results of a live audience poll of the environmental health survey
- Themes that emerged from group discussions
- Results of attendee evaluations

For questions regarding this summary, please reach out to Amy Muchna, AASTEC Evaluation Specialist at amuchna@aaihb.org
Agenda Overview

Welcome/Introductions

- Opening blessing
- Introductions of all attendees (geographical locations and local greeting)

Presentations

- Tribal Epidemiology Center Overview – Kevin English, AASTEC Director
- NMDOH EPHT Biomonitoring Activities – Heidi Krapfl, EPHT Principal Investigator, NMDOH
- Indian Health Service Environmental Health – Debra Grabowski, Div of Env Health Director

Lightning Round Presentations & Panel Discussion

- Tribal Injury Prevention Program – Jerrod Moore, Tribal Injury Prevention Program Coordinator
- Jemez Safe Transportation Initiative – KristynYepa, Jemez Public Health Manager
- Tribal Healthy Homes Project – Sheldwin Yazzie, AASTEC Epidemiologist

Environmental Health Survey

- Review of survey results
- Audience poll of survey questions

Group Discussions

- Topics: Air Quality, Safe Built Environment, Climate Change, Disease Outbreaks, and Waste Management

Presentation

- Southwest Tribal Institutional Review Board – Rachell Tenorio, Southwest Tribal NARCH Manager

Closing

- Meeting evaluation
- Closing blessing
At what level does your work have the most impact?

Attendees worked mainly with one or more Tribes rather than at the state or national level.

![Bar Chart]

- Within multiple Tribes: 36%
- Locally within a Tribe: 32%
- Across an entire state: 18%
- Across the nation/federal level: 9%
- Other: 5%
- Across multiple states: 0%

What do you feel are the top three environmental concerns in your community?

The top three community environmental health concerns within the group were climate change, infectious disease outbreaks, and waste management.

![Bar Chart]

- Climate change: 15%
- Infectious disease outbreaks: 14%
- Waste management: 14%
- Natural disasters: 9%
- Air pollution: 9%
- Other indoor air pollution: 8%
- Stray dogs: 8%
- Water pollution: 6%
- Food contamination: 5%
- Radon: 5%
- Pesticide exposure: 3%
- Radiation exposure: 3%
- Poor quality drinking water: 3%
- Hazardous waste disposal: 0%
100% of attendees felt there was a link between their personal health and the environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The majority of attendees believed that environmental health was a high or medium priority to their community/organizational leadership.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High priority</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium priority</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low priority</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A quarter of attendees felt that they had little or no information on environmental health issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot of information</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some information</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little or no information</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you collaborate with/provide services to any of the following Tribes within the field of environmental health?

As a whole, attendees collaborate with all 27 Tribes in the Albuquerque Area. Bars below represent current partnerships/collaborations between attendees and specific Tribes. Results are in alphabetical order.

- Acoma Pueblo
- Alamo Pueblo
- Cochiti Pueblo
- Isleta Pueblo
- Jemez Pueblo
- Jicarilla Apache
- Laguna Pueblo
- Mescalero Apache
- Nambe Pueblo
- Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo
- Picuris Pueblo
- Pojoaque Pueblo
- Ramah Pueblo
- San Felipe Pueblo
- San Ildefonso Pueblo
- Sandia Pueblo
- Santa Ana Pueblo
- Santa Clara Pueblo
- Santo Domingo Pueblo
- Southern Ute Tribe
- Taos Pueblo
- Tesuque Pueblo
- Tohajiilee Navajo
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
- Zia Pueblo
- Zuni Pueblo
### Themes from Group Discussion

Answers from the poll question asking about top health priorities were condensed into five topic areas for further discussion: Air Quality, Safe Built Environment, Climate Change, Disease Outbreaks, and Waste Management. An overarching need was discussed of linkage to healthcare services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Needs/Issues</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Air Quality** | • (NM) Pollen Index  
• (NM) Educational resources for smoke  
• (NM) Home visits: asthma triggers  
• (NM) Tools for Schools  
• (CO) Air Quality Index  
• (CO) Radon: test kits and mitigation assistance  
• EPHT Data: hospital/ED |
| • Burning: wood (railroad ties, forest fires, stoves), trash, weeds  
• Health issues: asthma, smoking  
• Carbon Monoxide  
• Emissions: auto, Los Alamos Lab |
| **Safe Built Environment** | • (NMDOH) Prevention: lead poisoning, injury, asthma control, playground safety  
• (NMDOH)  
• MCH surveillance  
• Home safety: Radon, private wells  
• Funds for ICIP, CPBG projects |
| • Public safety: safe bus routes, paved roads, public transportation, lighting, multi-use paths  
• Animal control: rodent proofing  
• Life alert  
• Leadership support  
• Education: Homeowner maintenance courses with resources included  
• Home safety: elder falls, mold, CO and smoke detectors |
| **Climate Change** | • Disaster management programming: flood gauge, community text alerts,  
• Education: 8 Northern Summer Camp, USDA farming |
| • Surveillance: vector-borne disease, invasive species, fire/smoke, heat exp., air quality  
• Regional plan development: drought contingency (Gallup), forest wildlife protection (McKinley, Cibola counties), emergency management response |
| **Disease Outbreaks** | • Prevention: Immunization clinics, safe food handling, handwashing, SHARPS disposal  
• Mosquito control: 4Ds education  
• Obesity and chronic dx prevention  
• Blood donation screening  
• (NM) Food-borne epi investigation Surveillance (Project ECHO, NMDOH): ID, chronic disease (Hospital/ED) |
| • Antibiotic resistance education  
• Needle exchange programs  
• ID prevention education  
• Partnerships: IHS, schools, senior centers |
| **Waste Management** | • Composting  
• HAZ waste disposal |
| • Lack of services/infrastructure: transfer stations, recycling, dumps, sewage, medical waste, drainage, oil disposal, emergency response  
• Increase awareness: culturally appropriate messaging, youth involvement, organizational citizenship |
## Summary of Evaluation Feedback

### What was the most important thing that you learned from today’s presentations?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awareness of Resources/Needs</th>
<th>Partnership Opportunities</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• From outside Tribes</td>
<td>• AASTEC</td>
<td>• Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• From within Tribes</td>
<td>• State</td>
<td>• Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Tribal programs</td>
<td>• Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Environmental health</td>
<td>• Contacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>network</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What did you learn from today’s presentations that you hope to implement in your own work?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collaborations</th>
<th>Capacity Growth Opportunities</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Community engagement</td>
<td>• Trainings</td>
<td>• NMDOH EPTH website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Existing programs</td>
<td>• Education</td>
<td>• Data through AASTEC and IHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Leadership</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Institutional Review Board (IRB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• AASTEC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Indian Health Service (IHS)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Did you make new connections at this meeting? Were there other people/groups you would have liked to see here?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Connections</th>
<th>Groups to Invite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Majority answered “yes”</td>
<td>• Veterans organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tribal programs</td>
<td>• More decision-makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• IHS staff</td>
<td>• Tribal Public Safety/EMS/Police/Fire</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Caregivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• EPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• NMFDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Housing Authority</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• FEMA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### What specific topic(s) would you like to see covered in a future meeting?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presentations</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Case studies</td>
<td>• Infectious Disease</td>
<td>• Environmental health policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lessons learned</td>
<td>• Fetal Alcohol Syndrome</td>
<td>• Safety regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tribal program projects</td>
<td>• Opioid/drug prevention</td>
<td>• Approaches for collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tribal research projects</td>
<td>• Emergency response</td>
<td>• Information/data sharing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Subject matter experts</td>
<td>• Mental/Behavioral Health</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Sexual Assault</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Human Trafficking</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Effects of environment on health</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Public Safety Infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fall prevention/elderly safety</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Child safety</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### What is the biggest question you are leaving the meeting with today?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collaborations/Partnerships</th>
<th>Trainings</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Ways to partner with other programs</td>
<td>• How to become a Matter of Balance master trainer</td>
<td>• Region-specific data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ways to coordinate to avoid repeating efforts</td>
<td>• How to implement topics discussed in community</td>
<td>• Repeat this meeting and lengthen to more days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ways to engage tribal leadership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Points of contact for capacity building funding opportunities</td>
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</tbody>
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