



ALBUQUERQUE AREA INDIAN HEALTH BOARD, INC.

Tóhajiilee Band of Navajo * Jicarilla Apache Nation * Mescalero Apache Tribe
Ramah Band of Navajos * Southern Ute Indian Tribe * Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Inc. receives the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Community Partnerships to Advance Science for Society (ComPASS) Award

Albuquerque, NM (September 28, 2023) - Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Inc. (AAIHB) is awarded \$6 million from the National Institutes of Health over the next 5 years (award number 1OT2OD035674-01). The Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (AASTEC) will lead a project titled, “Indigenous healthy homes and healthy communities: A community led initiative to improve health and support Indigenous Resilience in the US Southwest.”

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Common Fund ComPASS program will enable research into sustainable solutions that promote health equity to create lasting change in communities across the nation. NIH is directly funding research projects led by community organizations. ComPASS projects study social determinants of health — the social, physical, and economic conditions where people are born, grow, live, work, age, and play — that contribute to health inequities.

Principal Investigator, Sheldwin Yazzie, PhD, MPH, MS, and Co-Investigator Alan Sixtus Dominguez, MCRP, both from AAIHB/AASTEC will collaborate with Co-Investigators Joseph Hoover, PhD & Tara Carr, MD from the University of Arizona and Esther Erdei, PhD, MPH from the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, College of Pharmacy, to conduct multi-part interventions to enhance the home environment and Indigenous health.

This novel project will incorporate community-based participatory research principles with an approach that centers Indigenous methodologies to promote Indigenous health across the societal, community, household and individual levels. A housing repair voucher program (primary intervention) will be informed by home and participant assessments, and partnered with clinical training and referral protocol development, tribal public health workforce development and capacity-building, and a multi-sectoral Healthy Tribal Homes Coalition. Creating an adaptable framework that centers upon community values to address simultaneously environmental exposures, fall injury risk, daily stressors, and respiratory health (emphasizing asthma) will increase quality of life for participants, their families, and community. This project will yield a template and set of best practices that other Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities may adapt to address their health priorities in a manner centered upon their values and identity.

<http://www.aaihb.org>

Contact:

Sheldwin Yazzie, PhD, MPH, MS
shyazzie@aaihb.org
(505) 764-0036

7001 Prospect Place NE * Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110 * 505/764-0036 (Voice/Tdd) * Fax 505/764-0446