



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

# Indigenous Health Researcher

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<b>REPORTS TO:</b>	Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (AASTEC) Director
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Albuquerque, NM
<b>FLSA STATUS:</b>	Exempt (Full-Time)
<b>SALARY RANGE:</b>	DOE
<b>BENEFITS:</b>	Annual, Sick Leave and Holiday Pay; Health, Dental, Life, Vision Insurance, and 403(b) Retirement Plan.

## DESCRIPTION

Under the direction of the AASTEC Director, the Indigenous Health Researcher will support the aims of AAIHB's NIH-funded, Native Collective Research Effort to Enhance Wellness (N CREW) Program to plan, develop, and implement community-led research, research capacity enhancement, and data improvements, to respond to the opioid/drug public health emergency within our 27-Tribe service area spanning across New Mexico, Colorado, Texas and Utah. The overarching goal of this new program is to build and strengthen the research capacity within our tribal organization and the tribes we serve to generate knowledge and improve outcomes related to overdose, substance use, and related factors including mental wellbeing.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

During the first two-years of this position, key responsibilities will include, at a minimum:

- Cultivates research partnerships and supports community-prioritized research among the tribal communities in the AAIHB service area.
- Leads the design and implementation of a regional, mixed method needs assessment to elucidate existing systems/structures and assets/challenges to address overdose, substance use and related factors across the AAIHB service area.
- Develops study designs and data collection instruments; collects, cleans, and analyzes data; prepares and disseminates research findings and reports.
- Prepares IRB protocols and submissions.
- Conducts a comprehensive literature reviews and scans of existing evidence-based models and/or promising practices that have been successfully implemented in tribal settings related to overdose/substance use prevention/treatment and related factors.
- Collaborates with study team members and tribal partners to identify and implement training opportunities to enhance research skills and capacities across our service area.
- Supports student research internships via mentorship and curriculum development/enhancement.
- Supports the establishment and sustainment of a regional Tribal Behavioral Health Research Advisory Board that will lend substantial guidance to the study team.
- Supports projects designed to improve access to and the quality of AI/AN data on substance use and

related health and wellbeing factors to maximize their potential for use in local decision-making.

- Routinely collaborates with other N CREW funded programs nationwide, including active participation at N CREW teaming meetings/events.
- Performs related tasks as assigned.

#### **KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS REQUIRED**

- Excellent research and analytical skills.
- Familiarity with Indigenous methodologies and statistics.
- Familiarity with qualitative analysis software (e.g. NVivo, Dedoose, Atlas.ti, etc.)
- Familiarity with statistical software packages (e.g., R, SPSS, SAS or Stata)
- Must have strong analytical writing skills including the ability to produce a well-organized and informative reports and manuscripts.
- Experience translating research results into understandable and useful information for decision makers.
- Demonstrated experience in working in collaboration with American Indian tribes.
- Awareness and keen appreciation of tribal sovereignty and Indigenous data sovereignty
- Awareness and keen appreciation of American Indian culture and sensitivity to cross-cultural differences, and ability to work effectively within their context.
- Experience preparing and submitting grants.
- Team science experience (i.e., worked in a collaborative, multi-disciplinary research team).
- Demonstrated student mentorship experience.
- Strong organizational, planning and project management skills with the ability to work efficiently and effectively both autonomously and in small teams.
- Ability to organize and manage multiple priorities.
- Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- Proficient public speaking skills.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Graduate degree required. Doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, DrPH, ScD) preferred.
- Completion of background investigation is required as a condition of employment.
- Complete HIPPA and CITI certification within 30 days.
- Maintain a valid State driver's license and have ability to drive company-leased vehicle for company and project related business.

#### **WORK CONDITIONS/PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Position is eligible for a hybrid schedule (minimum two office days per week). Must be a New Mexico resident.
- Travel to tribal communities and some national travel will be required.
- Able to meet vaccination or testing requirements necessary to come in direct daily contact with staff and public.
- Work is performed in a typical interior/office environment and noise level is usually minimal.

#### **PREFERENCE:**

Qualified American Indian applicants will be given preference in accordance with the exemption provided under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.