

National Indian Health Board



Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee Meets in Oklahoma City, OK

The Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee (TLDC) met in Oklahoma City, OK, on September 17-18, 2018. TLDC members reaffirmed the importance of collecting diabetes data, discussed the upcoming SDPI data infrastructure budget, and considered the role of SDPI in international indigenous health conversations.

To start the meeting, TLDC members elected Daniel Preston III (Tohono O'odham Nation, Tucson Area Primary Representative) as the alternate co-chair of TLDC. Next, TLDC members received an update on legislative activity related to chronic illness in Tribes from the National Indian Health Board (NIHB). They received information on the proposed budget for the SDPI data infrastructure funding, and discussed the proposed funding distribution, addressing that SDPI funding has not been increased since FY 2004, limiting options for how to spend SDPI dollars.



TLDC Members and Technical Advisors meet with IHS Acting Director RADM Michael Weahkee and other IHS staff.

TLDC spoke with the Acting Director of Indian Health Service (IHS), Rear Admiral (RADM) Michael Weahkee on the reduced purchasing power of SDPI funds due to inflation, the importance of data collection and reporting to “make the case” for SDPI, and the need for partnership between federal agencies engaged in chronic disease prevention initiatives. In particular, TLDC highlighted the need to collect more and better prevention data, as the current electronic medical records systems are not effective at this.

TLDC members received updates from the IHS Division of Diabetes Prevention and Treatment, from Oklahoma City Area SDPI programs, and on behavioral health integration with diabetes prevention at Chickasaw Nation. They also discussed the importance of SDPI as an international indigenous best practice, and named candidates to submit a workshop proposal on SDPI to the Healing our Spirits Worldwide conference.

For more details on the TLDC meeting, view the meeting highlights [HERE](#)

To learn more about TLDC, SDPI, and diabetes prevention in Tribal communities, click [HERE](#)