TTI: Partnering with Tribal Nations in Nevada

988 READINESS AND CRISIS SERVICES

A phrase often used by people with lived experience in recovery is “nothing about us without us,” which underscores the significance of collaboration, empowerment, and inclusion of populations of focus when designing and implementing services.¹

As Nevada continues to actively engage local Tribal Nations in planning for 9-8-8 rollout and implementation, it is key to build a collaborative, mutually respectful partnership.

State agencies vary in their level of readiness to relate to Tribal Nations and foster government-to-government relationships. Some guidance for state officials (such as behavioral health directors, 988 implementation team leads, policy and legislative officials, and others) is to expand on cultural humility. Possible ways to achieve this include meaningful training on implicit bias, understanding the political determinants of health for Tribal Nations, increasing self-awareness through education, and conducting routine organizational assessments as part of quality improvement of policies and practices impacting local Tribal Nations.

¹ p6 Partnering with Tribal Governments to Meet the Mental Health Needs of American Indian/Alaska Native Consumers
Many states with strong government-to-government alliances identified Tribal Liaisons as essential players in building these connections. Some states have appointed state/Tribal liaisons, even multiple liaisons throughout various state divisions. Liaisons can often be found in the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Behavioral Health, and American Indian Commissions (if they exist in your state).

As states nurture a mutually respectful relationship with local Tribal Nations where Tribal sovereignty is honored, groups on both sides can begin to break down barriers and work together to address the myriad health disparities that Tribal Nations face. When establishing government-to-government relationships with Tribal Nations, it is also important to collaborate with the non-profit Urban Indian organizations in your state, as they serve American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) individuals living outside of Tribal Nations.

Considering the disparities present in healthcare services, funding, resources, and outcomes for Tribal Nations, the launch of 9-8-8 presents a unique opportunity to foster alliances between Tribal Nations, state governments, and stakeholders to ensure continuous, mutually beneficial quality improvement of behavioral health services in Nevada that promote cultural practices as sources of strength, healing, and resilience.

UNDERSTANDING INTERGENERATIONAL TRAUMA

As a direct result of the legacy of European colonization, AI/AN communities faced profound trauma, uniquely characterized as multi-generational and historical, without the cultural safety nets of traditional healers and community support. When engaging Tribal Nations, this process of building collaboration includes particularly complex considerations due to the enduring history of violence and genocide perpetrated by the United States against Indigenous groups: repeated broken treaties and discriminatory legislation at the federal and state level, imposed limitations of resources, forced displacement and assimilation, along with current

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2 p8 Partnering with Tribal Governments to Meet the Mental Health Needs of American Indian/Alaska Native Consumers
policies and practices that disenfranchise Tribal Nations have all fostered an often-intense fear and distrust of the government (both federal and state) since the inception of the United States. Other barriers to providing services to Tribal Nations include “availability of transportation and childcare, treatment infrastructure, level of social support, perceived provider effectiveness, cultural responsiveness of services, treatment settings, geographic locations, and Tribal affiliations.”

Because Indigenous communities carry incredibly deep-rooted historical and current trauma, States with working Tribal relationships have repeatedly emphasized the need to build mutual respect and trust before establishing a formal partnership.  

This work must be done through a trauma-informed approach of amplifying the voice and agency of Tribal Nations, rebuilding trust, and acknowledging one’s role in a system that disenfranchises Tribal Nations.

“SAMHSA’s recommended principles on trauma informed care align with the recommendations for partnering with Tribal Nations. These include safety, collaboration, mutuality, transparency, trustworthiness, empowerment, and consideration of culture and historical issues (2015).”

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5 https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK539588/
6 p9 Partnering with Tribal Governments to Meet the Mental Health Needs of American Indian/Alaska Native Consumers
7 p8 Partnering with Tribal Governments to Meet the Mental Health Needs of American Indian/Alaska Native Consumers
Nevada Tribal Nation Information

TRIBE INFO

Tribal Nation Name: Ely Shoshone Tribe of Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 289-3013
Email: Info@elyshoshonetribe.com
Website: https://www.elyshoshonetribe.com/
Medical Contact: Irene Carney
Medical Contact Info: 775-289-4133 ext. 203 and carneyi@elyshoshonetribe.com
COVID-19 Response: Toney Gonzales, Nurse Practitioner; 775-289-4133 ext. 212
Behavioral Health and 988 Contact: Georgia Valdez; 775-289-4133 ext. 208; valdezg@elyshoshonetribe.com

TRIBE INFO

Tribal Nation Name: Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribal Nations of the Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation, Nevada and Oregon
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 532-8259
Email: maxine.redstar@fmpst.org
Website: https://www.fmcdwc.org
Medical and COVID-19 Contact: Fergus Laughridge, Interim Health Director, fergus.laughridge@fmcdwc.org
Medical Contact Info: (775) 532-8522
Behavioral Health and 988 Contact: Alex Esquibel, Behavioral Health Therapist: alex.esquibel@fmcdwc.org
TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indians of the Las Vegas Indian Colony, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (702) 386-3926
Email: btso@lvpaiute.com
Website: https://www.lvpaiutetribe.com/
Medical and COVID-19 Contact: Alexander Hartzell
Medical Contact Info: (702) 382-0784
Behavioral Health and 988 Contact: Fabian Solis

TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of the Fallon Reservation and Colony, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 423-6075
Email: Chairman@fpst.org
Website: www.fpst.org
Medical, Behavioral Health, and 988 Contact: Leslie Steve
Medical Contact Info: (775) 423-3634
COVID-19 Response: John Pishion
TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 329-2936
Email: bsam@rsic.org
Website: www.rsic.org
Medical, COVID-19, Behavioral Health, and 988 Contact: Elvin Willie, Acting Director
Medical Contact Info: 775-329-5162 ext 1903

TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Summit Lake Paiute Tribe of Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 827-9670
Email: randi.loneeagle@summitlaketribe.org
Website: www.summitlaketribe.org
Medical, Behavioral Health, COVID-19, and 988 Contact: Mrs. Randi Lone Eagle
Medical Contact Info: randi.loneeagle@summitlaketribe.org
**TRIBE INFO**

**Tribal Nation Name:** Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (Four constituent bands: Battle Mountain Band; Elko Band; South Fork Band and Wells Band)

**Recognition Status:** Federal

**Phone:** (775) 738-9251

**Email:** kirin.mabben@ihs.gov

**Website:** [http://www.temoaktribe.com/](http://www.temoaktribe.com/)

Medical, Behavioral Health, COVID-19, and 988 Contact: Dr. Kirin Mabben, Medical Director

Medical Contact Info: (775) 738-9251

**TRIBE INFO**

**Tribal Nation Name:** Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California (Carson Colony, Dresslerville Colony, Woodfords Community, Stewart Community, & Washoe Ranches)

**Recognition Status:** Federal

**Phone:** (775) 265-4191

**Email:** teri.gilbert-eisenga@washoetribe.us

**Website:** [http://www.washoetribe.us](http://www.washoetribe.us)

Medical Contact: Teri Gilbert-Eisenga, Medical Director

Medical Contact Info: (775) 265-8621

COVID-19 Response: Dr. Toth

Behavioral Health and 988 Contact: Danielle Lukins
TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Yerington Paiute Tribe of the Yerington Colony and Campbell Ranch, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 783-0200
Email: hr@ypt-nsn.us
Website: https://www.yeringtonpaiute.us/
Medical, Behavioral Health, COVID-19, and 988 Contact: Marlene Smallwood, Clinic Director
Medical Contact Info: 775-783-0222

TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Yomba Shoshone Tribe of the Yomba Reservation, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 964-2463
Email: tribalchair@yombatribe.org
Website: http://yombatribe.org/
Medical, COVID-19, and 988 Contact: Clyde Gentry, Director
Medical Contact Info: (775) 993-3226 ext. 1010
Behavioral Health Contact: Social Services Department: (775) 964-6023
TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Duckwater Shoshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 863-0227
Email: tribal.manager@duckwatertribe.org
Website: http://www.duckwatertribe.org/
Medical, Behavioral Health, COVID-19, and 988 Contact: Brenda O'Neil, Division Manager
Medical Contact Info: 775-863-0222; brenda.oneil@ihs.gov

TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Lovelock Paiute Tribe of the Lovelock Indian Colony, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 273-7861
Email: info@lovelocktribe.com
Website: https://www.paiutetribelovelock.org/
Medical Contact: Tiffany Rhodes, Director
Medical Contact Info: (775) 442-2502 or chr@lovelocktribe.com
COVID-19 Response: Debbie George, Chairman (775)-273-7861 ext 15
Behavioral Health and 988 Contact: Social Services Department: (775)273-7861 ext 14 or socialservices@lovelocktribe.com
TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (702) 865-2787
Email: moapapaiutes@mvdsl.com
Website: https://www.moapabandofpaiutes.com/
Medical and COVID-19 Contact: Irene Benn, Director of Medical Center
Medical Contact Info: (702) 865-2700
Behavioral Health and 988 Contact: Deborah Rocco, Director of Social Services:
(702)865-2708 or socialservices@moapabandofpaiutes.org

TRIBE INFO
Tribal Nation Name: Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nevada
Recognition Status: Federal
Phone: (775) 574-1000
Email: tribalsecretary@plpt.nsn.us
Website: https://plpt.nsn.us/
Medical and Behavioral Health Contact: Dawna Brown, Health Director
Medical Contact Info: (775) 574-1018 ext 1216
COVID-19 Response: COVID-19 assistance:
https://plpt.nsn.us/covid-19-assistance/
988: Social Services Department: 775-574-1047
**TRIBE INFO**

**Tribal Nation Name:** Shoshone-Paiute Tribal Nations of the Duck Valley Reservation, Nevada

Recognition Status: Federal

Phone: (208) 759-3100

Email: spt.secretary@shopai.org

Website: [https://shopaiTribal_Nations.org/spt/](https://shopaiTribal_Nations.org/spt/)

Medical Contact: Verona Blossom, Manager

Medical Contact Info: (775) 757-2403 ext. 4226


Behavioral Health and 988 Contact: Kathy Gibson, Stop Violence Program Director: (208)759-3100

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**TRIBE INFO**

**Tribal Nation Name:** Walker River Paiute Tribe of the Walker River Reservation, Nevada

Recognition Status: Federal

Phone: (775) 773-2306

Email: [https://www.wrpt.org/](https://www.wrpt.org/)

Website: [https://www.wrpt.org/](https://www.wrpt.org/)

Medical Contact: Zack Haynes, Project Manager

Medical Contact Info: 530-249-2130

COVID-19 Response: VAXWRPT@WRPT.ORG

Behavioral Health and 988: Main line: (775) 773-2306
**TRIBE INFO**

**Tribal Nation Name: Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada**

Recognition Status: Federal

Phone: (775) 329-5800

Email: admin@winnemuccaindiancolony.com

Website: [https://winnemuccaindiancolony.weebly.com/members.html](https://winnemuccaindiancolony.weebly.com/members.html)

Medical, COVID-19, 988 Preparations, Behavioral Health

Contact: Thomas Wasson, Chairman

Medical Contact Info: (702) 722-3833

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**TRIBE INFO**

**Timbisha-Shoshone Tribe** (federally recognized in CA but spans across state lines)

PO Box 206

900 Indian Village Rd.

Death Valley, CA. 92328

Phone: 760-786-2374

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**TRIBE INFO**

**Goshute, Ft Mojave**

500 Merriman Avenue

Needles, CA 92363

(760) 629-4591
**URBAN INDIAN HEALTH**

Janet Reeves  
Executive Director  
6512 S. McCarran, Suite A  
Reno, NV 89502  
Phone: 775-788-7600

**STATE TRIBAL LIAISON**

**Nevada Indian Commission**  
5366 Snyder Avenue  
Carson City, NV  89701  
(775) 687-8333  
Sherry Rupert, Executive Director  
(Nev. Rev. Stat. 233A.010 to .100)  
(225) 219-8715  
Mark Ford, Director
RESOURCES
Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI) 2022 Resource Guide

SAMHSA RESOURCES
https://www.samhsa.gov/behavioral-health-equity/ai-an
https://www.samhsa.gov/tribal-ttac
https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/d7/priv/tip_61_aian_full_document_020419_0.pdf
https://zerosuicide.edc.org/toolkit/toolkit-adaptations/indian-country

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE MENTAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER NETWORK RESOURCES
https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/national-american-indian-and-alaska-native-mhttc/home

NATIONAL INDIAN HEALTH BOARD
https://www.nihb.org/index.php

YOUTH MOVE NATIONAL
https://youthmovenational.org/?s=Native+American+youth

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH
https://ncuih.org/

MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA

AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

WORKFORCE GROWTH INITIATIVES:
https://www.ihs.gov/dhps/dhpsgrants/americanindianpsychologyprogram/