

Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity & Division of Population Health FY 2026 Labor HHS Appropriations Bill

FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026 President's Request	FY 2026 TFAH
\$68,950,000 • REACH: \$44,950,000 • GHWIC: \$24,000,000	N/A	N/A	\$102,500,000 • REACH: \$75,500,000 • GHWIC: \$27,000,000

Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Background:

The REACH program is a targeted, community driven approach to addressing rates of chronic diseases for groups experiencing high rates of diet-related diseases. REACH grantees, which include community-based organizations, universities, local health departments, tribal organizations, and cities, develop and implement practices and provide resources to communities to identify and implement solutions to improve health outcomes. REACH grantees plan and carry out locally driven programs to address the root causes of chronic disease.



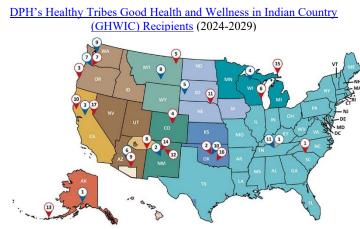
REACH Impact:

While the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity received 192 eligible applications for the REACH program in 2023, CDC could only fund 60 recipients to improve health outcomes among populations with the highest burden of chronic disease. Key REACH outcomes during the previous REACH grant period include (October 2018 to September 2023):

- 2,311,228 people with increased access to healthier foods
- 8,612,187 people with increased access to places where they can be physically active;
- 1,278,601 people received community
- support to start and continue breastfeeding;
- 41,502 patients referred from clinics to community health programs;
- 1,021,884 employees work in settings with improved smoke and tobacco-free policies.

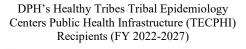
REACH programs focus on serving populations with poor health outcomes, with nearly 25 percent of grantees working in rural communities. Examples include developing a "Fresh Truck" to deliver fruits and vegetables to areas without access to fresh foods, increasing Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) nutrition assistance program participation among food retailers, and helping small businesses create lactation friendly environments for working mothers. In addition, the REACH program has successfully integrated childhood obesity prevention models, like the Family Healthy Weight Programs (FHWPs), that are delivered in a clinical or community setting by trained program staff to help children and families create healthier lifestyles.

Healthy Tribes Program (Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC)) Background:



American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations bear a disproportionate burden of the leading causes of death and disability .⁴ Since FY 2017, Congress has set aside a portion of REACH funding to support tribal cooperative agreements that improve health outcomes for AI/AN communities through the Healthy Tribes program, which includes Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC), Tribal Practices for Wellness in Indian Country (TPWIC), and Tribal Epidemiology Centers Public Health Infrastructure (TECPHI). These three

activities of the Healthy Tribes program are administered by CDC's Division of Population Health (DPH). CDC's largest investment to improve AI/AN tribal health, the GHWIC program, promotes evidence-based strategies to improve health and well-being, reduce chronic disease, and strengthen community-clinical linkages.





DPH's Healthy Tribes Tribal Practices for Wellness in Indian Country (TPWIC) Recipients (FY 2022-2027)



Healthy Tribes Impact:

While there are 574 federally recognized tribes, the Healthy Tribes program (Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country non–add subline under REACH) can only fund 35 tribes directly and supports other tribes through funding 12 tribal organizations, 17 Urban Indian Organizations, and 12 Tribal Epidemiology Centers (TECs). These funds support the Tribal Epidemiology Centers Public Health Infrastructure as the main source of funding for TECs. The Healthy Tribes programs provide Tribal leaders with resources, technical assistance, and evidence-based policies so that each grantee can then create unique chronic disease prevention programs that center on tribal history, traditions, and beliefs.

Recommendation:

TFAH recommends that REACH be funded in FY 2026 at \$102,500,000: \$75,500,000 for the REACH grant program, which CDC estimates would enable funding for at least an additional 33 programs, and \$27,000,000 for the Healthy Tribes program (Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country). This funding would ensure that CDC can continue to reduce chronic disease for multiple groups that bear the highest burden of disease.