



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

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity  
FY 2027 Labor HHS Appropriations Bill**

FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027 President's Request	FY 2027 TFAH
\$68,950,000 • REACH: \$44,950,000 • GHWIC: \$24,000,000	\$68,950,000 • REACH: \$41,950,000 • GHWIC: \$27,000,000	N/A	\$79,300,000 • REACH: \$51,300,000 • GHWIC: \$28,000,000

**Recommendation:**

Trust for America's Health (TFAH) recommends the Committee fund REACH at \$79,300,000 in FY2027: \$51,300,000 for the REACH (Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health) grant program, which would enable funding for an estimated additional 7 programs, and \$28,000,000 for the Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC). This funding would ensure more communities benefit from evidence-based programming to improve the health of those that bear the largest burden of chronic diseases.

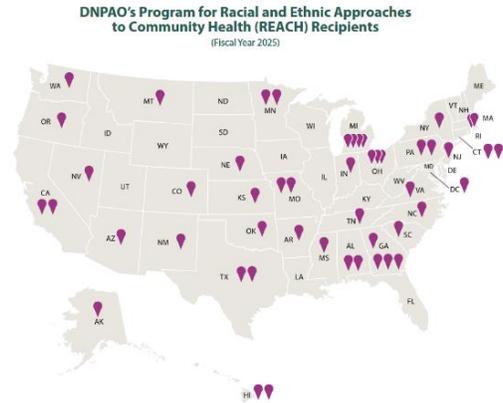
**REACH Background:**

The REACH program, founded in 1999, is a community- driven approach to reducing rates of chronic diseases for groups experiencing disproportionately high chronic disease rates. 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:**

REACH has been shown to reduce the prevalence of obesity in grantee communities compared to similar non-grantee communities.<sup>1</sup> Limited funds in the 2023 program cycle led to more than 130 qualified applications being left unfunded. Key REACH successes 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; and
- 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 (FHWP), that are delivered in a clinical or community setting to help children and families create healthier lifestyles.

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

[Healthy Tribes Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country \(GHWIC\) Recipients \(2024-2029\)](#)



American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations bear a disproportionate burden of the leading causes of death and disability.<sup>4</sup>

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 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 Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, and were previously administered by the Division of Population Health. 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. GHWIC reaches over 115 tribes and Urban Indian Organizations through director or indirect funding.

Healthy Tribes Tribal Epidemiology Centers Public Health Infrastructure (TECPHI) Recipients (FY 2022-2027)



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



### **Healthy Tribes Impact:**

There are 574 federally recognized tribes; however, the Healthy Tribes program is only funded to support roughly 35 tribes directly in addition to 12 tribal organizations, 17 Urban Indian Organizations, and is a primary source of federal funding for 12 Tribal Epidemiology Centers (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.

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "REACH Program Impact." Dec 22, 2023. <https://www.cdc.gov/reach/php/program-impact/index.html>