



Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration

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March 3, 2023

Dear Tribal Leaders:

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, will hold a tribal listening session on **March 23, 2023, from 2pm to 4pm ET** to obtain input on updating the [National Tribal Behavioral Health Agenda](#) (TBHA). The TBHA, released in 2016, was the result of a collaborative effort led by Tribal leaders who spoke compellingly about the extent to which mental and substance use disorders were impacting tribal communities. Through discussions, five elements which form the foundation of the TBHA priorities and strategies were developed and affirmed by Tribal leaders and tribal representatives.

SAMHSA has been working with Tribal Leaders through our Tribal Technical Advisory Committee, those involved with the original TBHA development, and federal partners/colleagues to understand how the TBHA has been used to support Tribes and impact Tribal Behavioral Health. SAMHSA has heard from Tribal Leaders that an update, including lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, is needed to ensure priorities and strategies of the TBHA continue to be reflective of tribal behavioral health. Please join to discuss this important topic and to share thoughts into increasing visibility of the TBHA.

**You must register in advance for this meeting.** Register at: [Registration Link](#)

Objectives of the listening session:

1. Discuss ways to update TBHA priorities and strategies.
2. Explore new ways to leverage the TBHA for improved coordination and collaboration.

Discussion Questions:

1. What lessons have you learned through COVID-19 that could be applied to an updated TBHA?
2. Have you identified other topics or areas of the TBHA that need updated?
3. How can information and resources within the TBHA best be shared and utilized?

SAMHSA is accepting written comments, as well. Submit written comments to: [OTAP@SAMHSA.HHS.GOV](mailto:OTAP@SAMHSA.HHS.GOV) with the following subject line: Tribal Leader Listening Session March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The deadline to submit written comments is April 24, 2023.

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If you have any questions, please contact SAMHSA's Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy at [OTAP@SAMHSA.HHS.GOV](mailto:OTAP@SAMHSA.HHS.GOV).

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