The mission of the NCAI Policy Research Center (PRC) is to provide tribal leaders with the best available knowledge to make strategically proactive policy decisions in a framework of Native wisdom that positively impact the future of Native peoples. This Research Update includes information on PRC projects, recent research results, new policy research resources, and more. An electronic copy of this update is available on our website: http://www.ncai.org/prc.

NCAI Policy Research Center
Projects and Resources

JOIN US! Tribal Research Futures: Resources to Strengthen Governance, Trust & Culture in Tribal Academic Research Partnerships. The NCAI Policy Research Center launched the Tribal Research Future Game at the Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH) Summit in April 2018. The game leads players to potential futures in tribal academic research partnerships based on the decisions each group of players make during the game. The Game was developed in partnership with University of Nevada, Reno, and Future iQ, with funding from NARCH VII and the Center for Diabetes Translation Research at Washington University in St. Louis.

During the Pre Conference Data Institute at NCAI's Mid Year Conference on Sunday, June 3, 2018, attendees will play the Tribal Research Futures Game and learn how governance, trust and culture are important pillars of successful tribal academic research partnerships.

For more information on the project, visit: http://bit.ly/PRCNARCH.
For more information on the 2018 NCAI Mid Year conference, visit: http://bit.ly/2FO237X.
Make Sure to Attend the 13th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum on Tuesday, June 5, 2018! The Forum provides an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, community members, and others to present their findings to tribal leaders, policymakers, and tribal members during NCAI’s Mid Year Conference. The theme is Lighting the Way: New Paths from Research to Policy and the agenda includes General Assembly presentations with discussion, two Poster Sessions, and 6 Breakout Sessions. For more information and the agendas, visit: http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/tribal-leader-scholar-forum.

Updates on our work

- **CENSUS 2020:** Did you know that American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) are considered a population that is “hard to count?” Learn more about the risks of being undercounted and what you can do to help in a new fact sheet: http://bit.ly/2DG3a8P.

- **Research Policy Update: The Opioid Epidemic: Definitions, Data, Solutions** (March 2018). This updated brief provides information on the complexity of the opioid epidemic, and provides information on definitions, current data for the U.S. and AI/AN overdose deaths, and discusses the origins of this epidemic along with possible solutions. View the brief: http://bit.ly/2rygRyJ.

- **First Kids 1st.** Founding partners the of the First Kids 1st Initiative —National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Health Board, National Indian Education Association, and National Indian Child Welfare Association—focus on changing national, tribal, and state policy to create conditions in which American Indian and Alaska Native children and youth can thrive. Visit http://firstkids1st.org/ to receive email updates, information on our Community Asset Mapping project, and updates to FK1st’s Native Children’s Policy Agenda.

- **Advancing Diabetes Translation Research.** The PRC partners with the Center for Diabetes Translation Research (CDTR) at Washington University in St. Louis to support researchers working on type 2 diabetes research to translate evidence-based
interventions in diverse communities. For more on the CDTR and how researchers can become a member to access resources, view: https://cdtr.wustl.edu. Visit the project website: http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/projects/diabetes-translation.

• **Tribal Data Capacity Monographs.** The PRC released three monographs on tribal data capacity issues at the NCAI Annual Convention in October 2017. The following monographs are available on our website: 1) Recommendations from Tribal Experiences with Tribal Censuses and Surveys; 2) Meeting the Reporting Requirements of Federal Agencies; and 3) The Geospatial Dimensions of Tribal Data. Visit: http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/nsf-project.

• **Join Us for our Monthly Webinar Series!** The PRC hosts webinars throughout the year on the 4th Thursday of every month that focus on cutting-edge research findings and topics related to AI/AN research and policy priorities. To view recordings of our latest webinars, visit: http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/events/webinars. To receive future announcements for our webinars, email us at research@ncai.org.


### FEATURED RESEARCH
A synopsis of the latest research findings to propel your policy advocacy

• **VAWA 2013’s Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Five-Year Report.** This NCAI publication reflects on the first 5 years of Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction (SDVCJ). SDVCJ affirmed tribal criminal jurisdiction over non-natives committing crimes of domestic violence in tribal communities. The report examines the background of VAWA, the need to enact SDVCJ, how SDVCJ is being implemented, and the different choices and outcomes by the implementing tribes.


• **Patterns of Genetic Coding Variation in a Native American Population before and after European Contact.** A study published in *The American Journal of Human Genetics* examines the indigenous population genetics before and after European contact. The study raises interesting questions about the impact of genetic diversity on populations.


• **Overnight sleep duration and obesity in 2-5 year-old American Indian children.** Researchers used data from the Healthy Children, Strong Families study to analyze the relationship between sleep duration and body mass index of AI children aged 2-5 years old. Researchers found less sleep to be a risk factor for childhood obesity in AI children.

  *Ingram DG et al. Overnight sleep duration and obesity in 2-5 year-old American Indian children. Pediatric Obesity. 2018 April; Epub ahead of print. Visit: [https://doi.org/10.1111/ijpo.12281](https://doi.org/10.1111/ijpo.12281).*

• **Addressing Substance-Use Problems in Tribal Home Visiting.** This study looks at approaches in identifying and addressing family-based substance-use. Researchers analyzed nine different home visiting programs in AI/AN communities funded through the Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program.


• **Addressing Palliative and End-of-Life Care Needs with Native American Elders.** This study assesses the compatibility of palliative and hospice care for the Native American elders and tribal health educators with cultural norms.


• **QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Percentage of Adults Aged ≥45 Years Who Were Limited in Any Way Because of Difficulty Remembering or Periods of Confusion, by Race/Ethnicity - United States, 2014 - 2016.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report indicates higher percentages of AI/AN adults 45 years or older experiencing limitations from periods of confusion or memory compared to other race/ethnic groups.

  *QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Percentage of Adults Aged ≥45 Years Who Were Limited in Any Way Because of Difficulty Remembering or Periods of Confusion, by Race/Ethnicity — United States, 2014–2016. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2017; 66:1205. View at: [http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6643a10](http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6643a10).*
UPCOMING MEETINGS
Ways to connect with researchers across Indian Country and beyond


- **Association of American Indian Physicians 47th Annual Meeting & Health Conference**, *Interweaving Strands of Our Past, Present & Future in Medicine* will be held on July 26-29, 2018 at the We Ko Pa Resort & Conference Center in Scottsdale AZ. Visit: [https://www.aaip.org/](https://www.aaip.org/).

- **35th Annual National Tribal Health Conference**, hosted by the National Indian Health Board, will be held in Oklahoma City, OK from September 17-20, 2018. Visit: [https://www.nihb.org/](https://www.nihb.org/).

- **Seeds of Native Health 3rd Annual Conference on Native Nutrition**, hosted by the National Indian Health Board, will be held at the Mystic Lake Casino in Prior Lake, MN from October 2-5, 2018. The deadline for presentation abstracts is June 29, 2018. Visit: [http://seedsofnativehealth.org/conference/](http://seedsofnativehealth.org/conference/).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
New announcements to fund research and data collection efforts

- **Funding for VAWA Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Implementation (SDVCJ).** The Department of Justice has funding available to support tribes in their efforts to implement criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians pursuant to VAWA 2013. Deadline is June 7, 2018. Visit: [https://www.justice.gov/ovw/file/1057871/download](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/file/1057871/download).

- **HHS/SAMHSA Tribal Behavioral Health Grant Program (Native Connections).** Applications are being accepted for a grant program that aims to prevent and reduce suicidal behavior and substance use, reduce the impact of trauma, and promote mental health among AI/AN youth through the age of 24 years and foster collaborations with native youth. Deadline is June 22, 2018. Visit: [https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-18-017](https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-18-017).
• **HHS/SAMHSA Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Grant Program.** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Centers for Mental Health Services (CMHS) announced a grant program to improve outcomes for children with early signs of, or have been diagnosed with a mental illness. SAMHSA anticipates 9 awards with up to $500,000/year. Deadline is June 29, 2018. Visit: [https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-18-018](https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-18-018).

• **The AmerisourceBergen Foundation: Opioid Resource Grant Program.** Accepting proposals for innovative projects that describe how the AmerisourceBergen Foundation can best contribute resources and funding to address opioid abuse and misuse. Focus areas are safe disposal and education around prevention. Deadline is July 31. Visit: [http://bit.ly/2IslELv](http://bit.ly/2IslELv).

Get to know the PRC Team supporting Indian Country in shaping its own future! Whether during the 2018 NCAI Mid Year conference or throughout the year at meetings and events, stop by and say hello to the NCAI Policy Research Center team members!

Make sure to stop by our EXHIBIT at the NCAI Mid Year Conference to pick up printed copies of our latest resources and to sign up for our NCAI Policy Research Center listserv!

If you would like to be added to our PRC listserv, email research@ncai.org.


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