

- evaluate existing delivery systems, data systems, and other systems that impact the improvement of Indian health;
- assist Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations in identifying highest-priority health status objectives and the services needed to achieve those objectives, based on epidemiological data;
- make recommendations for the targeting of services needed by the populations served;
- make recommendations to improve health care delivery systems for Indians and urban Indians;
- provide requested technical assistance to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations in the development of local health service priorities and incidence and prevalence rates of disease and other illness in the community;
- provide disease surveillance and assist Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian communities to promote public health.” (source: <http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/25/1621m>)

Q: Why TECs?

A: American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) have a unique historic and legal relationship with the US federal government that entitles certain AI/ANs to health benefits unlike other US citizens. Federally recognized Tribes have a government-to-government relationship with the US. This unique relationship has been given substance through numerous Supreme Court decisions, treaties, legislation, and Executive Orders. The provision of health services grew out of this government-to-government relationship. The federal trust responsibility was transferred to the Indian Health Service (IHS) in 1955. This responsibility includes the provision of medical care and maintenance of public health functions.



Uniting for One Cause

