As a recipient of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)'s Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) funds, you’re probably determining your tribe’s most pressing opioid issues and how the TOR funds can be used to benefit the most people. Also, as a condition of the funding, SAMHSA requires that you conduct a needs and capacity assessment to identify gaps and resources. As a grantee, you also must (1) create a strategic plan to describe how you will expand access to—and engagement in—treatment and recovery support services and (2) advance substance misuse prevention in coordination with other federally supported efforts. You are required to describe how you will improve retention in care using a chronic care model or another innovative model that has been shown to improve retention in care.

These requirements as well as many others related to infrastructure development are all areas in which RTI International can help your tribe to use evidence-based approaches and be able to demonstrate progress toward increasing treatment and reducing overdoses. With these funds, the potential to make a difference in the lives of those affected by the opioid crisis is great. We can help.

We have been working with SAMHSA and tribes for more than 50 years, and we understand the challenges you are facing in responding rapidly—and accountably—to the opioid epidemic. You, your staff, and your communities can leverage our experts and experience so your funding can have the highest impact for your tribe. Please contact us to discuss your priorities and needs, and how we can help your members while meeting all of SAMHSA’s requirements.

Our experts provide proven solutions to challenges in each of these areas. We provide services to dozens of clients nationwide who are working hard to meet their day-to-day goals while meeting the demands of federal funding agencies.
How we can help

With us, you receive client-centered technical assistance and consulting on a full range of services—from planning to data system development, implementation, and evaluation. Specifically, we can help you with the following:

- **Strategic Planning**: Use interactive planning processes to select evidence-based strategies, set milestones, and outline feasible and measurable steps to success.

- **Community Prevention**: Recommend strategies to change attitudes and increase harm perceptions, develop skills for healthy living, and build community resilience.

- **Epidemiology and Needs Assessment**: Identify the scope of opioid use disorder (OUDs); conduct community readiness and capacity assessments; collect information from local agencies; gather qualitative and quantitative data from stakeholders.

- **OUD Treatment**: Consult on best practices for incorporating medication-assisted treatments in combination with counseling, behavioral therapies, and recovery support for a “whole patient” approach; incorporate telehealth services into your treatment model.

- **Workforce Development**: Identify workforce challenges, including developing a well-trained peer recovery support network.

- **Dissemination**: Develop user-friendly materials for communities, design infographics and other compelling materials, create policy briefs, and summarize best practices for front-line providers as well as tribal leaders.

- **Needs Assessment**: Identify specific needs for data and how best to depict the data. Use geographic information system capabilities to create useful maps of high-need areas.

- **Infrastructure Development**: Incorporate results from needs assessment and strategic plans to develop a realistic approach to enhancing tribal response.

- **Media Campaigns**: Design and evaluate media campaigns to reduce opioid use, improve disposal of prescription drugs, and address the stigma related to addiction.

- **Integration of Behavioral Health into Primary Care**: Expand identification of patients at risk for OUDs and substance use disorders.

- **Economic Evaluation**: Estimate the costs to develop or build new programs, identify the costs of providing services in a variety of settings, and understand the financing and sustainability of services.

- **Harm Reduction**: Train first responders on naloxone use to reverse opioid overdoses, establish needle exchange programs, and use fentanyl testing strips to prevent fatalities.

- **Data Management and Reporting**: Integrate and display results through mapping, data visualization, and data dashboards. We provide technical assistance and web-based training to help you report to the federal government the outcomes of your grant-funded behavioral health programs.

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**Contact us for more information**

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