

COVID-19 Contact Tracing in Indian Country

A Partnership Perspective from Navajo Area

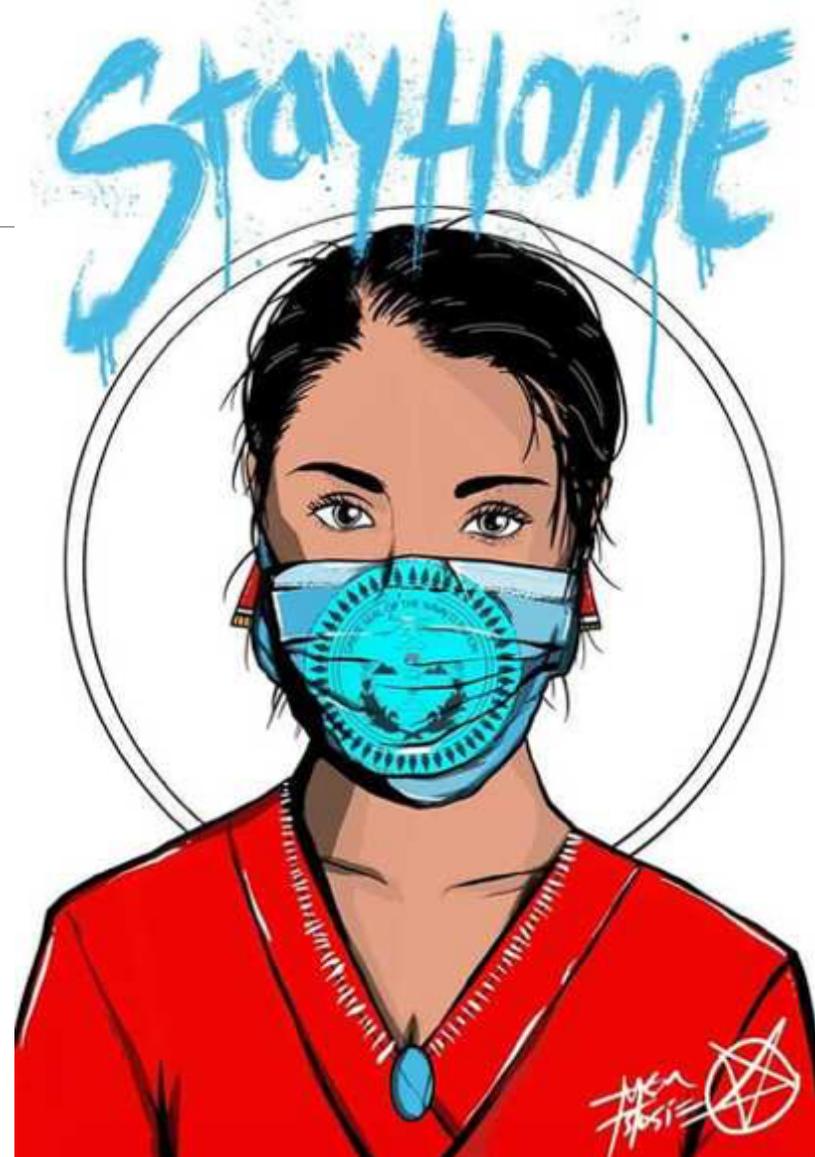
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NATIONAL INDIAN HEALTH BOARD WEBINAR

JULY 10, 2020



NAVAJO
NATION
CURFEW



NAVAJO NATION COVID-19 CASE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY



Expanded Testing
Contact Tracing
Home Support
Safe Isolation



“We can outlive this virus. But we have to look at each step to be more creative.” Loucinda Charleston, CHR



Contact Tracing on Navajo Nation



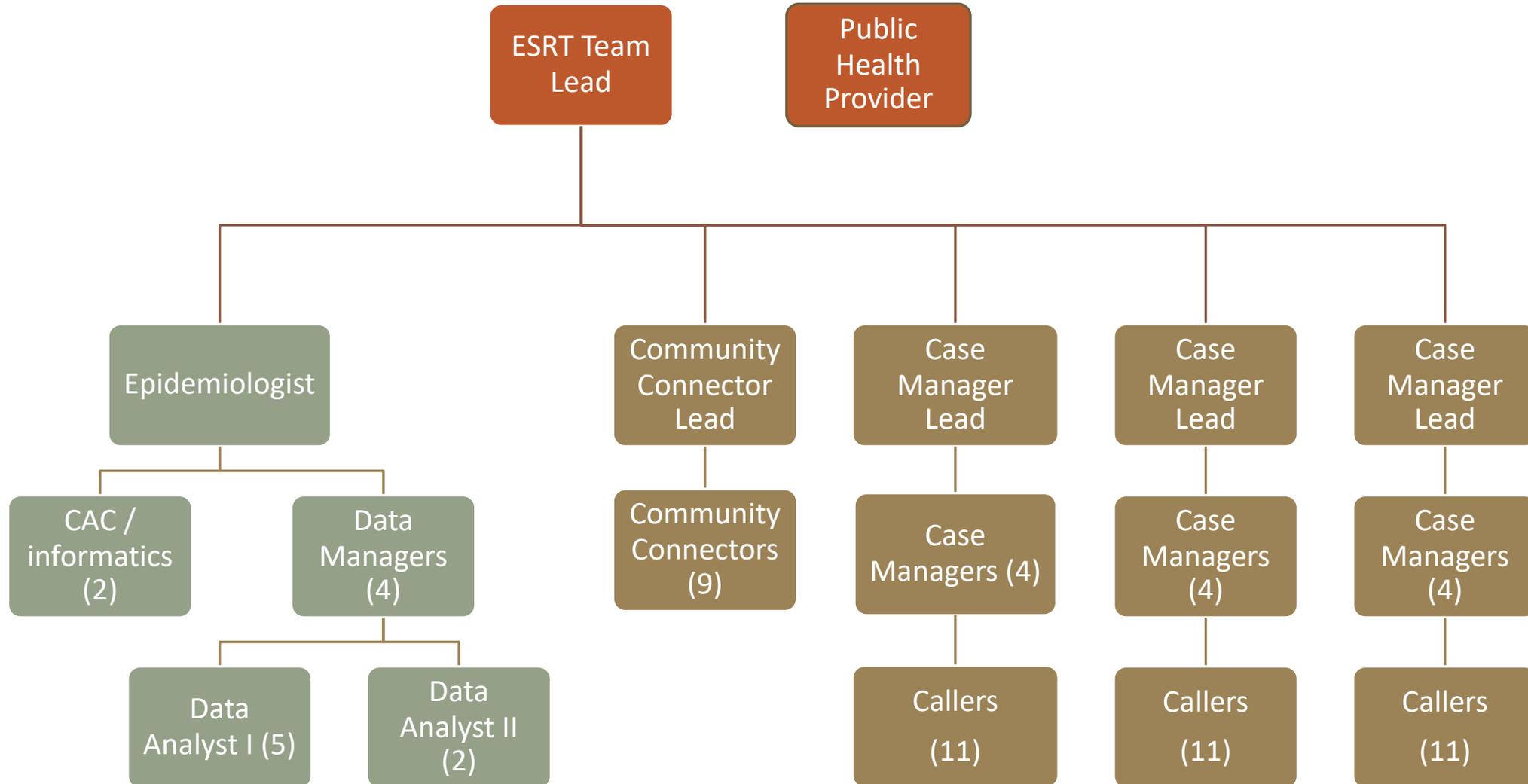
Partnership highlights

- Coordinate effort under HCOC
- Outreach to sites to learn and listen

Contact Tracing strategies

- SOPs and Guides
- Workforce Projections
- Tailored CommCare App
- Volunteer Contact Tracers

Staffing and Workforce Needs (sample)



Case Management / Contact Tracing Workforce – Models for Navajo Nation



# new cases / day	Avg new cases / week	Callers (case intake + contact calls)	Case Managers (1:10)	Community Connectors (1:5)	Total FTE Needed
5	35	11	1	2	15
10	70	23	2	5	30
15	105	34	3	7	44
20	140	46	5	9	59
25	175	57	6	11	74
30	210	68	7	14	89
35	245	80	8	16	104
40	280	91	9	18	118

- Projection Assumptions: 70 % follow-up, follow-up every other day
- Projection Assumptions: case load and time estimates based on team using CommCare

Volunteer Contact Tracers



Contact Tracing Volunteer program

- Diné and regional public health students
- Training
 - Online: ASTHO / JHU / IHS HIPAA
 - Webinars: Navajo context, 1:1 role play
 - Weekly refreshers: layer additional skills
- Register in ESAR-VHP portal

Field support

- CommCare allows team communication
- Case Management huddles
- Team / 1:1 check-ins

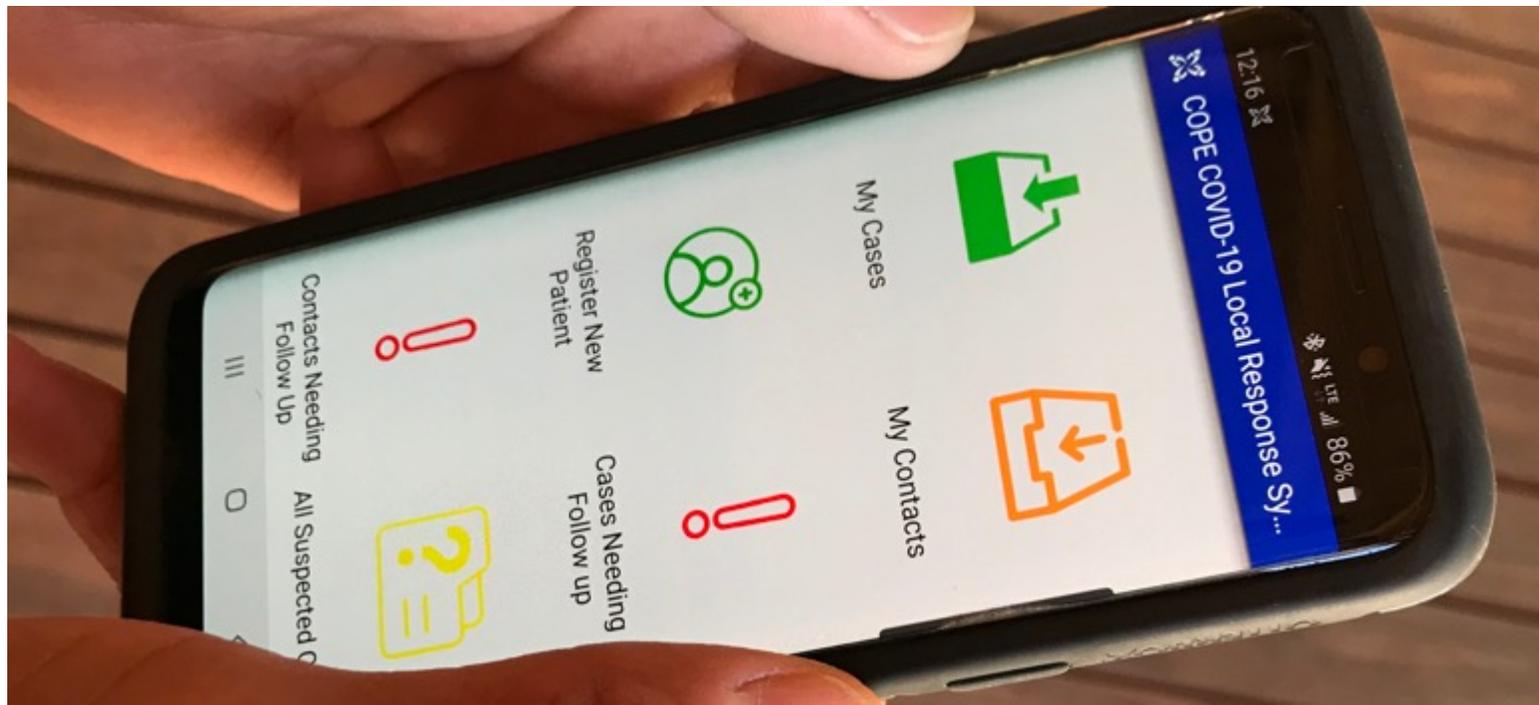
Future goals

- Certification / academic credit / work study
- Volunteer → Paid workforce
- More certified Navajo callers

CommCare COVID-19 System

CommCare System

- Navajo Epidemiology Center as the repository for all data
- Opportunity for better site access and visualization of their own data
- Referrals across sites
- Can work online and offline
- Open-source, HIPAA secure
- Ongoing updates for Navajo Nation
 - Assign families (instead of cases / contacts)
 - Add Navajo-specific questions
 - Ensure I/Q Follow-up in the community
 - Reporting functions
- Allows virtual callers to support team

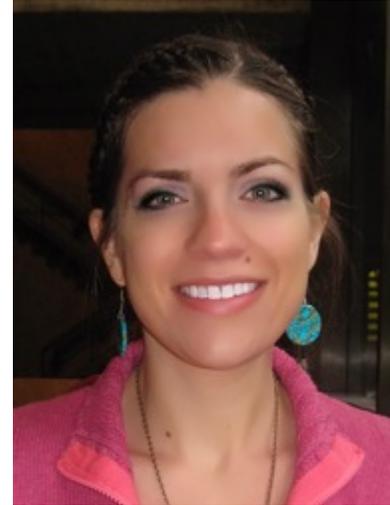




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Acknowledgements and Disclaimers

The opinions expressed in this presentation do not necessarily reflect the official views and policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Indian Health Service, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Disclosures:

Dr. Shin serves as HCOC Contact Tracing Lead for Navajo Nation, the Director of Research for the 501(c)3 organization, COPE, and is an IHS employee at Gallup Indian Medical Center.

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Ahéhee'
To all of our partners!