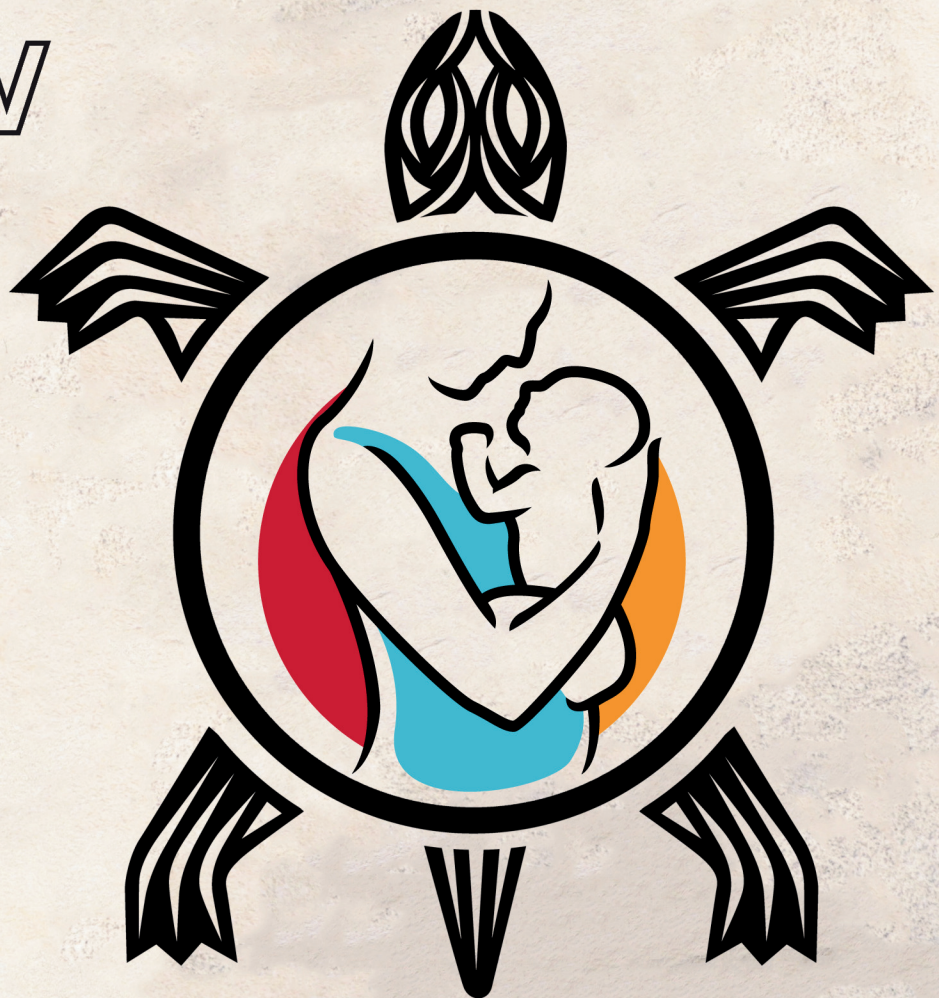


**STRONG BEGINNINGS**

# **SECOND CONVENING ON TRIBAL MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW**

**JUNE 2 - 4, 2025  
DENVER, CO**

**National  
Indian  
Health  
Board**





# ABOUT THE EVENT

Welcome to Strong Beginnings: the 2<sup>nd</sup> Convening on Tribal Maternal Mortality Review! This convening will be a space dedicated to continuing conversations from the 2023 Convening on Tribal Maternal Mortality Review (MMR), while exploring new ideas, sharing stories and resources, and concerns about Tribal Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs).

Attendees will engage in plenary and small group breakout sessions to discuss:

- New initiatives in state MMRCs including AI/AN subcommittees, incorporating a Tribal lens to current MMRC processes, and perspectives on barriers and opportunities in implementing Tribal MMRCs.
- Data collection system and policy changes since 2023, and other recent changes, that affect the development and implementation of Tribal MMRs across regions.
- Four main areas of developing and implementing Tribal MMR. These areas include Tribal representation in current MMRCs, the collection and use of MCH data to advise MMRCs, partners needed for Tribal MMR, and traditional/cultural practice to integrate in Tribal MMR.
- A Next Steps strategy with an aligned vision for the future of Tribal MMR.







# MONDAY

## JUNE 2, 2025

### CENTRAL CITY ROOM

# DAY ONE

## BREAKFAST

8:00 AM

Breakfast provided for attendees

## WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

9:00 AM

- Prayer - Elder, **Andy Cozad**
- Welcome - **Lacey Wind, MSW, LCSW** (Northern Cheyenne)
  - NIHB, PHPP Director

## PRESENTATION: OUR COMMUNITIES & STRENGTHS

10:00 AM

- **Camie Goldhammer, LISCW, IBCLC** (Sisíthunwan-Wahpéthunwan Oyáte)
  - Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services, Founding Executive Director

## BREAK

11:00 AM

Snacks provided for attendees

## PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION: POLICY CONSIDERATIONS FOR TRIBAL MMRS

11:15 AM

- **Christina Diego, MSW, MPA** (Niimiipuu, Diné, Purepucha, Enrolled citizen of Colville)
  - NIHB, Senior Policy Analyst





# MONDAY

## JUNE 2, 2025

### CENTRAL CITY ROOM

# DAY ONE

## LUNCH

Lunch provided for attendees

12:30 PM

## HEALING/GROUNDING SESSION

- **Ruby Gibson, ThD**, (Lakota, Ojibway, Mestiza)
  - Somatic Archaeology©

1:30 PM

## PRESENTATION: DATA SOVEREIGNTY

- **Tess Abrahamson-Richards, MPH**, (Spokane Tribe)
  - Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services, Director of Data Sovereignty

2:30 PM

## BREAK

Snacks provided for attendees

3:30 PM

## GROUP DISCUSSION: REFLECTIONS AND STORIES

- **Dr. Amy Stiffarm, PhD, MPH**, (Aaniiih, Chippewa Cree, Blackfeet)
  - Healthy Mothers-Healthy Babies MT, Director of Native American Initiatives

3:45 PM

## END OF DAY ONE

Closing prayer

4:45 PM





# TUESDAY

## JUNE 3, 2025

### CENTRAL CITY ROOM

# DAY TWO

## BREAKFAST

8:00 AM

Breakfast provided for attendees

## OPENING PRAYER AND DAY ONE REVIEW

9:00 AM

- Prayer - Elder, **Andy Cozad**
- Day One Review - **Lacey Wind, MSW, LCSW** (Northern Cheyenne)
  - NIHB, PHPP Director

## WORKING GROUP STATIONS (ROTATE)

9:15 AM

- **Station 1: Current state MMRCs**
  - Discussion around Tribal representation in current state MMRCs and Tribes in states without MMRCs.
  - **Kimberly Moore-Salas, IBCLC (Dine')**
- **Station 2: Maternal & Infant Health Data**
  - Discussion around preserving data sovereignty for Tribal MMRs, the dismantling of PRAMS and its effect on state & Tribal MCH programs, the role of TECs in Tribal MMRs.
  - **Christina Diego, MSW, MPA, (Niimiipuu, Diné, Purepucha, Enrolled citizen of Colville).**
- **Station 3: Partners for Tribal MMRs**
  - Discussion around who needs to be at the table, best practices for partnering with Tribes.
  - **Margaret Anne Adams, RN, (Tsilhqotin-Chilcotin and Tl'etinqox't'in-Anaham Band)**
- **Station 4: Traditional and Cultural Practices**
  - Discussion around having processes that reflect differing cultures, traditional practices, and identities.
  - **Faith Zacherle-Tonasket, ILC, (Sinixt, San Poil, Colville, and Okanogan)**





# TUESDAY

## JUNE 3, 2025

### CENTRAL CITY ROOM

# DAY TWO

## BREAK

Snacks provided for attendees

11:15 AM

## GROUP DISCUSSION: REFLECTIONS FROM WORKING GROUP STATIONS

11:30 AM

- **Shelly Means** (Ojibwe, Lakota)
  - Native American Women's Dialogue on Infant Mortality, Co-Coordinator

## LUNCH

Lunch provided for attendees

12:15 PM

## HEALING/GROUNDING SESSION

1:15 PM

- **Ruby Gibson, ThD**, (Lakota, Ojibway, Mestiza)
  - Somatic Archaeology©

## PANEL: EXPERIENCES AND EFFORTS

2:15 PM

- **Panelists:**
  - **Lynn Lane, BS**, (Diné)
  - **Kimberly Moore-Salas, IBCLC** (Diné)
  - **Kameron Jones** (Meherrin Nation)
  - **Elisha Sneddy** (Diné/Navajo)
- **Moderator: Cyndi Gamble, MPH, CLC** (Tlingit)

## BREAK

Snacks provided for attendees

- Longer break after a lot of brainstorming/planning

3:30 PM





# TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

**JUNE 3 & 4, 2025**

CENTRAL CITY ROOM

## STORYTELLING IN THE MMR PROCESS

**3:45 PM**

- **Janelle Palacios, PhD, CNM,**  
(Salish/Kootenai)
  - Nurse Midwife & Founder of Encoded 4 Story

## END OF DAY TWO

Closing prayer

**4:45 PM**

## BREAKFAST

Breakfast provided for attendees

**8:30 AM**

## OPENING PRAYER AND CONVENING REVIEW

**9:30 AM**

- Prayer - Elder, **Andy Cozad**
- Convening Review & Reflections - **Lacey Wind, MSW, LCSW** (Northern Cheyenne)
  - NIHB, PHPP Director

## NEXT STEPS & DISSEMINATION

**10:00 AM**

- **Dr. Amy Stiffarm, PhD, MPH,**  
(Aaniiih, Chippewa Cree, Blackfeet)
  - Healthy Mothers-Healthy Babies MT, Director of Native American Initiatives

## BREAK & GROUP PHOTO

Snacks provided for attendees

**11:00 AM**

## END OF CONVENING

Closing prayer and send off

**11:30 AM**

**&  
DAY TWO  
THREE**