



COUNCIL OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL EPIDEMIOLOGISTS



December 21, 2012

The *Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)*, the *Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS)* and various *Tribal Epidemiology Centers* in the Western U.S., invite you and senior representatives from your organization involved with American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) health or data access to attend the **Western States Tribal Epidemiology Meeting on February 23, 2012 in Phoenix, AZ**. This meeting will bring together local, state, federal, tribal and Indian Health Program representatives and others working to promote AI/AN health. The **purpose** of the meeting is to improve the quality of and access to health data for AI/ANs in the Western United States (AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, NM, NV, OR, UT, and WA).

Quality health information and data are dependent on the multilateral exchange of information, and identifiable health data are essential to effective public health efforts. The **goal** of this meeting is to identify priority projects that will improve the accuracy and completeness of AI/AN health data and increase access to this information for tribal and public health authorities working to promote AI/AN health. By bringing together key stakeholders and senior-level decision makers, we hope to forge enduring partnerships to enhance public health practices and benefit AI/AN communities.

The meeting will take place February 23, 2012 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Mountain Time at the Westin Phoenix Downtown Hotel, 333 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ. Participants will include tribal epidemiologists, statisticians, leadership from tribes, local, state, federal, Urban Indian health organizations, and other interested parties. We look forward to your participation. Please see the attached proposed agenda for an outline of the meeting's content. Presentations from the morning session will be posted on the CSTE website following the meeting.

To register for this meeting, please complete the online registration form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WesternRegionTribalEpidemiologyMeetingRegistration>. A number of rooms are being held at the Westin Downtown Phoenix hotel for this meeting at a rate of \$128 per night (+tax). Please visit <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/CSTETribal> to reserve a room.

CSTE is able to provide a limited number of travel scholarships to attend this meeting. For more information on applying for travel support, contact Annie Tran (atran@cste.org) at CSTE, by **January 20, 2012**.

We look forward to working with you. Please feel free to forward this invitation to your colleagues in the Western region who would benefit from this meeting. If you have any questions or would like further information about this meeting, please contact Annie Tran at 770-458-3811 or atran@cste.org.

Sincerely,

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