2023 Tribal Public Health Emergency Preparedness Conference
May 2023

Updating the STORY
Welcome from Suquamish Tribe
Observations

• The real tangible benefits of being together.
• The benefits of honest dialogue
  • Focus on collaboration
  • Focus on tribal sovereignty
  • Focus on all parties being at the table.
• Nothing About Us without Us.
• We shouldn’t meet once a disaster has started (late business card exchange)
Covid -19 Response Lessons to be Learned

• Even though many locations were short staffed at the beginning of the pandemic a successful emergency response was stood up.

• Tribal nations pulled together to make sure that vaccines were delivered to Tribes with resources in place and then distributed across the region.

• Data collection systems were not robust, but IHS was able to collect case data locally.
  • We were able to use state data locally
  • Improvements should be made now for the future.
Listening Session Priorities to Improve Healthcare Access and Health Care During Natural Hazard Events

- Themes seemed to center around communication in many cases
- Continuing to build trust within the community and plan for the uncertain that another natural hazard event could bring
- Community driven examples of what is needed, especially for those communities who may be more isolated and need to depend on their own resources.
- Need to develop leadership training to continue to build skills confidence.
Keeping Stress from Becoming Trauma

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• When things change, they change
• Culture is key
• We need to find safe communities
• We need to develop Programs that are Safe
• Trauma is about constriction; healing is about expansion.
• You’re not going to change the fruit until we change the root.
Competency Areas Updated

• Outbreak Investigation
• After Action Planning
• Enhancing Reportable Data (State and Epidemiology Center Partnerships)
• Collaboration During Heat Waves and Wild Fire Times
• Public Health and Weather Service Partnerships
• Building Strong Emergency Management Programs
State Fireside Chat

- Learned about vision for the future for Oregon and Washington.
- Learned that developing the workforce is a key concern in the next 5 to 10 years.
- Learned that there are amazing analogies to playing to where the puck is going. We need to play to where we are next needed.
Today’s Sessions
Your Important Take Aways