

**NIHB Public Health Policy and Programs Department  
Meeting Summary**

**Violence Prevention Convening Sessions**

**Session #2**

**May 20, 2020, 11:00 AM-2:00 PM EST; May 21, 2020, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM EST; June 10,  
2020, 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM EST**

**Virtual (Zoom)**

*Convening and Report hosted and prepared by:* National Indian Health Board (Nina Martin, Public Health Project Coordinator, Public Health Policy and Programs Department)

***Participant Engagement by Area<sup>1</sup>:***

- Alaska: 1
- Albuquerque: 1
- California: 2
- Great Plains: 1
- Navajo: 1
- Phoenix: 2
- Portland: 1
- Tucson: 1

***Non-Participant Attendees:***

- Laura Kollar, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Science Officer)
- Nina Martin, National Indian Health Board (Host)
- Theda New Breast, Native Wellness Institute (Facilitator)
- Joann WuShortt, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Science Officer)
- Sara Zdunek, National Indian Health Board (Notetaker)

***Summary:*** 10 individuals representing Tribal and community-based organizations participated in second series of facilitated discussion and presentations. All attendees participated in the earlier one-and-a-half day convening in April 2020. One facilitator from the Native Wellness Institute, two staff from the National Indian Health Board (NIHB), and two partners from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) were present. NIHB selected participants based on their experience working in Tribal violence prevention and response. This is the second in a series of three convening sessions to understand key issues, facilitators, barriers, and potential pathways to address violence prevention in Indian Country. The information provided in this report is a summary of the individual conversations shared by participants.

***Notes (If needed):*** Due to time considerations, NIHB modified this convening to occur over three four-hour sessions on May 20, May 21, and June 10. In the first and second sessions (May 20 and 21) attendees participated in two group discussion sessions. In the third session (June 10), the group shared presentations describing each attendee's work and the current issues and challenges

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<sup>1</sup> Participant names have been withheld for confidentiality.

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they face. They also discussed preparations for the final presentation to the Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC). At the end of each session the group closed with reflections.

Across the three sessions, the group discussed barriers to preventing violence, strategies for violence prevention and response they have observed, and strengths of Tribes to prevent violence. The group raised several barriers, including restrictive funding, the focus on violence response, and engaging the community. Multiple participants commented on the difficulty of creating and sustaining prevention programs with short-term or fixed frequency (for example, one-time) grants. Grant scope and structure was also a common issue raised by participants. One described that the majority of the funding the Tribes she works with receive are for response and not for primary prevention. Another described an experience with a past prevention grant in which her own community members were not qualified to work under the grant because they did not meet the education requirements, though they were doing similar work in their community. Challenges in engaging community members and Tribal leadership were also expressed by multiple participants. Two participants shared that they struggle to have community members attend meetings or events. Several also discussed the challenges faced in preventing violence when those in positions of authority are violence perpetrators.

We asked the participants to share current or past programs for violence prevention, and what types of programs they would be interested in seeing in future. Several participants described working with batterer prevention programs and the positive impacts they have. When asked what program formats they use or would want, participants shared examples of programs centered on sharing cultural knowledge and traditions. Another participant shared about a coalition of community members that was created to provide oversight for local legal issues. A few participants shared their thoughts on what identity means and how to connect to members within a community with diverse language backgrounds, spiritual traditions, or cultural practices. Many participants expressed that men are a key group to engage for effective violence prevention.

***Evaluation Results:*** Participants were asked several questions about Session #2's content, presentation, and opportunities for improvement. Seven individuals provided evaluation feedback. Almost all "somewhat agreed" ( $n = 3$ , 43%) or "strongly agreed" ( $n = 3$ , 43%) that this session helped them understand more about the barriers and facilitators to violence prevention. Almost all reported they "somewhat agreed" ( $n = 2$ , 29%) or "strongly agreed" ( $n = 4$ , 57%) that the session helped them connect with others working in violence prevention. All agreed that the information discussed in this session was relevant. Overall, most respondents agreed that the facilitator was knowledgeable, responsible, and respectful of cultural beliefs. Participants indicated that time was and conversation pacing was better managed this session. All participants indicated they were "somewhat" ( $n = 2$ , 40%) or "extremely" satisfied ( $n = 3$ , 60%) with Session #2. In the free response section, participants indicated they would like more time to continue these conversations, and asked about the possibility of meeting in person once it is safe to do so.

### ***Next Steps/Follow Up:***

- Conduct Session #3 in October 2020 (Date to be determined)

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***Acknowledgement:*** Development and production of these convening sessions was made possible through funding from CDC to the National Indian Health Board under Cooperative Agreement OT18-1802, Strengthening the Public Health System and Services Through National Partnerships. The content of these convening sessions is solely the responsibility of NIHB and does not necessarily represent the official position of CDC.

***Attachment:***

- Violence Prevention Convening Session #2 Agenda

## Agenda – Session #2 | May 20-21, 2020 | Virtual

Version 2 | May 12, 2020

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Key session goals:

- Understand protective factors, barriers, and gaps to preventing violence

Time	Activity
<b>DAY 1</b>	
11:00-11:15am	Opening prayer and welcome
11:15-11:30am	Overview of Session 2 and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Format and expectations</li><li>• Recap of Session #1</li><li>• Introductions (if needed)</li></ul>
11:30-1:00pm	Discussion #1: “Current strategies to prevent and address violence”
1:00-1:15pm	Break
1:15-2:00pm	Reflection and closing
<b>DAY 2</b>	
11:00-11:15am	Opening prayer and recap of Day #1
11:15am-12:45pm	Discussion #2: “Understanding barriers, gaps, and strengths to prevent violence”
12:45-2:00pm	Lunch
2:00-3:15pm	Self-presentations (continuation from Session #1)
3:15-3:30pm	Break
3:30-4:30pm	Synthesizing our conversations for Session #3
4:30-4:45pm	Break
4:45-5:15pm	Summary and wrap up