



August 12, 2024

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to share some important tools to help you address climate change, associated health risks, and strategies to address environmental justice (EJ).

While climate change is a growing concern for all, due to higher rates of asthma, heart disease, diabetes, obesity, and dementia within our communities, American Indians and Alaska Natives experience these impacts at much higher rates. These chronic medical conditions put Tribal populations at additional risk of illness and injury as a result of climate change. As hazards associated with climate change become ever more threatening, our communities must take steps to address persistent, extreme heat, flooding, wildfires, and drought.

Preparing health care providers to educate the public and to plan advanced facilities and infrastructure related to climate-related hazards, multiple tools have been implemented at the Federal level to evaluate and assess risk throughout the United States (U.S.).

The links that follow provide a good starting place to sample useful Federal climate change and health risk abatement tools:

- [Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Health Care Facilities Toolkit | U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit;](#)
- [Heat & Health Tracker | Tracking | NCEH | CDC;](#)
- [Federal Flood Standard Support Tool;](#)
- [FEMA National Risk Index;](#) and
- [EJ Screen: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool | U.S. EPA.](#)

These tools and websites offer great planning and sustainability information to help your Tribe or Urban Indian Organization advance towards mitigating the effects of climate change.

Sincerely,

Roselyn Tso
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Roselyn Tso
Director