



## **Tribal Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Project Overview**

***March 2018***

The following provides an overview of the Tribal MAT Project as part of the California MAT Expansion Project. The below list of programs and services is not final and DHCS may approve or develop additional projects as necessary.

For additional information regarding the Tribal MAT Project and CA MAT Expansion Project:

- Visit: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/State-Targeted-Response-to-Opioid-Crisis-Grant.aspx>
- Contact us at [DHCSMATExpansion@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:DHCSMATExpansion@dhcs.ca.gov)

A major focus of the State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis grant is the Tribal MAT Project, which is designed to meet the specific prevention, treatment, and recovery needs of California's Tribal and Urban American Indian and Alaskan Native communities. DHCS is implementing the following Tribal MAT Project programs that are inclusive of Tribal and Urban Indian values, culture, and treatments:

### **Project ECHO**

DHCS has partnered with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) to implement Project ECHO to substantially improve MAT access for Tribal and Urban Indian communities, increase the number of total Tribal and Urban Indian waived prescribers, provide culturally sensitive treatments, expand integrated MAT services for Tribal and Urban Indian communities, expand overdose prevention services through naloxone, and provide training and technical assistance to stakeholders.

Project ECHO will include the implementation and use of a Needs Assessment to Urban Indian and Tribal providers to determine training and technical assistance needs, hold monthly Tribal MAT ECHO clinics for waived prescribers, and provide distance and/or face-to-face training and technical assistance to increase prescriber skills in delivering Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment services.

## **Needs Assessment**

UCLA is partnering with the University of Southern California to perform a statewide Needs Assessment of Tribal and Urban Indian communities to increase access to and availability of MAT services by identifying the geographical gaps in treatment, prevention, and recovery services.

The Needs Assessment will be conducted, in part, through California Hub and Spoke System tribal stakeholder meetings, which includes discussions regarding training and technical assistance needs, survey of current services provided, and examination of cultural adaptation necessary for effective delivery of MAT-related services.

Data collection for the Tribal Needs Assessment will additionally occur through provider and key stakeholder site visits, which includes working with consultants from Tribal and Urban Indian communities to conduct visits with key providers statewide, particularly in rural counties, to provide information regarding MAT and develop interest among providers for delivery of MAT services.

## **Suicide Prevention**

The Suicide Prevention project includes the development of a community-based, youth and family services consortium in Humboldt County. The consortium will collaborate with Tribal partners to develop a culturally-informed system that provides Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) treatment, suicide prevention, and intensive case management and community engagement for Native American youth and their families.

Services will additionally include the development of informational listings for existing youth and family OUD and behavioral health services, including county, Tribal and Urban Indian organizations, and Indian Health Programs in Humboldt County. The project will also include the creation of an on-call crisis response line for all Tribal and Urban Indian youth and families receiving services at the consortium, as well as a referral system for youth and families to connect with local juvenile justice, child welfare, school, and Tribal and Urban Indian agencies and organizations.

## **Tele-MAT with Academic Detailing**

Tele-MAT with Academic Detailing includes tele-medicine support, training, webinars, physician consultation and technical assistance and training services, and OUD medical and psychiatric treatment services to Tribal and Urban Indian Health program patients throughout the State.

## **MAT Champions with Local Opioid Coalitions and Telehealth Infrastructure**

Tribal and Urban Indian MAT Champions will connect DHCS, Indian stakeholders, and MAT providers to develop partnerships and facilitate technical assistance and training services. Principal components of the project include the distribution of naloxone and MAT training materials to Tribal and Urban Indian entities.

MAT Champions will also assist with the operationalization and monitoring of Tribal and Urban Indian Local Opioid Coalitions to augment the network of existing coalitions, as well as fund Tribal and Urban Indian entities to participate in existing or newly

developed Local Opioid Coalitions. In addition, MAT Champions will receive funding to develop their telehealth infrastructure to interface with UCLA's Project ECHO and other tele-medicine systems.