



**PREPARING FOR A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**  
TRIBAL LEGAL PREPAREDNESS PROJECT  
[www.tlpp.pitt.edu](http://www.tlpp.pitt.edu)

# **TRAINING MANAGER GUIDE**

## **USING THE LAW TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID CRISIS IN INDIAN COUNTRY**

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## Introduction and Acknowledgements

This guide has been prepared by the Tribal Legal Preparedness Project (TLPP) at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health Center for Public Health Practice in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Center for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support's Public Health Law Program.

TLPP gratefully acknowledges the assistance and input received in the development of this training from persons in local, state, Tribal, and federal public health and emergency management agencies, and in other organizations.

## Disclaimer

Training materials are for instructional use only and are not intended as a substitute for professional legal or other advice. While every effort has been made to verify the accuracy of these materials, legal authorities and requirements may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and change over time. Always seek the advice of an attorney or other qualified professional with any questions you may have regarding a legal matter.

## Background

Public health emergencies are matters of serious concern for every community. Therefore, it is critical for all jurisdictions, including Tribal Nations, to have the capacity to effectively respond to these threats. Legal preparedness is an important component of public health capacity, as the law is the foundation on which public health preparedness is based. Legal preparedness requires effective authority to respond to the crisis, coordinate response across jurisdictions, resolve disputes, and provide recovery assistance after the crisis has passed.

As sovereign entities, Tribal governments have the authority to create their own laws, including those related to public health and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. Many Tribes have not yet exercised their public health authority by creating agencies or developing laws. Navigating emergency response issues in Indian Country can be challenging, as jurisdictional issues often arise between federal, state, local, and Tribal governments due to the complex history surrounding delivery of public health services to Tribal communities. Thus, legal preparedness for Tribal Nations is vital for public health response and emergency management.

To address the need for improved public health legal capacity and infrastructure in Indian Country, four trainings were held from 2012 – 2016 that involved numerous Tribal Nations and Tribal partners. The audience for these trainings first focused on the Tribal judiciary, but expanded to include a broad array of Tribal public health, emergency response, and legal workforce members. The trainings raised awareness regarding how law can be used to improve public health preparedness and have provided opportunities for the Tribal community to make important connections with nonprofit organizations and public health officials from all levels of government.

Since 2016, TLPP has engaged Tribal Nations around the country to enhance Tribal legal preparedness capacity. Listening sessions held during the first year with Tribal Nations provided valuable information regarding Tribal-specific emergency preparedness concerns, as well as the best platform for Tribes to access training resources. Four online micro modules specific to Tribal legal preparedness were developed in 2017, as well as a Resource Library with relevant emergency preparedness materials.

During the listening sessions, the opioid crisis was identified as a preparedness concern in many Tribal communities. In response, the TLPP developed this training to assist Tribal Nations interested in enhancing their legal preparedness capacity related to the opioid crisis.

For more information on TLPP, visit [tlpp.pitt.edu](http://tlpp.pitt.edu).

## Overview

This training has been designed to assist Tribal public health professionals with enhancing their public health legal preparedness capacity and better coordinate emergency preparedness, response, and recovery activities across jurisdictions. Previous trainings, which serve as the foundation for this training, have proven to be a valuable resource to develop a Tribal workforce prepared for the next public health emergency. The trainings have also provided opportunities for the Tribal community to make important connections with nonprofit organizations and public health officials from all levels of government – other Tribes, county, state, and federal. These connections are critical to the success of preparedness efforts.

### Training Content

During this 3-hour training, participants will learn about the basics of public health legal emergency preparedness, legal preparedness for Tribal Nations, and the role of law to address the opioid crisis in Indian Country. Various federal, state, and Tribal laws related to inappropriate prescribing and use of prescription opioids, as well as harm reduction strategies, will be described so that participants understand how the law can be used as a tool to combat the opioid crisis. In addition, participants will view a demonstration of TLPP resources available to assist Tribal Nations in strengthening relationships and enhancing capacity. At the end of the training, participants will be invited to share their experiences and stories related to the opioid crisis in their communities.

### Learning Objectives

- Explain legal preparedness for Tribal Nations
- Describe the complex nature of the opioid overdose crisis across Indian Country
- Discuss how to use legal actions to respond to the opioid crisis

### Training Audience

The intended audience includes Tribal public health practitioners, Tribal judges, Tribal legal workforce members, Tribal leaders, and Tribal emergency management. This training is intended for individuals involved in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

## Preparing for the Training

### Initial Steps

It is essential to ensure “buy-in” from the Tribal Community. To gain interest and involvement, representatives from the Tribal Nations must be contacted as early in the planning process as possible. In an effort to avoid conflicts with dates on which potential speakers and participants might be otherwise engaged, it is critical to consider Tribal calendars as well as scheduled meetings or conferences in which public health experts might be involved. Specific identification and engagement of the speaker is one of the first tasks to be accomplished.

The Training Manager is responsible for:

- Identifying a date, making sure to avoid already scheduled events, meetings, and conferences.

- Securing a venue. The size of the venue depends on the number of training attendees. The training space should be large enough to accommodate all attendees, ideally with classroom style seating- tables/desks as well as chairs.
- Identifying and securing the speaker.
- Identifying training attendees and facilitating registration.
- Providing snacks and/or drinks, if appropriate.
- Printing/providing material to attendees. Name tags or table tents are recommended if the attendees are not familiar with each other.
- Finalizing all training details.

### **Training Material**

Training materials should be provided to training attendees at the training in a folder, on a flash drive, or in an online shared folder. If unable to provide the material via one of the aforementioned methods, the material should be mailed or emailed to attendees. If a folder is not provided to attendees the day of the training, material should be distributed to the attendees prior to the training. If providing a folder, note paper can also be included.

At a minimum, materials to be included in the folder are:

- Agenda
- Speaker biography
- List of resources
- Copies of the presentation given during the training
- Evaluation

A template agenda has been created. Once a training date, location, and the speaker have been identified, please update this information on the template. Suggested break time is included in the template agenda. One ten to fifteen minute break should be provided every one to two hours. If attendees have come some distance for the training, give suggestions on places to have lunch or dinner that are within relevant per-diem rates. At the designated start time, the Training Manager or designated speaker should introduce himself or herself and the training. Typically, more than one member of the planning committee should give an introduction. Other distinguished officials or sponsors can give welcoming comments to help set the right tone of the training.

The speaker biography should be provided to training attendees. A template speaker biography handout has been provided.

This session has an accompanying list of resources referenced during the session, as well as other relevant resources. Training Managers are encouraged to invite the speaker to add additional resources for inclusion. TLPP has curated a list of additional relevant resources. These resources can be found in the Resource Library at [tlpp.pitt.edu](http://tlpp.pitt.edu).

A slide template has been developed to assist the speaker with planning their presentation. During the main training session, please demonstrate the TLPP website ([tlpp.pitt.edu](http://tlpp.pitt.edu)). If internet access is not available, screen shots of the website are provided. After the presentation, invite training participants to share their experiences and stories related to the opioid crisis. When utilizing these template slides, it is important that the attribution information included in each slide set is preserved. Likewise, the slide set contains an acknowledgement slide at the end recognizing the value of the grant award to the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Center for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support's Public Health Law Program, through a sub-award from ChangeLab Solutions. This attribution and acknowledgement information may be updated, but the original information

should be retained. A complete set of slides by topic should be provided to each presenter. However, because the speaker is a professional in their field, they may wish to add material to the slides, or change slide content. Further, since the speaker likely has a range of experience developing PowerPoint slides, offering format standards for PowerPoint slides can be very important to ensuring the quality of the program. The following standards are supported by the University of Pittsburgh Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education and may be included in material that is disseminated to the speaker to assist them with the development of their material:

- A. Think of Your Slide as an **Outline**
  - ✓ Slides *support* your presentation; they should not *be* your presentation
  - ✓ Use simple, brief statements to highlight major points, rather than blocks of text or complete sentences
  - ✓ Use no more than 9 lines on a slide, about 9 words per line
- B. Use the Established Format and Color Scheme
  - ✓ The templates' type style, size, and colors for headings, subheadings, body text, and highlights have been effective in other settings
  - ✓ Maintain this format so your audience had a consistent guide to follow
- C. Use Type Effectively
  - ✓ Use various styles to differentiate and accentuate text
  - ✓ Use color for emphasis and do not underline or shadow text
  - ✓ Use all capital letters to emphasize a particular point
- D. Use a Legible Font/Type Size
  - ✓ Minimum type size is **24** point for easy viewing from all locations
  - ✓ Edit text by reducing words or create additional slides
  - ✓ Use a non-serif font such as Arial or Tahoma as the serifs tend to blur on some screens
- E. Using Charts and Graphs
  - ✓ Follow established type and color guidelines
  - ✓ Avoid thin lines
  - ✓ Avoid use of 3-D bar graphs—it can obscure data
  - ✓ Use color rather than patterns to differentiate data
- F. Using Graphics
  - ✓ Choose an image and style of artwork appropriate to your presentation
  - ✓ Use clip art in a small size as a graphic enhancement and use clip art sparingly
  - ✓ Maintain a consistency of style

Finally, to obtain information regarding the perceived quality of the overall training as well as each presenter/presentation, an evaluation should be conducted. A template evaluation has been provided. Ask participants to complete and submit their evaluation prior to leaving the training. To assist in improving this training, please send electronic copies of your evaluations to [t1pp@pitt.edu](mailto:t1pp@pitt.edu). If mailing a copy of the evaluations is preferred, please use this address:

Center for Public Health Practice  
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health  
Attn: Tribal Legal Preparedness Project  
A729 Public Health  
130 DeSoto Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

## Additional Information and Support

Please direct any comments, questions, and suggestions to:

Tina Batra Hershey, JD, MPH  
Associate Director for Law and Policy, Center for Public Health Practice  
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health  
[tbh16@pitt.edu](mailto:tbh16@pitt.edu)  
412-383-2229

Alyssa Johnston, MPH  
Project Coordinator, Center for Public Health Practice  
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health  
[all134@pitt.edu](mailto:all134@pitt.edu)  
412-383-5026

Tribal Legal Preparedness Project  
[tpp@pitt.edu](mailto:tpp@pitt.edu)

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