American Indian/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) in California have been greatly impacted by the opioid crisis. In order to learn more about the harm affecting reservations, rancherias, families, and homes, CRIHB staff traveled throughout California to speak with Tribal communities. The following illustration represents the voices of Southern California Tribal communities.

**OUR COMMUNITIES NEED:**
- Accessible Native Recovery Centers
- Opioid Education Programs
- More Treatment Options
- Medication Assisted Treatment

**OUR COMMUNITIES NEED SUPPORT FROM:**
- Elders
- Youth
- Tribal Leaders
- All Community Members
- Health Care Professionals

**“We are in need of culturally informed practitioners in the urban and rural regions.”**

**“People need more options. There needs to be a “one-stop-shop” at each clinic or reservation. People need to be offered all types of services in one centralized location to help them deal with their addiction.”**

**“There needs to be more outlets in the community so people don’t run straight to opioids. They need to be able to talk to someone about their problems.”**

**“Trade walks help youth remember roots, gives them something to be involved in and an accomplishment to be proud of.”**
Healing Our California Tribal Communities: A Strategic Plan to Address Tribal Opioid Use

California Tribal communities have been greatly impacted by the current opioid crisis. This epidemic has strained families, communities, health, and public safety. While there are no easy fixes or solutions, there are proven methods to help those addicted and prevent others from succumbing to the powerful draw of opioids.

Local coalitions, Tribal leaders, communities, organizations, and other key stakeholders such as CRIHB play a vital role in developing and implementing the environmental, individual, and societal factors to permanently shift the opioid tide.

Based on current statewide statistics, the results from the SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) conducted by CRIHB Opioid Program Staff and the lived experiences and stories of California Tribes, five major key focus areas have been identified as having the greatest importance in addressing the opioid epidemic in California Tribal communities:

1. Prevention
   a. Community Education
   b. Youth Education
   c. Health Care Provider Education
   d. Medication Safety Education
2. Expanding Treatment and Recovery Services
3. Expanding Partnerships
4. Engaging Tribal Leadership
5. Expanding Substance Use Policies
   a. Community
   b. Clinical Setting

To help guide efforts in developing an opioid response plan for California Tribal communities, the full version of the strategic plan can be accessed at https://crihb.org/ctec/#opioidstrategicplan

For questions or comments regarding the Strategic Plan, please contact the CRIHB Research and Public Health Department at 916-929-9761 or rph@crihb.org.

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