

State and Community-Based Models  
for Addressing Health Disparities



# Tribal Sovereignty and Structure

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# Tribes as Governments

- ▶ US Constitution Commerce Clause:  
Congress shall have the power To regulate  
Commerce with foreign Nations, and among  
the several States, and with the Indian Tribes
- ▶ Supreme Court Decision Cherokee vs. Georgia  
(1831)
- ▶ Numerous Treaties, statutes and regulations



# Native American Health Disparities

- ▶ Inadequate Access to Health Services
- ▶ Underfunded Discretionary Domestic Program
- ▶ Chronic Disease Conditions with Excess Morbidity and Mortality
  - Diabetes
  - Cancer
  - Substance Abuse

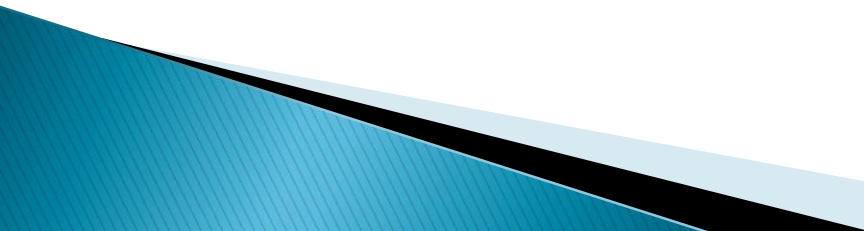


# Innovative uses of Tribal Sovereignty

## California Tribal Medicaid Administrative Activities program

- Tribal Health Programs reimbursed to provide Outreach and Education for Medi-Cal and CHIP
- Reimbursed as Certified Public Expenditure
- Simplified Reporting
- Coordinated through a Tribal Organization
- Reimbursements to date equal 1.5 million

# Emerging Opportunity to use Sovereignty to Reduce Disparities

- ▶ California Bridge to Health Reform Wavier
  - ▶ Medicaid Expansion Population (> 133% FPL)
  - ▶ Tribal/Federal Match under ISDA
  - ▶ Certified Public Expenditure
  - ▶ IHS Eligible Individuals only
  - ▶ Waving of State Wideness and Comparability
  - ▶ Benefit Package that is Culturally Competent
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# Questions?

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