Community Engagement Planning Tools and Resources

*Note it is integral to consider ways in which you can incorporate local tribal knowledge, traditions, and lifeways when utilizing these community engagement tools and resources.

Gathering of Native Americans

Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) is a culture-based planning process where community members gather to address community-identified issues. It uses an interactive approach that empowers and supports AI/AN tribes. The GONA approach reflects AI/AN cultural values, traditions, and spiritual practices.

GONA TOOLKIT
https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/gona-goan-toolkit.pdf

GONA Curriculum and Facilitator Guide
https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/gona-goan-curriculum-facilitator-guide.pdf

Fresno Indian Health Board- youth GONA Example
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=blHMHWaSpmA&feature=youtu.be

Community Readiness

The Community Readiness Model (CRM) was developed at Colorado State University. The National Center for Community and Organizational Readiness at CSU was formed to assist communities and tribes in using the model. The CRM aids in assessing the readiness a community to address specific problems (i.e. youth substance misuse). The CRM identifies dimensions, such as leadership involvement, knowledge of the problem, levels of community readiness and can be easily scored by the community.

National Center for Community and Organizational Readiness
https://nccr.colostate.edu

Community Tool Box
https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/overview/models-for-community-health-and-development/community-readiness/main

Community Readiness: A Handbook for Change
https://www.ndhealth.gov/injury/ND_Prevention_Tool_Kit/docs/Community_Readiness_Handbook.pdf

Community Readiness Webinar OJJDP Tribal Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5f2Qt04-Lzw

Community Workshops, Meetings, Assessments

There are a variety of other avenues that can be utilized in working toward community engagement. Formal workshops, meetings and assessments can be very beneficial to the process. Also, utilizing community specific traditional gatherings may provide an organic structure for community engagement activities. Please use your Technical Assistance Specialist as a resource to further explore and brainstorm community engagement processes and formats.

Sustainability Planning Tools and Resources

Planning for sustainability should take place early on in the planning process. Your team should formulate a workgroup to design and plan for future sustainability and engage with program partners and stakeholders to identify opportunities for supportive funding and resources. Create a shared vision to sustain program services and meet regularly to discuss plans and activities. Remember, "sustainability is not synonymous with securing more funds, rather it refers to the capacity of a program to sustain the benefits that it provides." (Mancini and Marek, 2004). Some resources are included here to support team sustainability planning:

OJJDP Tribal Youth Online Learning Resources:

Strategic Action Planning Talking Circle 1: Sustainability
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nofME2bjqs&list=PLEYl_nJGyPlF23t4QVc2EnWb75qAouWCX&index=2

Strategic Planning Toolkit Session 9: Planning for Sustainability
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQWUqhnz88g&list=PLEYl_nJGyPlH6TQxvxbGW6QzKVt71xSjt&index=11

Community Toolbox, University of Kansas
A free online toolkit to support sustaining work and initiatives with an outline and examples.
https://ctb.ku.edu/en/sustaining-work-or-initiative

Program Sustainability Assessment Tool, Washington University in St. Louis
An online tool and resource to understand, assess, plan, and review resources to support program sustainability.
https://sustaintool.org/

Creating Sustainable and Effective Tribal Criminal Justice Systems
National Institutes of Justice
https://www.nij.gov/topics/tribal-justice/Pages/criminal-justice-system.aspx

Sources:

1. Mancini et al., Sustaining Community Based Programs for Families: Conceptualization and Measurement, Family Relations Interdisciplinary Journal of Applied Family Science, 2004.