

A PRIMER ON PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES

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CFI International

OVERVIEW

- Public Health Definition and Key Terms
- Public Health Core Functions and Essential Services
- Roles and Responsibilities of a Public Health System
- U.S. Public Health Authorities
- Tribal Public Health
- Public Health Stakeholders
- Public Health Benefits
- A Public Health Approach
- A Tribal Public Health Approach

WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?

PUBLIC HEALTH DEFINITION

- Public health is defined as the ART and SCIENCE of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organized efforts of society (Acheson, WHO)
- Generally, the mission of public health is to provide the maximum health benefit for the largest number of people as well as to fulfill the society's interest in assuring conditions in which people can be healthy. (WHO, IOM)

PUBLIC HEALTH KEY TERMS

- **Health:** state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity
- **Health Care:** prevention, treatment, and management of illness and the preservation of mental and physical well-being through the services offered by medical and allied health professions
- **Health Outcome:** result of a medical condition that directly affects the length and quality of a person's life
- **Epidemiology:** the study of the spread or pattern of sickness in a group of people

PUBLIC HEALTH KEY TERMS

- **Epidemic:** occurrence in a community or region of cases of an illness, specific health-related behavior, or other health-related event clearly in excess of normal expectancy
- **Pandemic:** denoting a disease affecting or attacking the population of an extensive region, country, and continent
- **Population Health:** approach to health that aims to improve the health of an entire population

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (IPs)

- Universal Definition
- IPs are the original inhabitants of an area, the descendants of the original inhabitants who are colonized, and those who live in an Indigenous way and are accepted by the Indigenous community.
(UN Secretariat for Indigenous Peoples, 2004)

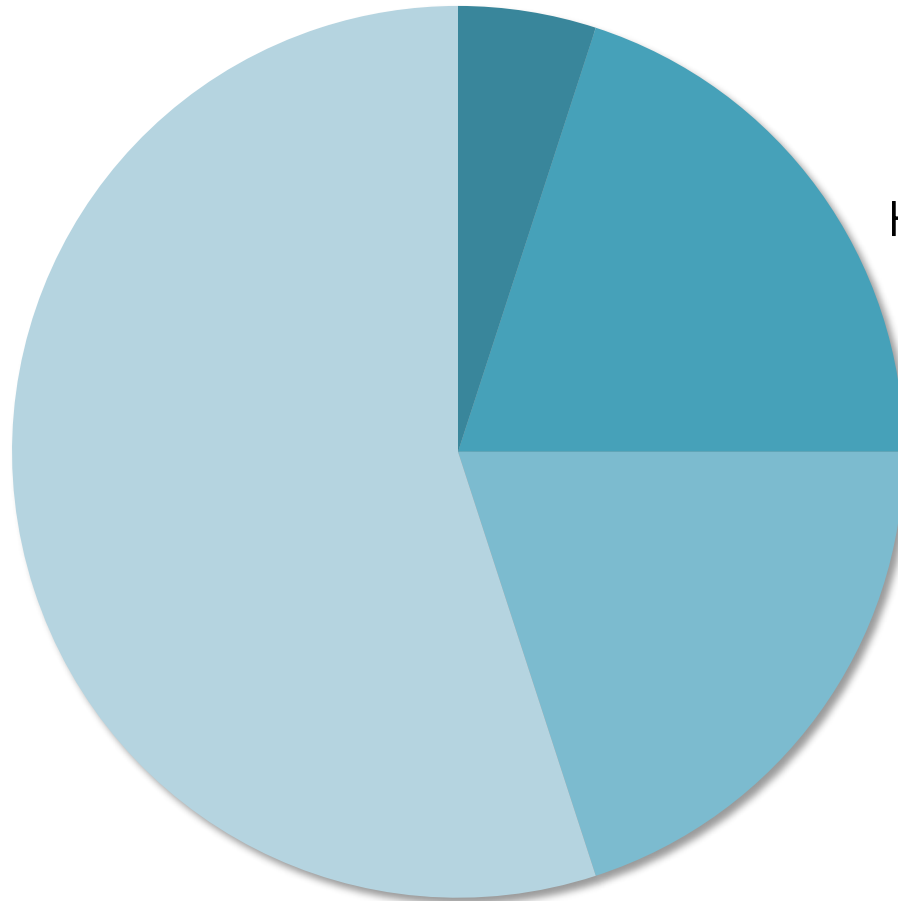
WHAT DETERMINES THE HEALTH OF A POPULATION?

Genes and Biology

Health Behaviors

Society/Societal
Characteristics;
Total Ecology

Medical Care



**WHAT DOES PUBLIC HEALTH
DO?**

THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

- Disease Prevention
- Protection Against Environmental Hazards
- Injury Prevention
- Health Promotion
- Disaster Response and Community Recovery
- Access to Quality Health Care

THREE CORE FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ASSESSMENT

Systematically collect, analyze, and make available information on healthy communities

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Promote the use of a scientific knowledge base in policy and decision making

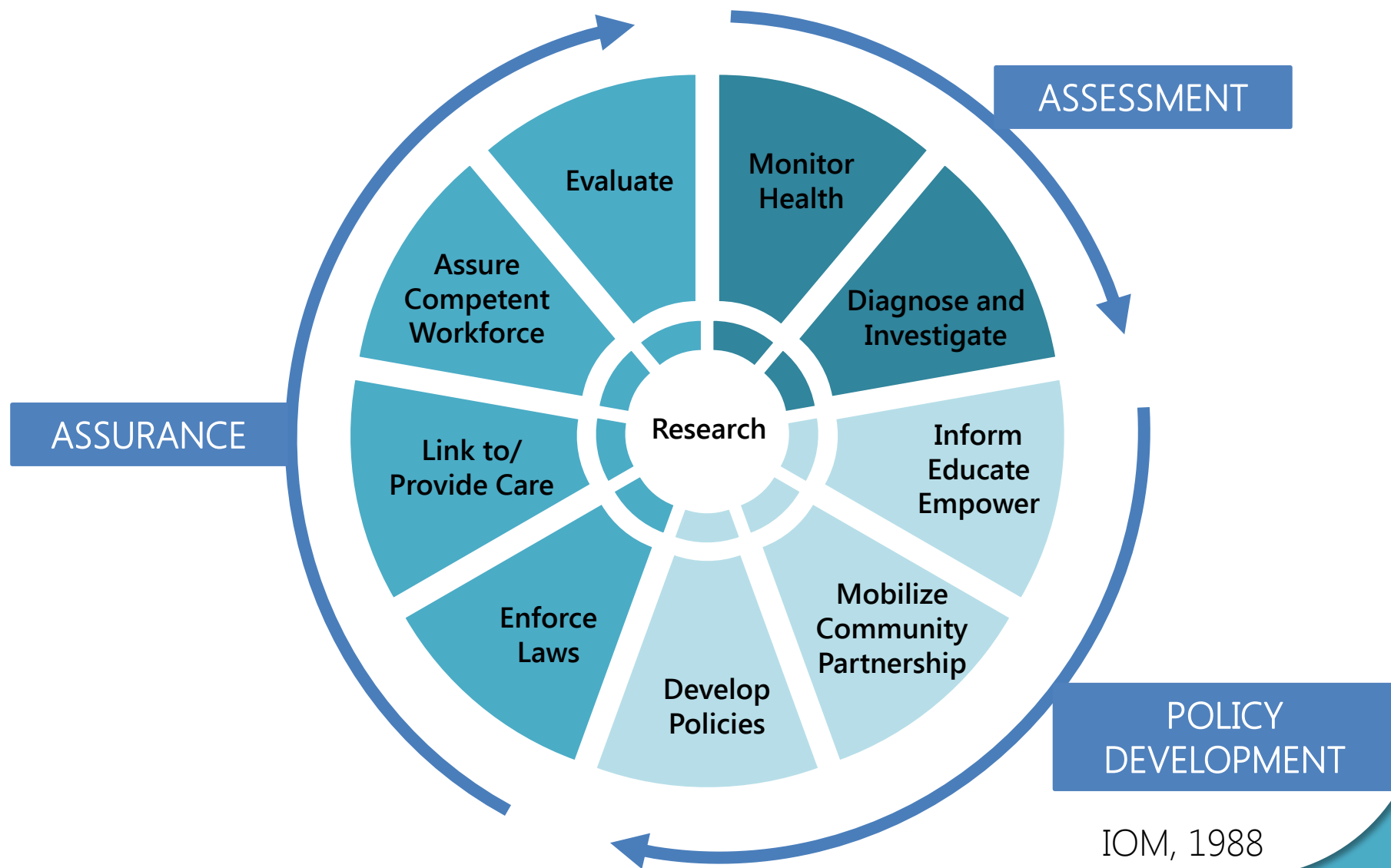
ASSURANCE

Ensure provision of services to those in need

TEN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

1. Monitor Health*
2. Diagnose and Investigate
3. Inform, Educate, Empower
4. Mobilize Community Partnership
5. Develop Policies
6. Enforce Laws
7. Link to/Provide Care*
8. Assure a Competent Workforce
9. Evaluate
10. Research

INTEGRATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH CORE FUNCTIONS AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES



IOM, 1988

**WHO ARE THE LEADING PUBLIC
HEALTH AUTHORITIES?**

U.S. PRIMARY PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- American Public Health Association

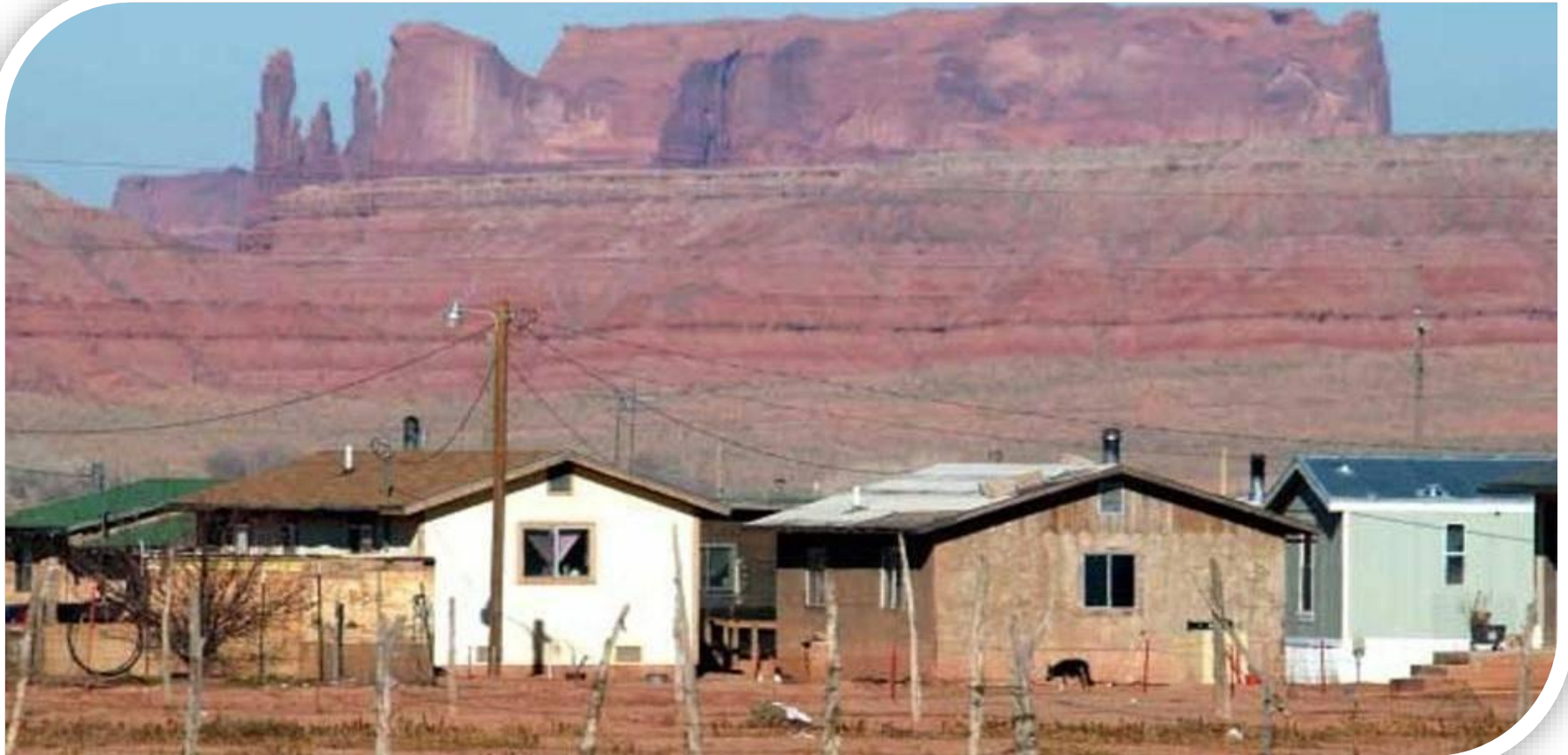
TRIBAL HEALTH: IHS

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (1824)
- Indian Health Service (1954), DHHS



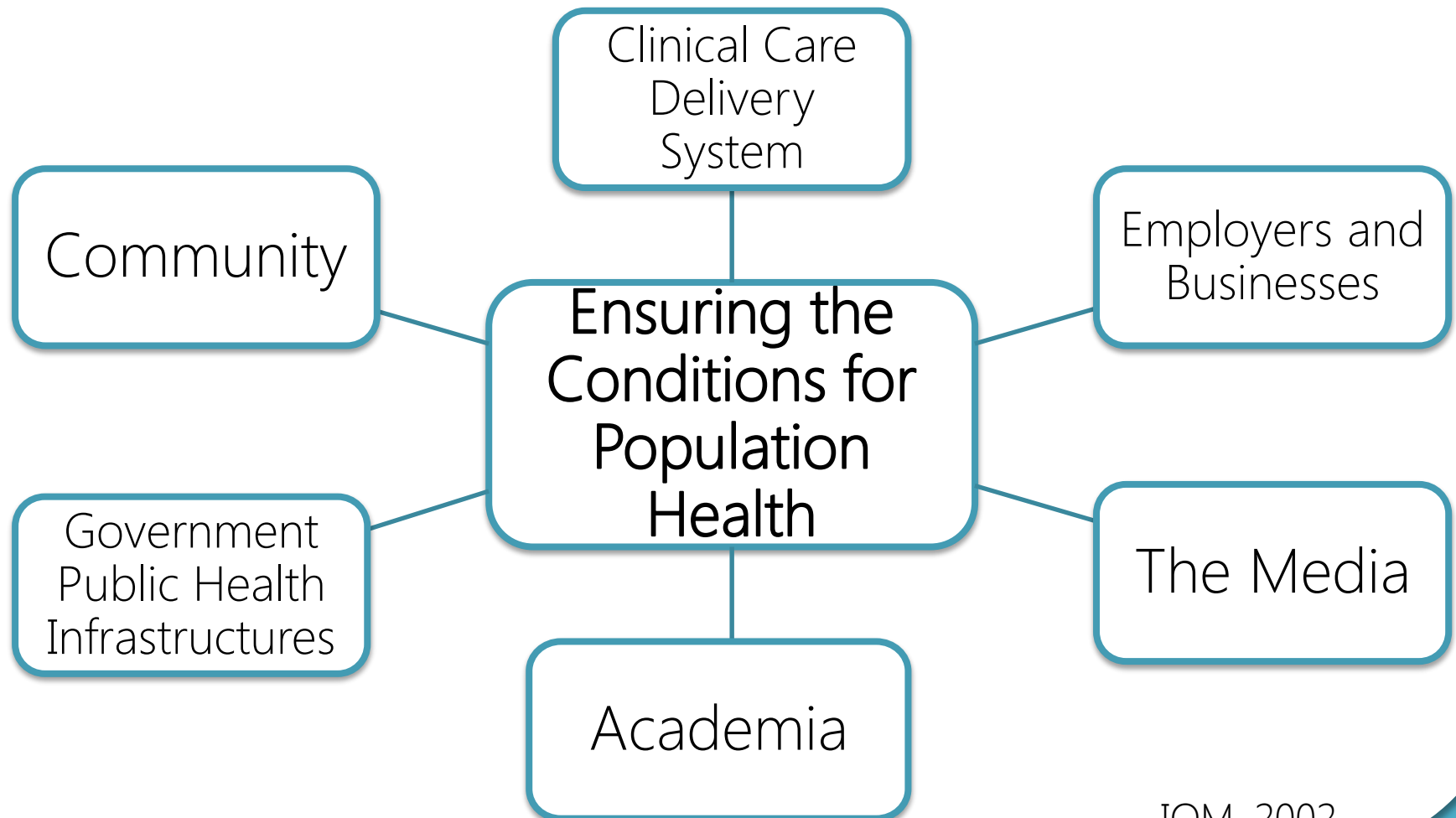
TRIBAL HEALTH: IHS

- Tribal Public Health Department
- Tribal Health Organizations



**WHO ARE PUBLIC HEALTH
STAKEHOLDERS?**

PARTNERS IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM



NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

ORGANIZATION TYPE	EXAMPLE
Professional membership organizations	American Public Health Organization
Associations related to a specific health concern	American Cancer Society
Organizations of citizens focused on health concerns	National Indian Health Board
Foundations that support health projects and influence public policy development	Gates Foundation

MORE PARTNERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Media

- Vehicle for public discourse
- Health education and promotion
- Health communication
- Social Media as catalyst

Employers and Businesses

- Employer-sponsored health insurance programs
- Wellness initiatives and benefits
- Healthy workplaces and communities

Government Agencies

- City Planning
- Education
- Health in all policies

Academia

- Education
- Training
- Research
- Public Service

**HOW DOES PUBLIC HEALTH
BENEFIT US?**

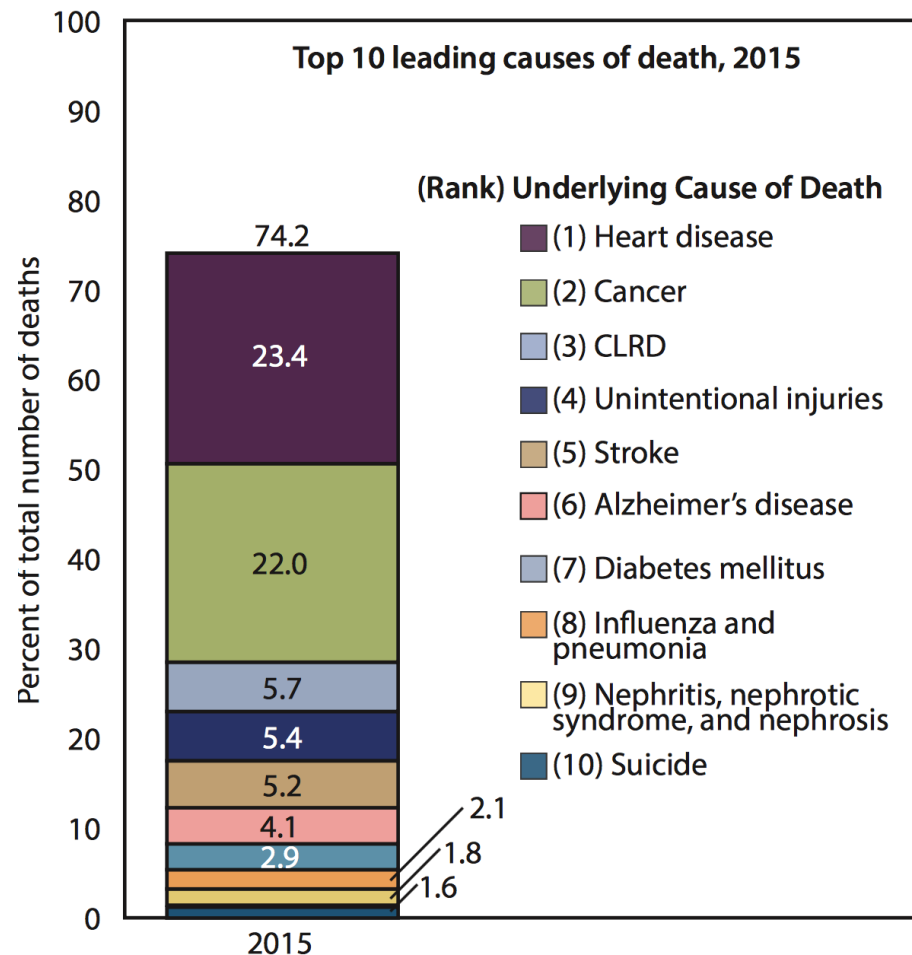
U.S. TOP TEN PUBLIC HEALTH ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE 20TH CENTURY

- Vaccinations/Immunizations
- Safer Workplace
- Safer and Healthier Foods
- Motor Vehicle Safety
- Control of Infectious Disease
- Decline in Death from Heart Disease and Stroke
- Family Planning
- Tobacco as a Health Hazard
- Healthier Mothers and Babies
- Fluoridation of Drinking Water

RECENT EVENTS WITH IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH

- Hurricane Irma (2017)
- Hurricane Harvey (2017)
- Hurricane Matthew (2016)
- Hurricane Sandy (2012)
- Hurricane Katrina (2005)

TOP TEN CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE U.S. (HUS REPORT)

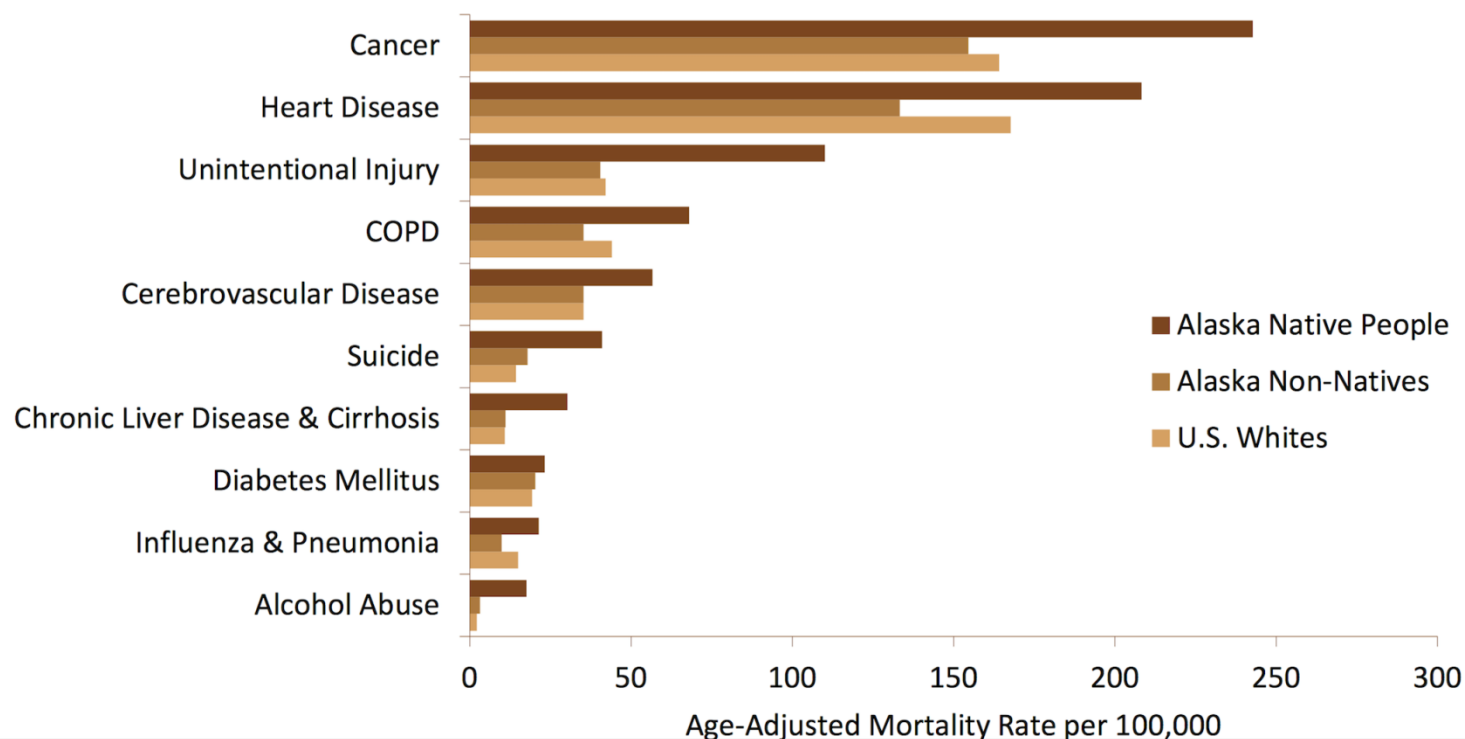


TOP TEN CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG NATIVE AMERICANS

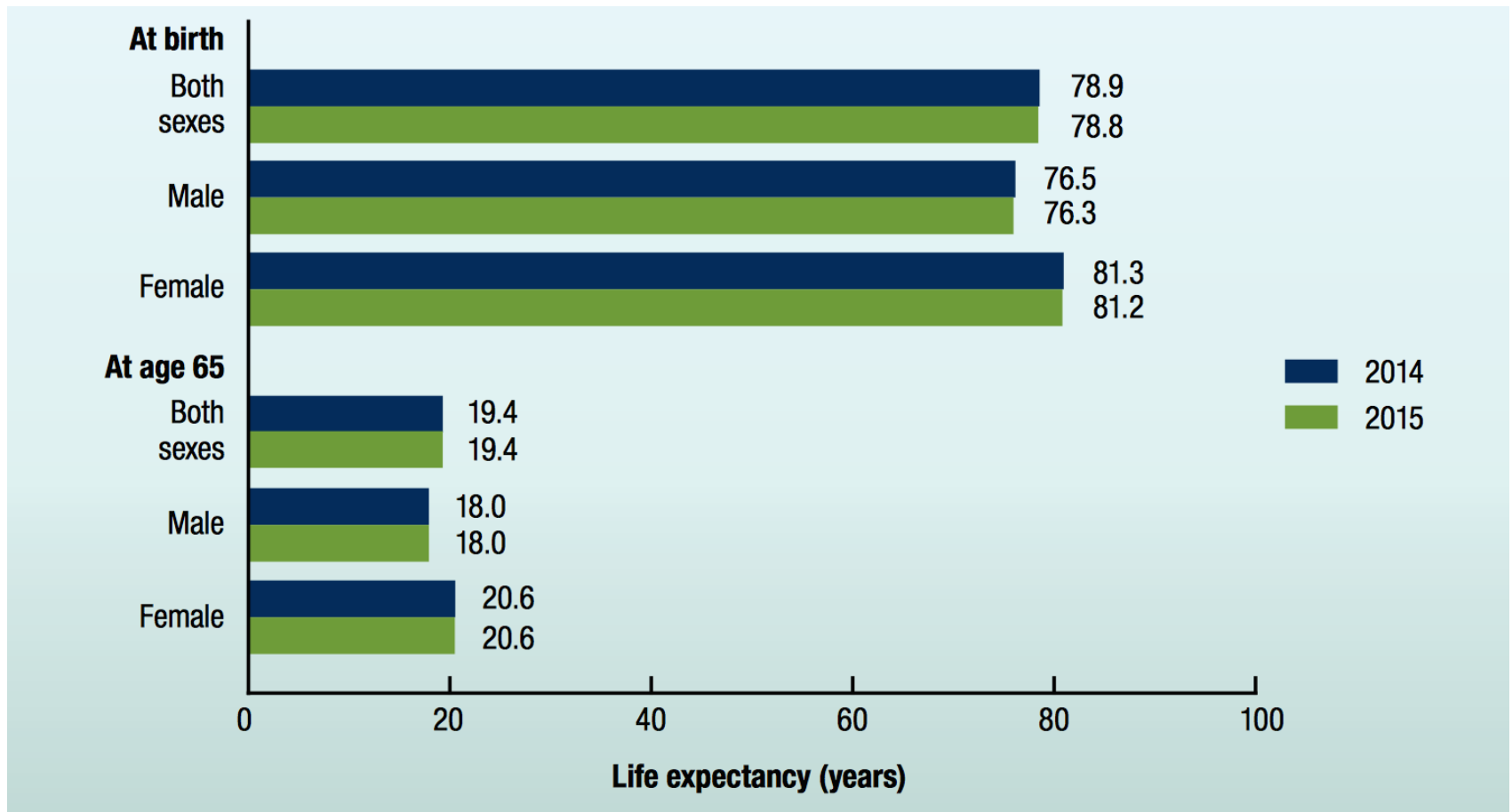
Leading Causes of Death, Alaska Native and Non-Native People and U.S. Whites, 2012-2015

Data Source: Alaska Health Analytics and Vital Records Section; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics

Note: U.S. Whites data are for 2012-2014.



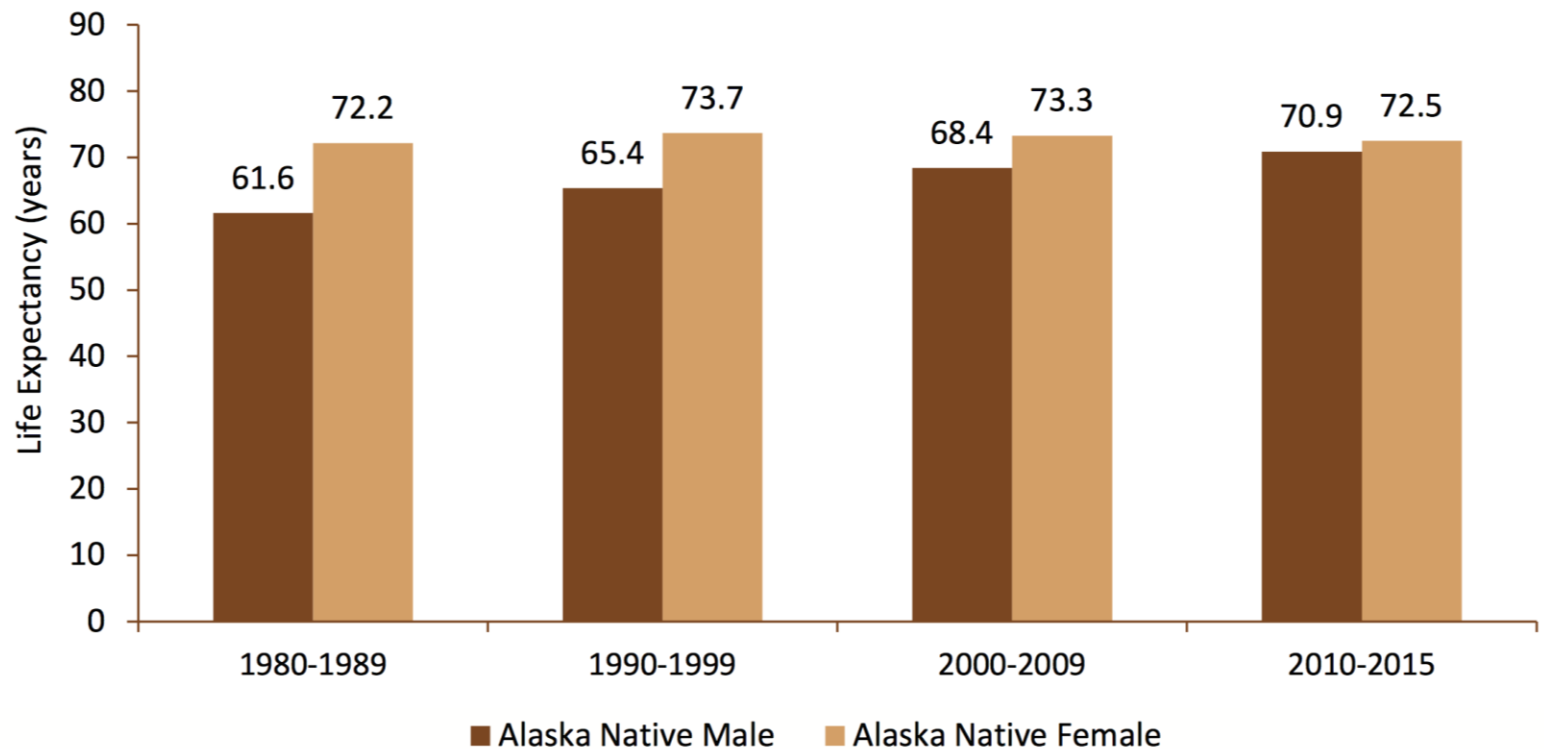
U.S. AVERAGE LIFE EXPENTANCY AT SELECTED AGES BY SEX



AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY AMONG ALASKA NATIVES

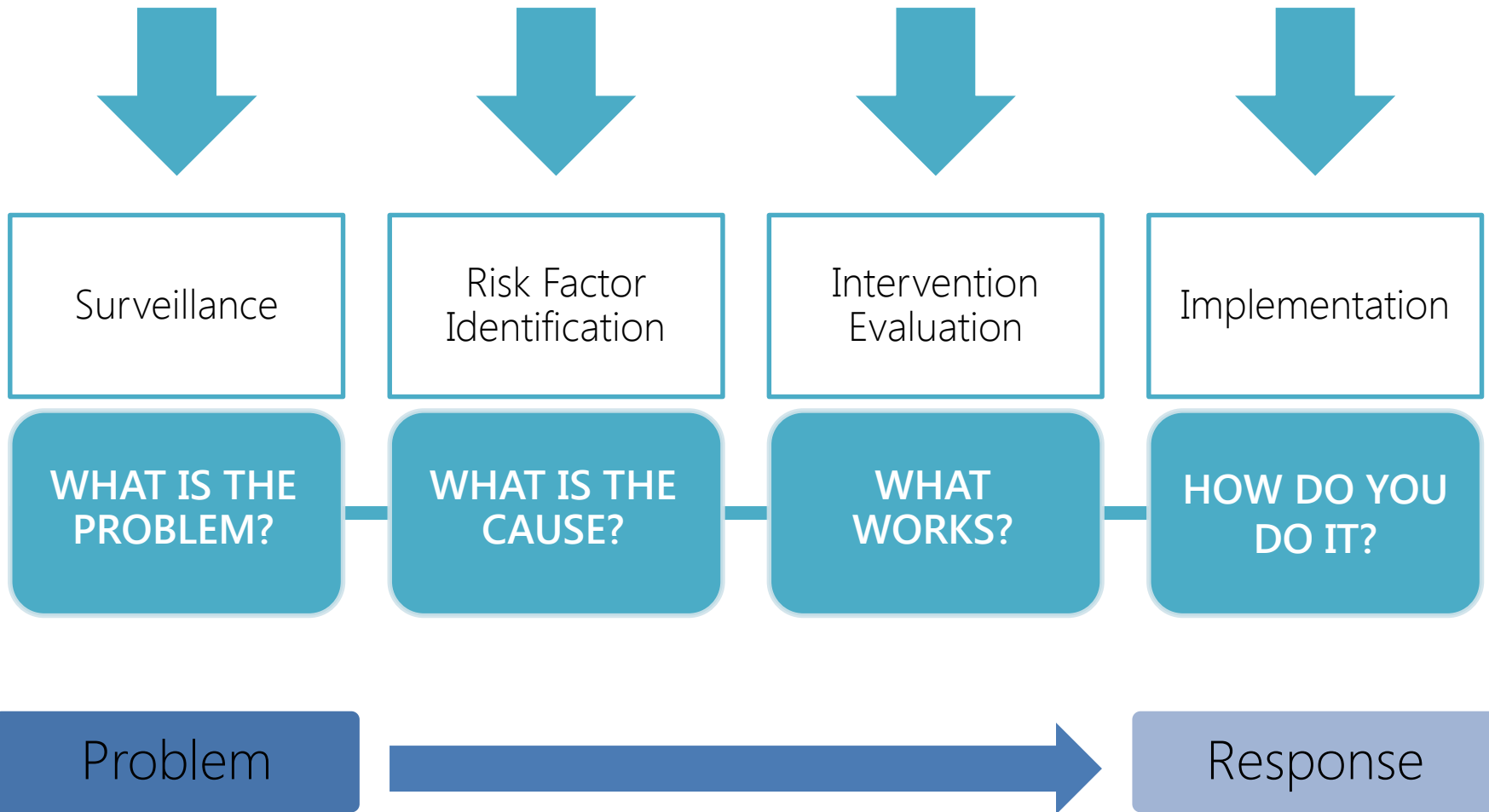
Alaska Native Life Expectancy by Gender 1980-2015

Data Source: Alaska Health Analytics and Vital Records Section; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

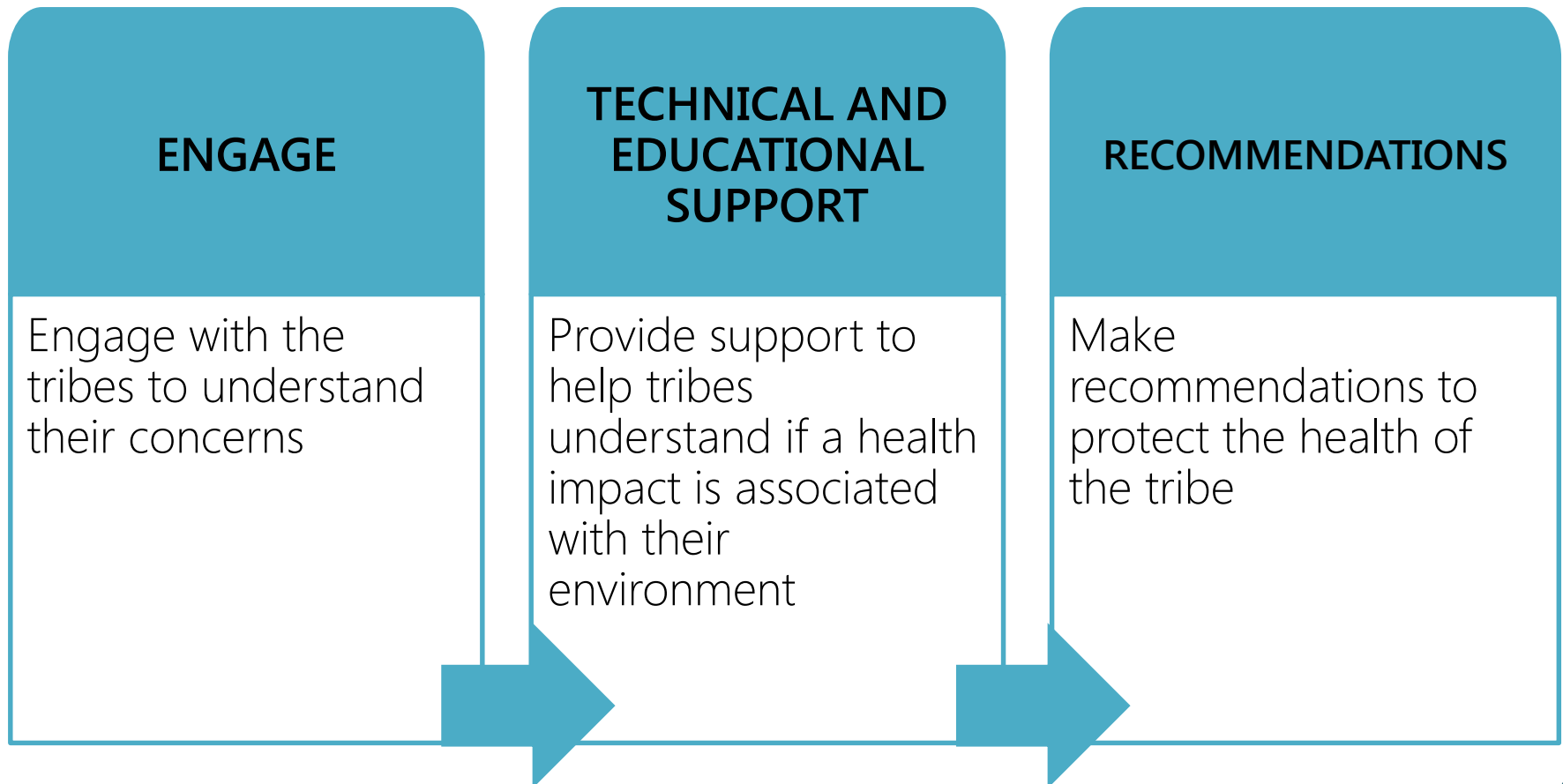


**HOW DOES PUBLIC HEALTH
WORK?**

A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH



ATSDR EXAMPLE: A TRIBAL APPROACH FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

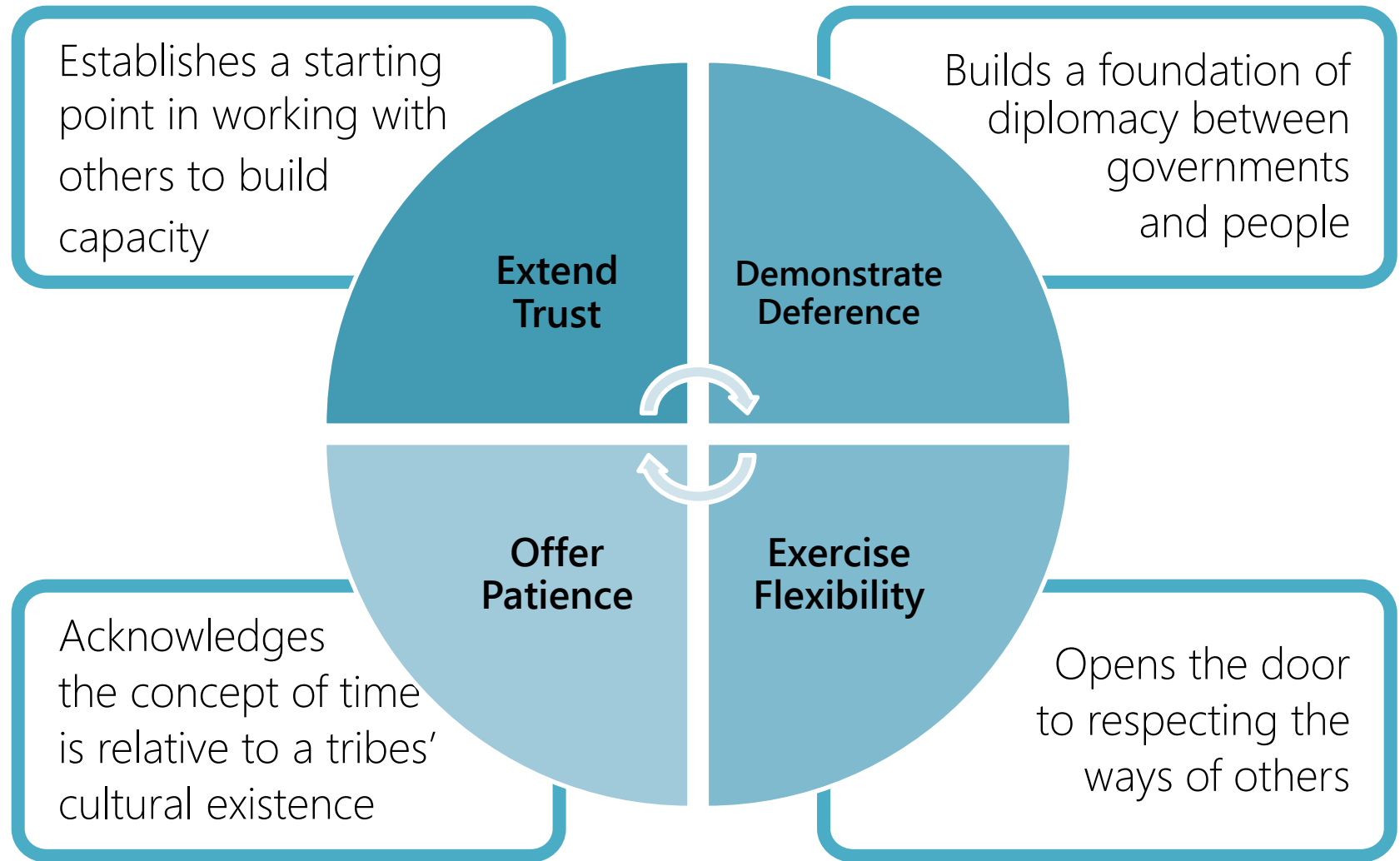




YAKUTAT TLINGIT TRIBE

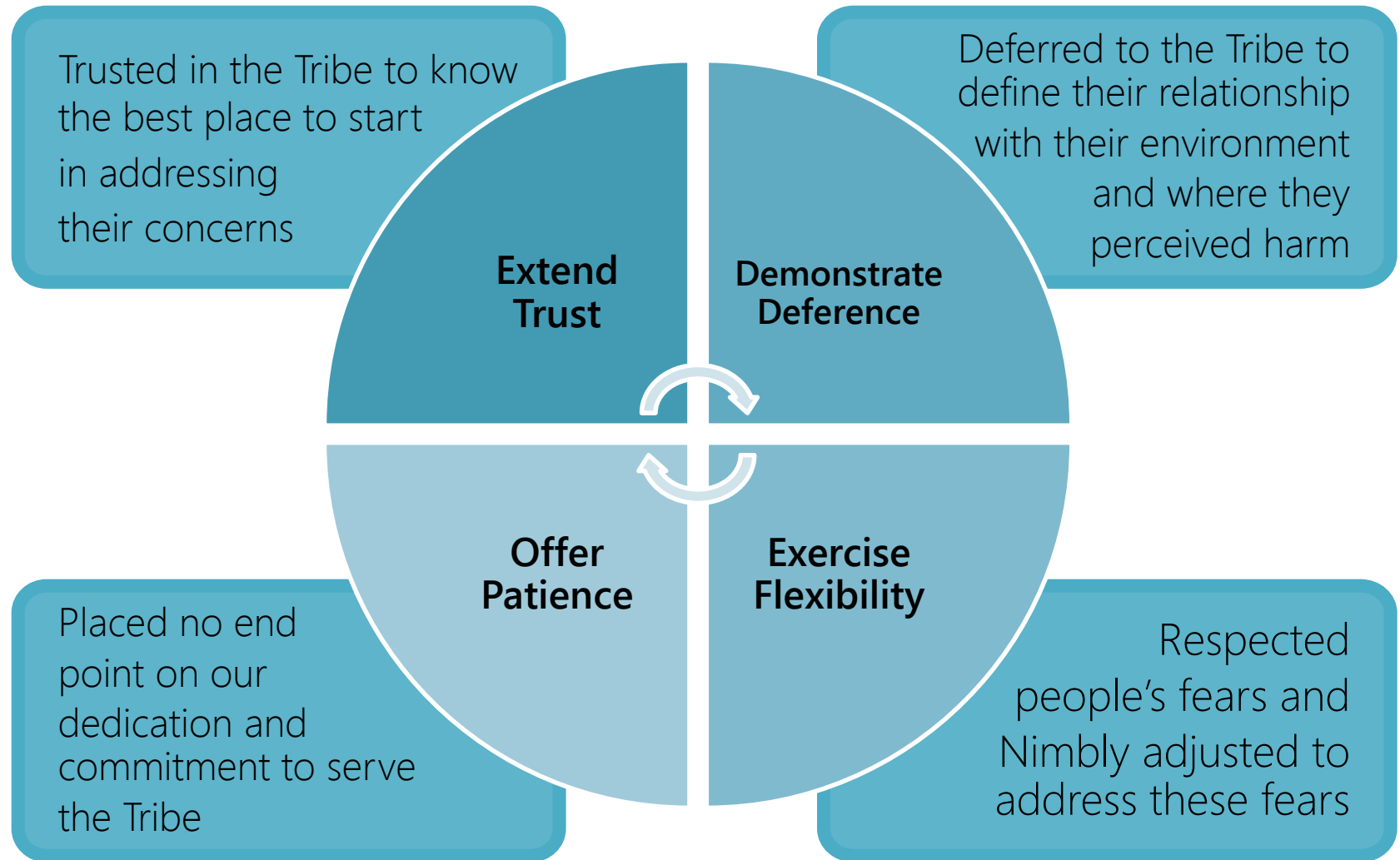


ATSDR EXAMPLE: A TRIBAL APPROACH FOR PUBLIC HEALTH



SARCONE, 2009

ATSDR EXAMPLE: A TRIBAL APPROACH FOR PUBLIC HEALTH



SARCONE, 2009

YAKUTAT, AK



DURING THIS COURSE, YOU LEARNED:

- Public Health must be INCLUSIVE.
- Public Health must be ADAPTABLE.
- Public Health must be PROGRESSIVELY SELECTIVE.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

REFERENCES

- Institute of Medicine
- World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe
- Martinez-Cobo, UN Secretariat for Indigenous Peoples, 2004
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support
- US Department of Health and Human Services, BIA, HIS
- US National Vital Statistics Reports, 2016
- National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, 2017
- Alaska Native Epidemiology Center, 2017
- Joseph Sarcone, MSPH, USDHHS Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
- National Center for Environmental Information
- American Public Health Association

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