

# **Native Collective Research Effort to Enhance Wellness (N CREW) Program: Addressing Overdose, Substance Use, Mental Health, and Pain**

**Webinar #1; July 27, 2023**

## **Definitions and Acronyms**

**National Institutes of Health (NIH):** Part of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the nation's medical research agency.

**National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA):** The leading federal agency supporting scientific research on drug use and addiction. NIDA's mission is to advance science on the causes and consequences of drug use and addiction and to apply that knowledge to improve individual and public health.

**National Center for Advancing Translational Science (NCATS):** The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) is one of 27 Institutes and Centers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). NCAT's mission is to turn research observations into health solutions through translational science.

**Helping to End Addiction Long-term® (HEAL) Initiative:** NIH effort to speed scientific solutions to stem the national opioid crisis.

**Native Collective Research Effort to Enhance Wellness (N CREW) Program:** Addressing Overdose, Substance Use, Mental Health, and Pain; N CREW is funded by HEAL.

**Native American (for the purposes of N CREW):** American Indian, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian.

**Research Opportunity Announcement (ROA):** Research Opportunity Announcement A public document that announces the availability of an Other Transaction. At a minimum, it provides the initiative's purpose; type of award; instructions on how to apply; due date for proposals or applications; and research opportunity number.

**Other Transactions Authority (OTA) or Other Transactions (OTs):** An Other Transaction (OT) is a unique type of legal instrument other than a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement. Generally, this awarding instrument is not subject to the FAR, nor grant regulations unless otherwise noted for certain provisions in the terms and conditions of award. It is, however, subject to the OT authority that governs the initiative as well as applicable legislative mandates.

**Tribe or Native American Serving Organization (T/NASO):** This refers to federally or state recognized Tribes and organizations with a core mission to serve and/or track record in serving Native Americans and that are poised to reach this population.

**Ally Organization:** Organizations with the ability to document a track record of partnering successfully with Native American communities.

**Native Research Resource Network (NRRN):** Applicants selected for ROA OTA-23-008 will form the NRRN, The goal of the NRRN is to provide comprehensive training, resources, and coordination to support T/NASOs in real-time as they develop plans to lead research and data improvement projects.

**eRA or eRA Commons:** The NIH's infrastructure for conducting interactive electronic transactions for the receipt, review, monitoring, and administration of NIH grant and Other Transactions awards to biomedical and behavioral investigators worldwide. Registration is required.

**Application Submission System and Interface for Submission Tracking (ASSIST):** A web-based system used to prepare and submit applications electronically to NIH and other participating agencies.

**Recipient Principal Investigator (/PI):** The applicant may designate multiple individuals principal investigators (PIs) who share the authority and responsibility for leading and directing the project, intellectually and logistically. The individual(s) designated by the applicant to have the appropriate level of authority and responsibility to direct the project or program to be supported by the Other Transaction. When multiple PIs are named, each is responsible and accountable to the applicant and collaborating organizations for the proper conduct of the project or program including the submission of all required reports. The presence of more than one PI on an OT diminishes neither the responsibility nor the accountability of any individual PI. Each PI should be listed in an Other Transaction.

**Signing Official (SO):** A Signing Official (SO) has institutional authority to legally bind the institution in grants/funding administration matters. The individual fulfilling this role may have any number of titles in the applicant organization. The label, "Signing Official," is used in conjunction with the NIH eRA Commons. The SO can register the institution and create and modify the institutional profile and user accounts. The SO also can view all NIH grants/funding within the institution, including status and award information. An SO can create additional SO accounts as well as accounts with any other role or combination of roles.

**Recipient Signing Official:** The individual, named by the applicant, who is authorized to act for the organizations and to assume the obligations imposed by the Federal laws, regulations, requirements, and conditions that apply to Other Transactions. This individual may be equivalent to the Signing Official (SO) in eRA.

**Letter of Intent (LOI):** Applicants may submit a LOI prior to the submission of their application. The letter usually includes the name, address and phone number of the PI, identifies other key personnel and participating institutions, and the ROA identification. Although a letter of intent is not required, is not binding, and does not enter into the review of a subsequent application, the information that it contains allows institute staff to estimate the potential review workload and plan for the application.

**Objective Review:** A process that involves the thorough and consistent examination of applications based on an unbiased evaluation of scientific or technical merit or other relevant aspects of the proposal. The review is performed by persons expert in the field of endeavor for which support is requested and is intended to provide advice to the individuals responsible for making award decisions. Individuals who serve on an OT objective review may be internal or external experts.