What is the SOR II grant?
The SOR II grant continues the successful prevention and treatment activities from SOR I and the Opioid State Targeted Response. The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), Arizona’s Medicaid agency, was awarded the SOR II grant by the federal Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The overarching goal of the grant is to reduce the prevalence of opioid use disorders (OUDs), stimulant use disorders (SUDs), and opioid-related overdose deaths by increasing access to Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), coordinated and integrated care, OUD/ SUD recovery support services, and prevention activities.

What is the tribal needs assessment for SOR II?
Conducting a tribal needs assessment as part of the SOR II grant activities is an important step to more clearly identify the gaps that exist between the needs of tribal communities in Arizona with currently available services for OUDs and SUDs. AHCCCS, with the support of its contractors, will be conducting key informant interviews with tribal health programs and providers, focus groups with adults and adolescents from Arizona’s tribal population, and web-based surveys among a wide group of Arizona’s tribal population to gather this feedback.

Why are you asking for tribal support?
The tribal needs assessment and the efforts of this project are only successful if communities are aware of and engaged in the project. Tribal leadership support is essential for AHCCCS to have meaningful participation in the interviews, focus groups, and surveys. More specifically, AHCCCS understands that you know the best way to reach your communities and is requesting your support in spreading awareness to encourage participation across your community.

What are you doing with our members’ responses?
AHCCCS contractors will conduct two surveys, one for adults and one for adolescents, with all responses being anonymous. Data gathered will be synthesized and utilized to identify opportunities and challenges in serving tribal communities throughout Arizona and addressing the full continuum of care related to opioid misuse, abuse, and dependency. We realize respondent’s answers are personal and may be sensitive, and we will safeguard responses and any associated data.

AHCCCS will be conducting this tribal needs assessment with the support of its contractors. If you would like to learn more about what the tribal needs assessment is, please reach out to Hazel Alvarenga (hazel.alvarenga@azahcccs.gov).