



September 2017

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### **Featured Work: Tribal Crash Data Study**

The UGPTI has initiated a Tribal Traffic Safety & Crash Data reporting study with North Dakota tribes. The study is ongoing, but some early details provide insight into the study for those who may not be aware of this project and may generate interest and participation in future opportunities.

Preliminary findings indicate that tribal populations in North Dakota have a substantially higher community loss from traffic injuries compared to others across all age groups. The study also shows that it is not just young, inexperienced drivers at great risk for traffic injuries, but also the 30-34 age group.

Crash data is valuable for a number of reasons. Initially, it assists planners in identifying and prioritizing traffic safety issues, formulating safety interventions, and aids in validating the tribe's need for funding. Ultimately, crash data WILL save lives!

In 2005, South Dakota conducted a successful crash data reporting study in Indian Country, resulting in a 64% increase in crash data covered over previous existing records. As a result, a "Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)" between the tribes and the state led to the establishment of step-by-step training models, and improved collaboration and communication efforts.

Another incredible success story comes from San Carlos Apache's Motor Vehicle Injury Prevention Program . During this 10-year program, seat belt use increased 144% and and motor vehicle crash injuries were reduced by 28%.

The crash data reporting study includes interviews, data collection, analysis of traffic safety plans, provisions for forms/data, MOU's, FIOA requests, and best practices and strategies.

For more information on this study, please contact us via [email](#) or our online [technical assistance request form](#).

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## **Tribal Transportation Events**

The UTTC Tribal Leaders Summit in Bismarck, ND wrapped up just a few days ago. Several UGPTI staff were featured presenters. If you were unable to attend but would like to view content, please [request](#) presentation material.

One presentation demonstrated our Geographic Road Inventory Tool (GRIT) and can be found [here](#) .

We will be attending the annual National Tribal Transportation Conference Sept. 25-29 in Tucson, AZ. Jeremy Mattson with the UGPTI's Small Urban and Rural Transit Center (SURTC) will be presenting on *Rural Transit Planning, Demand Estimation, and Cost-Benefit Analysis* during the morning session on Wednesday, Sept. 27.

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## Safe On All Roads (SOAR)

American Indians comprise 6.2% of the population in Montana, but represent about approximately 17% of the motor vehicle crash deaths in the state each year. To spread the safety message in Tribal communities, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) developed the *Safe On All Roads (SOAR)* program. This traffic safety education program provides strong and meaningful messages relevant to the individual culture of each community. Coordinators living and working in the community manage their local programs and assist in developing appropriate education material.



For more information on MDT's SOAR program visit their [website](#).

We would like to replicate a program to implement within North Dakota tribes. If you are interested in participating in this endeavor, please contact us. The Tribal Transportation Task Force will be developing a program outline during the last quarter of this year and hope to initiate start-up during the winter of 2018.

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## Alive at 25



UGPTI is partnering with the North Dakota Safety Council to become an established training center to provide [Alive at 25](#) training opportunities to tribal youth throughout the State of North Dakota. Our tribal outreach coordinator is slated to be nationally certified by the end of the year. Classes will be offered exclusively to tribal youth and young adults aged 15-25 in early 2018. If you are interested in scheduling a training session for your tribal youth, please [contact us](#) to book a date.

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## About Us

### **Mission:**

The UGPTI's Tribal Outreach effort improves safe transportation of people and goods on tribal reservations to enhance livability, community and cultural values through increased accessibility to employment, workforce development opportunities, education, healthcare and housing.

### **Vision:**

The Tribal Outreach effort will be a leader in facilitating improvements in tribal transportation to enhance livability, community and cultural values for reservation residents.

Currently, the effort offers outreach in:

- funding opportunities
- grant writing assistance
- training (workforce development, youth, education, technology)
- program/resource assistance
- partnership/collaborative opportunities
- outreach task force
- monthly newsletter

Other resources and services will be offered as they become available. Please visit us on the web to [apply for assistance](#).

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