

ATSDR's Perspective

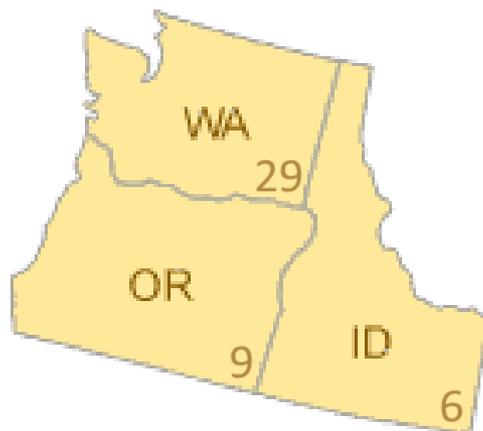


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Partnership with Yakutat Tlingit Tribe

Addressing Tribal Health Concerns in a Customary and Traditional Use Area

Partnership with Yakutat Tlingit Tribe



- **271 of the 566 federally-recognized tribes located in ATSDR Region 10**
- **Alaska Natives**
 - Culturally diverse
 - 19% of the state's population
- **Customary and traditional use of land for subsistence hunting, fishing and gathering**
- **Widespread concern over contaminants in subsistence foods**
 - Mines
 - Former/active military sites
 - Global sources

Partnership with Yakutat Tlingit Tribe

Communication across cultures is approximate and imperfect and where there is a miscommunication it is always the non-dominant culture that suffers the consequences.

Reverend Dr. Michael James Oleska

How ATSDR Supports Tribes

ENGAGE

Engage with tribes to understand their concerns and needs.

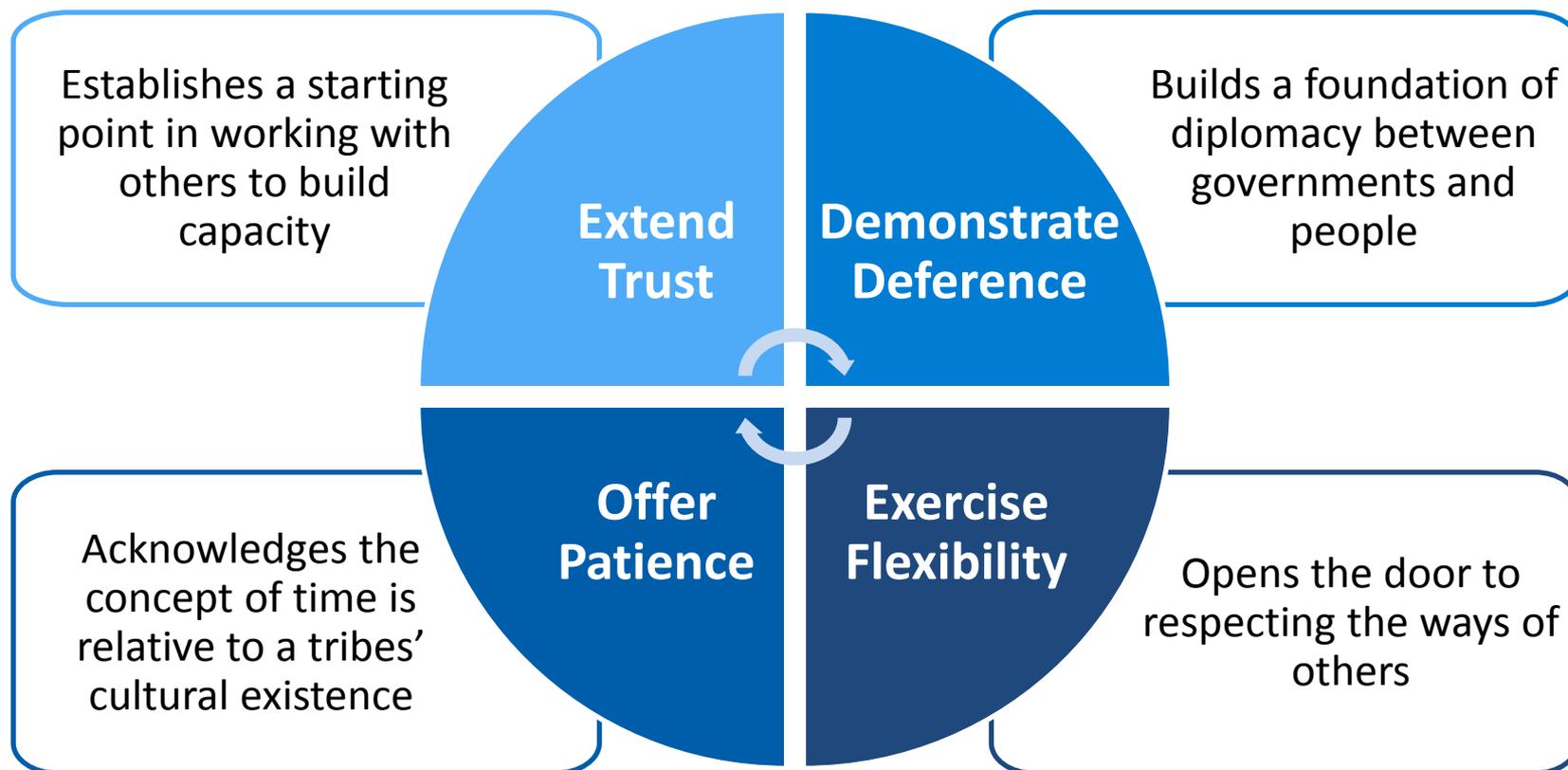
TECHNICAL AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Provide support to help tribes understand if a health impact is associated with chemical contamination in the environment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Make recommendations to protect the health of the tribe.

An Approach to Working with Tribes Implemented by ATSDR Region 10



Sarcone J. (2009), *Leading in Public Service: Choice, Learning, and Commitment*, Leadership in Action, volume 29, number 2, 23-24; Figure. Kaetzel R. (2015)

Engaging the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe

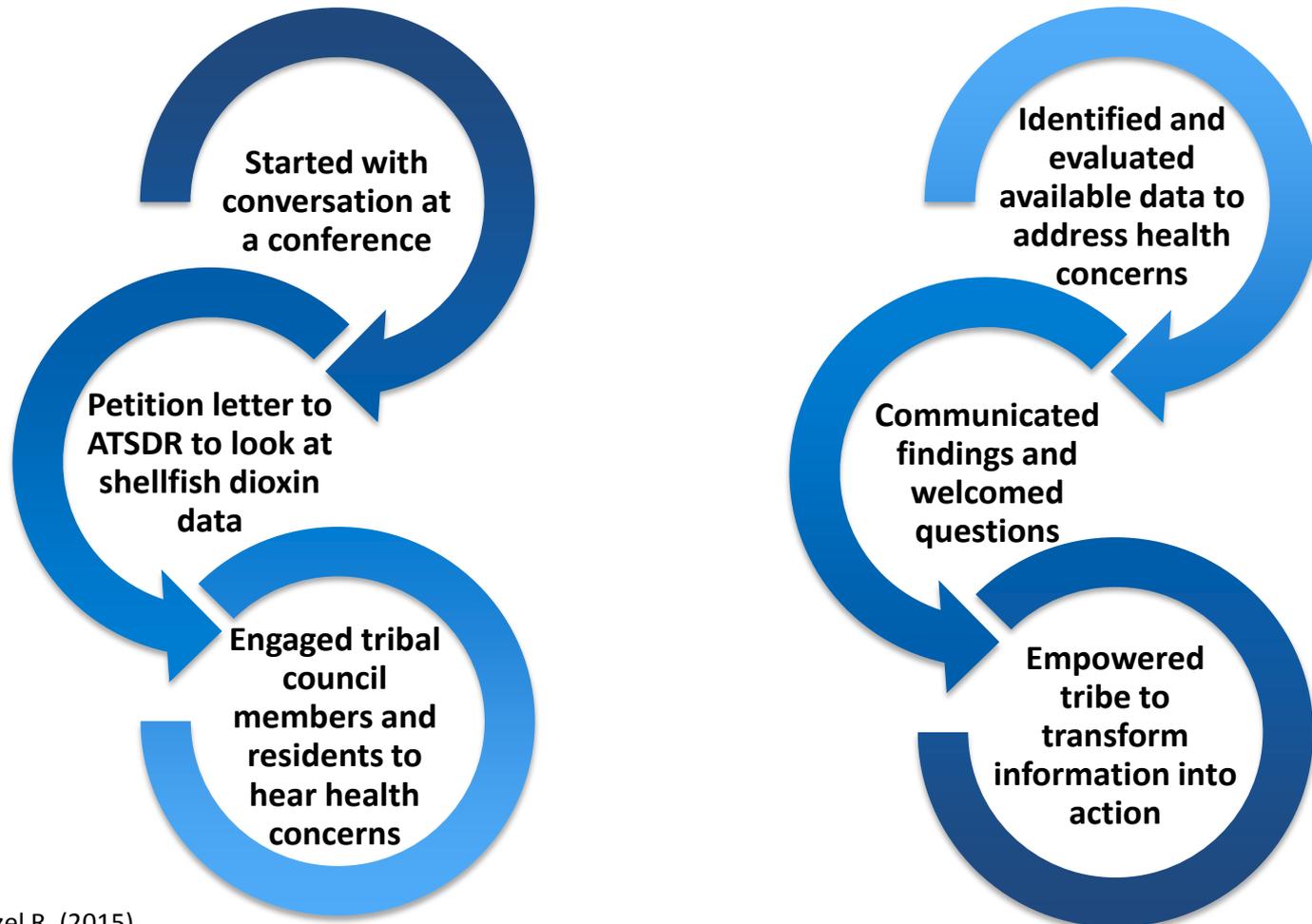


Figure. Kaetzel R. (2015)

Implementing the Approach with the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe

Listened to tribal members in multiple forums in Yakutat to hear concerns expressed about contaminants and health.

LISTENED

Acknowledged what was heard (captured language and emotion expressed) in a document for the tribe's review and approval.

ACKNOWLEDGED

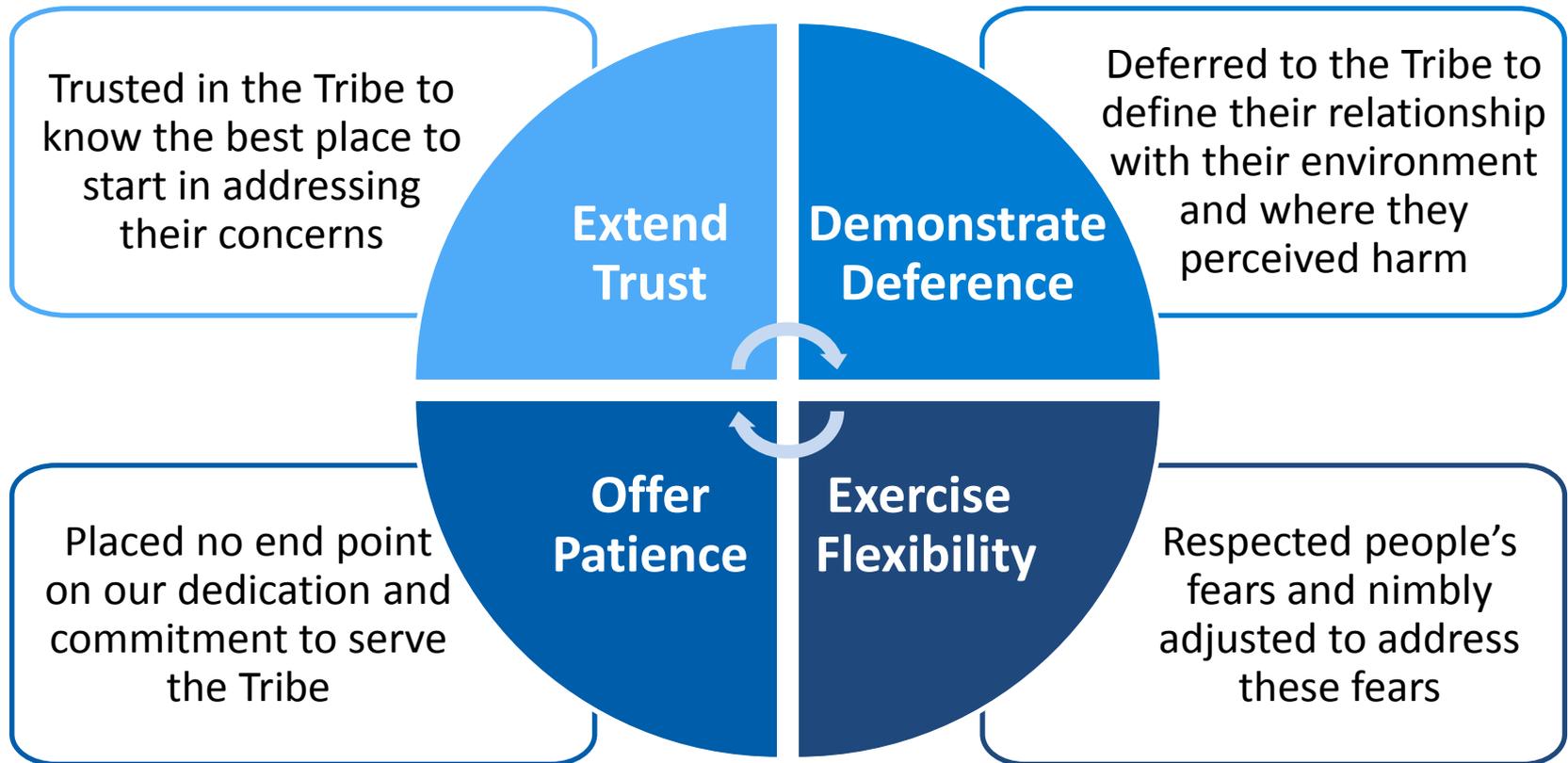
Acted to directly address people's fear about the contaminant of concern (dioxin) and the disease outcome people related to exposure (cancer).

ACTED

Supported the Tribe in decisions to maintain food security (shellfish in Ankau Saltchucks) and ensure cultural integrity (Yakutat Tlingit Tribe culture camp).

SUPPORTED

ATSDR Approach to Working with the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe





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Visit: www.cdc.gov | Contact CDC at: 1-800-CDC-INFO or www.atsdr.gov