

Indian Health Service Rockville MD 20857

JAN 27 2020

Dear Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to inform you that the transfer of programs from the former National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism programs (former-NIAAA) from the IHS Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) to the IHS Office of Urban Indian Health Programs (OUIHP) has been completed.

By letter dated October 13, 2017, the IHS notified Urban Indian Organization (UIO) Leaders of Agency actions to complete the internal transfer of former-NIAAA programs from the ASAP to the OUIHP. Three critical steps were identified to complete this transfer:

- 1. The IHS communicated with each former-NIAAA program to confirm that it is an UIO as defined by the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) at 25 U.S.C. § 1603(29).
- 2. The IHS completed the internal transition of management of the contract funds from the ASAP to the OUIHP.
- 3. The IHS took steps to formally reprogram funds from the ASAP budget to the Urban Indian Health budget in fiscal year (FY) 2020.

The President's Budget for FY 2020 includes the final action to reprogram funds from the ASAP budget to the Urban Indian Health budget. (*See* Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, Fiscal Year 2020 Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees, CJ-141, CJ-143 (Mar. 22, 2019)). As specified in the explanatory statement of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, Congress recognized the \$1.369 million transfer of the former-NIAAA programs funds to the Urban Indian Health budget. Completion of the reprogramming of funds from the IHS ASAP budget to the IHS Urban Indian Health budget fully implements the transfer authorized by the IHCIA at 25 U.S.C. § 1660c – *Urban NIAAA transferred programs*.

Thank you for your continued partnership throughout this process. If you have any questions, please contact Rose Weahkee, Ph.D., Acting Director, OUIHP, IHS, by telephone at (301) 480-3184, or by e-mail at <u>rose.weahkee@ihs.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

/Michael D. Weahkee/

RADM Michael D. Weahkee, MBA, MHSA Assistant Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service Principal Deputy Director

Enclosure: October 13, 2017, Letter to Urban Indian Organization Leaders