



MAR 13 2018

Dear Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to initiate an Urban Confer on establishing a standard methodology to allocate program increases to the Urban Indian Health budget line.

In accordance with the Indian Health Service (IHS) Policy on *Conferring with Urban Indian Organizations* (UIOs), I look forward to reviewing your input and recommendations on strategies, considerations, and/or methodologies that you believe will improve this process and make it more effective.

The Urban Indian Health budget line and any increases support UIOs that have a contract or grant with the IHS pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 1653 and former National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism programs that currently receive an award from the IHS and are confirmed to be a UIO as defined by the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) at 25 U.S.C. § 1603(29).

I am requesting written input on recommendations by April 27, 2018. We have also scheduled two Urban Confer meetings to further discuss recommendations. I encourage your participation. Instructions on how to submit input and participate on Urban Confer calls are as follows:

### Standard Methodology Confer Sessions

#### Dates

- Tuesday, April 10, 2018, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)
- Tuesday, April 17, 2018, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

#### Conference Call Details

- Conference Call: 1-888-809-8971
- Participant Passcode: 1290209

Please provide your written comments on the Standard Methodology Confer by April 27, 2018.

Send comments by E-MAIL to:

[urbanconfer@ihs.gov](mailto:urbanconfer@ihs.gov)

**Subject Line:** Standard Methodology Confer

Send comments by postal mail to:

RADM Michael D. Weahkee  
Acting Director

Indian Health Service  
5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop: 08E86  
Rockville, MD 20857

**ATTN:** Standard Methodology Confer

Thank you for your valuable input, partnership, and ongoing support, which has been critical in achieving progress for Urban Indians. The IHS looks forward to receiving your comments and recommendations on the most effective framework for a standard distribution methodology that meets the needs of all UIOs.

If you have specific questions about the Urban Confer, please contact Rose Weahkee, Ph.D., Acting Director, Office of Urban Indian Health Programs, IHS, by telephone at (301) 480-3184 or by e-mail at [rose.weahkee@ihs.gov](mailto:rose.weahkee@ihs.gov).

Sincerely,

/Michael D. Weahkee/

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