



JUN 22 2018

Dear Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to inform you of the Indian Health Service’s (IHS) decision on establishing a standard methodology to distribute program funding increases that the IHS allocates to the Agency’s budget for Urban Indian Health (hereinafter, “funds”).

In accordance with the IHS Policy on Conferring with Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs), the IHS sent a letter to Urban Indian Organization Leaders on March 13, 2018, to request input on strategies, considerations, and/or methodologies to establish a standard methodology for these funds.

After consideration of Confer comments received and review of Agency distribution methodologies, the IHS will distribute 10 percent of the funds to the IHS Office of Urban Indian Health Programs (OUIHP) and 90 percent to UIOs. An equitable distribution methodology will divide the 90 percent evenly among UIOs for fiscal year (FY) 2018 and in future years. This concurs with the recommendations of the majority of Urban Indian Organization Leaders responding to the request for input.

The distributions will include 5 former National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism programs that currently receive an award from the IHS and have had their Urban Indian Organization status verified by the IHS. However, if Congress appropriates a future increase for a specific purpose, the language of the Congressional appropriation will control and the equitable distribution methodology will not apply.

The current estimate of funds available for distribution in FY 2018 to the OUIHP and UIOs is \$5,149,000. The IHS will move forward with distribution as outlined below:

FY 2018 Urban Indian Health Funds - Category	Total Amount	Percentage of Funds
OUIHP	\$514,900	10%
38 UIOs: \$121,950/Urban Indian Organization	\$4,634,100	90%
Total FY 2018 Distribution	\$5,149,000	100%

With this distribution, 90 percent of the funds will be directly transferred to UIOs via IHS contracts. Each Urban Indian Organization receiving an equal distribution must submit a scope of work, budget, and budget narrative for the additional funding to their Area Chief Contracting Officer and Area Contracting Officer Representative. In addition, the UIO must have satisfactory performance and successful completion of IHS contracts.

Thank you for your valuable input, partnership, and ongoing support, which has been critical in achieving progress for Urban Indians. 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 rose.weahkee@ihs.gov.

Sincerely,

/Michael D. Weahkee/

RADM Michael D. Weahkee, MBA, MHSA
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