



November 19, 2025

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to announce the awards for the **Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Indian Health Service (IHS) Joint Venture Construction Program (JVCP)**. The authorization for the JVCP is in Section 818(e) of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, P.L. 94-437, and codified at 25 U.S.C. 1680h(e).

Under a JVCP agreement, a federally recognized Tribe or Tribal Organization expends Tribal, private, or other available non-IHS funds for the acquisition or construction of a health care facility that meets the IHS planning, environmental review, sustainability, design, and construction requirements. In exchange, the IHS will request that Congress fund the staffing and operations of the health care facility under a no-cost, 20-year lease.

For over three decades, the IHS JVCP has strengthened partnerships with Tribes across the country and expanded access to comprehensive, culturally acceptable health services for American Indian and Alaska Native people. Since its inception in 1991, more than 25 tribes have partnered to open or expand more than 30 facilities—including health centers and hospitals—that increase access to quality health care for Tribal communities.

Last year, the IHS solicited applications for new FY 2025 JVCP projects. Twenty-four Tribes and Tribal organizations applied for this highly competitive program. After evaluation by an objective review team comprised of members representing Tribes, Tribal organizations, the IHS, and the Department of Health and Human Services, 11 applicants were invited to proceed to Phase 2 of the application process. Following an extensive review, the top seven applicants were selected and invited to proceed to complete planning documents for their projects.

The selected participants are: Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Asher, OK; Artic Slope Native Association, Utqiagvik, AK; Ak-Chin Indian Community in Maricopa, AZ; Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Hugo, OK; Muscogee Creek Nation of Oklahoma, Okmulgee, OK; Indian Health Council, Inc. and Pala Band of Mission Indians, Valley Center, CA; Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Lower Brule, SD.

We look forward to collaborating with the awardees on these important projects. If you have any questions, please contact Steven Raynor, P.E., Division of Facilities Planning and Construction, IHS, by telephone at (301) 443-1415, or by email at steven.raynor@ihs.gov.

Sincerely,

Phillip B.
Smith -S

Digitally signed by Phillip
B. Smith -S
Date: 2025.11.19
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P. Benjamin Smith, M.B.A., M.A.
Acting Director