

Press Release

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IHS Awards \$1 Million to NCUIH for Urban Indian Education and Research Program

The Indian Health Service Office of Urban Indian Health Programs has awarded \$1,050,000 to the National Council of Urban Indian Health for the Urban Indian Education and Research Program Cooperative Agreement. Through this agreement, NCUIH will act as an education and research partner for 41 urban Indian organizations in 22 states funded by IHS, offering assistance regarding public policy; research and data; training and technical assistance; education, public relations, and marketing; and payment system reform and monitoring regulations.

"This cooperative agreement will provide a national perspective on the needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives living in metropolitan areas" said IHS Principal Deputy Director Rear Adm. Michael D. Weahkee. "We look forward to continuing to work with NCUIH and urban Indian organizations across Indian Country to address the health needs of urban Indians."

The IHS Office of Urban Indian Health Programs was established in 1976 to make health care services more accessible to urban Indians. IHS enters into limited, competing contracts and grants with 41 non-profit urban Indian organizations to provide health care and referral services for urban Indians throughout the United States. Urban Indian organizations define their services based upon the service population, health status, and documented unmet needs of the urban Indian communities they serve. Urban Indian organizations provide health care for urban Indians who do not have access to the resources offered through IHS or tribally operated health care facilities because they do not live on or near a reservation. For additional information about the Office of Urban Indian Health Programs, visit <u>https://www.ihs.gov/Urban/</u>.

The IHS, an agency in the <u>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</u>, provides a comprehensive health service delivery system for approximately 2.6 million American Indians and Alaska Natives. Our mission is to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level. Follow the agency via social media on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.