

**NAIHC 2021 Q2 Update**

***(edited May 5, 2021)***

**NAIHC News:**

* COVID Impacts Continue, Trainings Mostly Online (some in-person available)
  + NAIHC Headquarters staff remain teleworking, but all are available for any assistance
  + Most TTA is online only, a few sessions where tribe and TTA provider are comfortable and live in close proximity have been held in-person, following tribal and local rules
  + Conducting 1-3 Online Training sessions a week (in lieu of regional trainings), there was a break for holidays.
* Leadership Institute
  + In-person courses for 2021 are still TBD
  + Indian Housing Management course is available online
  + Online Pathways Homebuyer Education will be rolled out this quarter
    - Provides training to the Housing professional & can be used with individuals in the community
  + Hopeful to produce 2-3 LI courses each year moving forward; Admissions and Occupancy and Procurement are the next two courses to be developed.
    - Targeting the full development of one certification track
* NAIHC Rehab Grant (2020)
  + NAIHC awarded grants to 20 tribes for Rehab of Senior-owned at the beginning of 2020
  + Work still ongoing in many communities due to COVID, extensions have been provided
* NAIHC COVID Housing Assistance Grant (NEW for 2021)
  + NAIHC and Wells Fargo announced the next grant during the Virtual Legal Symposium
  + NAIHC has awarded 19 grants to 20 tribes for COVID-related housing projects, up to $44,000 per tribe

**NAIHC Events:**

* **2021 Legislative Conference Postponed**
  + NAIHC working with the Board/Legislative Committee and NCAI on best options:
    - Something sooner in 2021, but virtual
    - Wait until the fall to host something in-person in DC
* **2021 Annual Convention and Members Meeting: May 24-27**, **Hawaii**
  + Postponed to 2023
  + Under Contract for Seattle in 2022
  + Members Meeting expected to be held in December in Las Vegas
* **2021 Legal Symposium: December 6-7-8, Las Vegas**
  + Currently planned in person in Las Vegas

**Other Meetings/Trainings:**

* ***HUD Housing Summit***
  + Working with HUD/ONAP on bigger event
  + Dates TBD, but targeting August 2021, currently expecting virtual event
* ***HUD Regional Trainings***:
  + Check NAIHC’s website/calendar
  + Adding new online trainings sessions almost every week

**Update on Pending HUD Grants/COVID Funding**

* FY 2020 Competitive Grant ($100M)
  + Awards announce in early April: announcement can be found [HERE](about:blank)
* FY 2021/Other Grants
  + Top priority is ICDBG-ARP (covid relief) ($280M), NOFA is in clearance process at HUD/OMB
  + FY21 ICDBG ($70M) NOFA is second in line, HUD targeting late summer
  + IHBG Competitive ($100M) NOFA is probably third in line; fall at the earliest

**Treasury Funds**

* Emergency Rental Assistance funding (meant to follow IHBG allocation formula)
  + $800M for tribal Rental Assistance coming from U.S. Treasury Department
    - Tribes should have money now
  + Tribes can provide rental and utility assistance (including arrears) to members 80% AMI and other eligibility requirements
  + *Must be spent by September 30,* ***2022*** *(original deadline of Sept 2021 was extended by American Rescue Plan passed in March)*
    - *Treasury could re-allocate funding to other tribal grantees beginning in September 2021 (still to be determined if and how that might happen)*
  + Operated through Treasury Department, latest FAQ/guidance updated May 7 [HERE](about:blank)
  + NAIHC will work with Biden Administration and Congress if changes need to be made
* Homeowner Assistance Fund ~$500 M​
  + 5% set-aside of larger national program​
  + Operated through Treasury, Similar to Emergency Rental Assistance Program​
  + ***Does*** include national or local AMI
  + Tribal allocations follow IHBG formula (mechanism allows non-IHBG tribes to claim allocation as well)
  + Applications:
    - Tribes must apply to receive their allocation by September 30, 2021.
    - Tribes will receive 10% of their allocation upon application
    - Tribes will have to submit ‘HAF Plan’ to receive remainder of funds after Treasury approval
  + More information found on US Treasury website [HERE](about:blank)

**Legislative Updates:**

**NAHASDA Reauthorization**

* No full bill yet introduced
* NAHASDA is included in American Housing and Economic Mobility Act *(10-year reauthorization, $2.5 Billion in first year, tribal access to section 8 vouchers)*
* Last Congress saw bipartisan standalone NAHASDA bills in both House and Senate, which hasn’t been seen in over a decade (detailed below)
* Looking for new bill sponsors as some past bill sponsors have retired and we want to engage new Senate and House Committee leadership
  + Senate lead sponsors include: Schatz and Murkowski
  + House lead sponsors could include Rep. Cleaver, Rep. Lucas, Rep. Davids and others
* Last Congress House Bill: H.R. 5319
  + Bill included provisions impacting 184 court jurisdiction issues, USDA program improvements, homebuyer counseling grants eligibility, increased TDC allowances for energy efficient homes, and other small non-NAHASDA improvements
* Last Congress Senate Bill: S. 4090
  + The bill would reauthorize NAHASDA programs through 2031 and update several key provisions such as: creating an Assistant Secretary for Indian Housing at HUD; re-establishing a Drug Elimination program for tribal communities; consolidating environment review requirements; allowing student housing assistance; recognizing tribal sovereignty to govern maximum rent requirements; allowing tribal housing programs to access the IHS sanitation funding; make tribes eligible for HUD Housing Counseling grants; make tribes eligible for HUD Homelessness Assistance grants; reauthorizing Native Hawaiian housing programs; and other updates
* ***This Congress, NAIHC will push both chambers to adopt each other’s provisions for a single bill***
* ***Senate Committee on Indian Affairs has indicated it wants to push Senate version, more friendly Senate Committee structure this year***

**HUD-VASH**

* No bill introduced yet
* Last Congress, bill passed the Senate but not the House
* Is included in the larger NAHASDA efforts
* ***This Congress, NAIHC will again push for stand-alone and NAHASDA HUD-VASH provisions, work with House Leadership on getting bill finalized***

**Other Housing Bills**

* FY 2022 Appropriations
  + Biden Administration budget asked for $900M total (compared to ~$825M last year combined for IHBG, Competitive IHBG, ICDBG, HUD-VASH)
  + NAIHC asking for nearly $1 billion in annual IHBG alone
* Infrastructure Bill
  + President Biden released his $2 trillion infrastructure proposal, which included $213 billion for housing “Through targeted tax credits, formula funding, grants, and project-based rental assistance” and specifically calls out assistance to tribal areas.
  + NAIHC working with other Native orgs in DC to provide specifics to Congress on how to include tribes in any infrastructure package
  + Initial drafts of infrastructure bill in House included ***$2 Billion for IHBG***
* Other legislative topics for tribal housing f include:
  + Drug risks/Remediation funding (NAICH Resolution 2018-02)
  + Housing & Infrastructure connection (NAIHC Res. 2019-04)
  + Homeownership program improvements
    - 502 Single Family Loan Guarantee, other USDA programs (NAIHC Res. 2018-01)
    - NADL improvements (NAIHC Res. 2019-03)
  + Section 8 and LIHTC improvements (NAIHC Res. 2018-03 & 2018-04)
    - Last Congress, bills did include restoring tribal access voucher program

**Overall reminders:**

* Sign up online to receive newsletter by email every two weeks for recent updates
* Legislative Committee
  + Typically First Thursday of Each Month: June 3, July 8, August 5
  + [https://zoom.us/j/97496787338](about:blank)
* Encourage vendors, product and service providers serving Indian country to become exhibitors at NAIHC events and/or Associate Members!