U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT



WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

April 11, 2024

SUBJECT: Announcement of Continuum of Care Tribal Homelessness Network

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) is pleased to announce two opportunities for Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) to connect and learn more about resources to address homelessness including the Continuum of Care (CoC) program. We recognize that Tribes and TDHEs are newer to the CoC Program and that connecting with one another provides the opportunity for peer sharing, learning, and networking.

The two opportunities are listed in more detail below:

- 1. **Information Sharing**: We will include your contact information on a list with other Tribes and TDHEs that have agreed to share their information so you may connect with other similar organizations across the country. This is simply sharing contact information via email.
- 2. **Tribal Homelessness Network**: HUD offers ways for communities to access HUD Technical Assistance through online, group learning, and peer-to-peer collaborative approaches. Networks can be created around specific topic areas that groups may elect to enroll in based on the unique needs and challenges of their community. The Tribal Homelessness Network details are below.

Tribal Homelessness Network (THN)

Connecting Tribes and TDHEs to the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program

The intent of the THN is to create a forum for Tribes and TDHEs to learn more about the CoC Program, discuss the benefits and challenges to being a part of or establishing a new CoC, access technical assistance resources, and share ideas about preventing and ending homelessness.

THN members will suggest topics for discussion. Sample topics include: CoC 101; establishing a new CoC; CoC project types; CoC partnership opportunities; and addressing Tribal housing goals with CoC funds.

Participation in the THN is voluntary. This is intended as a space for Tribes and TDHEs to engage in a peer-sharing opportunity. THN participants will decide on how frequently they would like to meet. Sessions will be facilitated by HUD Technical Assistance (TA) providers who will organize sessions, address questions, and serve as supportive liaisons for the THN. HUD staff will make themselves available if the THN would like to have a listening session or direct conversation(s) about a particular topic.

If you are interested in participating, please register <u>here</u>. Registering allows us to send relevant resources and communicate any scheduling changes with you. It <u>does not</u> obligate you to attend this meeting

or future meetings. If your Tribe or TDHE wants to connect and share your contact information with other Tribes or TDHEs that have expressed an interest in talking with others who are working to address homelessness, please send an email to THN@icf.com with the subject line "Connect with Other Tribes and TDHEs". You are more than welcome to do one or the other, or both.

HUD's SNAPS Office is always open to feedback on TA offerings and the CoC Program and is available to answer questions which you can submit through the <u>Ask-A-Question portal</u>. If you would like more in-depth assistance about the CoC program, please request <u>technical assistance</u> through HUD's online portal.

We hope that you will find the THN and contact list helpful as you move forward to achieve your housing goals and address the housing needs in your community. We look forward to your input and recommendations on how we can support your work.

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Sincerely,

Norman A. Suchar

Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs