

**Assessment of Housing Needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives
and Native Hawaiians in Washington State**

Notes from the Conference Call on Thursday, April 16, 2020

Future calls to be held monthly on the second Thursday of the month from 10 a.m.-11 a.m. PT

Next Call: Thursday, May 14, 2020; 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Call Participants:

Iris Friday, HUD NWONAP

Kirsten Franklin-Temple, HUD NWONAP

Jacqueline Martin, Samish Indian Nation

Sharon Paskewitz, Samish Indian Nation

Aren Sparck, Seattle Indian Health Board

Francesca Murnan, Seattle Indian Health Board

Rebekah Sutch, Kalispel Tribe

Patricia Allen, Chief Seattle Club/Coalition to End Urban Indigenous Homelessness

Brenda Bunker, Quileute Housing Authority

Linda Brenner, Jamestown S'Klallam Housing Authority

Nancy Pindus, Urban Institute

Lonny Macy, Akana

Kevin Klingbeil, Big Water Consulting

Harry Maher, Big Water Consulting

[If you participated in the call and are not listed above, please contact kevin@bigwaterconsulting.net; an updated version will be posted at nativehousingwa.org.]

1. Draft Housing Provider, Advisory Group Member and COVID-19/Pandemic Surveys for Study

- a. The draft outline of the **Housing Provider Survey** was provided in advance of the call and comments can be submitted via email or the form on nativehousingwa.org between now and the next call on May 14, 2020
- b. Call participants provided the following comments, questions and suggestions:
 - i. Add additional criteria (numerical criteria or clarifying definitions) for significance rating scale

- ii. Ensure that at least some portion of the questions track the 2015 Housing Needs Assessment for Washington State and national HUD study (for homeownership questions in particular)
 - iii. Add qualifier that assessment of strength of local economy addresses years leading up to COVID-19/pandemic (as the economies of all communities will weaken during this period)
 - iv. Adjust “VA Home Loan” to “VA Native Direct Home Loan”
 - v. Ensure that answer choices for homeownership programs include IDA (individual development account) and credit repair
 - vi. Clearly address issue of housing development and mortgage lending on trust land vs. fee land (included in existing survey but to be strengthened/expanded)
 - vii. Capture data concerning compliance periods of units developed with low-income housing tax credits (LIHTC)
- c. **Draft of survey of Advisory Group members** to be shared during the week of April 20-24 and comments will be invited between date of distribution and next stakeholder call (including discussion of feedback in call)
 - d. **Draft COVID-19/Pandemic Response and Impacts supplemental survey** to be shared soon (will allow respondents to other surveys to distinguish current issues, impacts and needs from pre-existing and ongoing issues, needs and opportunities)
 - e. Jacqueline Martin of the Samish Indian Nation shared an Excel spreadsheet (attached) that its case managers use to track the services used and needed by tribal members (quantitative data) during their response to the pandemic

2. Literature Review and Analysis of Existing Data

- a. Review will include review of prior studies (HUD national study, WA State assessment, King County AIAN studies, etc.) and publicly available data sets (Census Bureau data, state and federal housing and labor data, etc.)
- b. Stakeholders and advisory group members are invited and asked to share local data sources, studies and plans with study coordinators for inclusion in analysis and final report
- c. Study will address data sources reviewed by prior studies (incl. WA Housing Needs Assessment) to determine relevance and coverage for assessment of Native housing needs (e.g., certain sources of real estate data and property valuation will not be accurate for housing units and housing markets on reservation lands)
- d. Iris Friday (HUD NWONAP) noted that she would share a report concerning Frank’s Landing
- e. The final report for this project will display a map of existing and planned housing for Native community members and names of housing providers in Washington State

3. Convening of Stakeholders and Advisory Group Members

- a. NAIHC Annual Convention and NWIHA meeting in April were cancelled

- b. Study coordinators will work with stakeholders and advisory group members to utilize teleconferencing tools to conduct remote sessions to partially replace in-person gatherings during pendency of stay-at-home orders
- c. NWIHA Meeting: If pandemic subsides, coordinators will plan to meet with group at NWIHA meeting in September (Northern Quest in Airway Heights, WA)
- d. Housing Washington Conference: Invitation from organizers to serve on a panel to present initial findings
- e. NAIHC Legal Symposium in December may provide another opportunity to convene with stakeholders and advisory group members and to discuss initial findings

4. Focus Groups and Interviews with Knowledgeable Sources

- a. Study coordinators will discuss most appropriate method of breaking out focus group sessions regionally (e.g., coastal, Puget Sound/I-5 corridor, eastern Washington/Columbia River) and logistics of bringing community members together to share their needs, experiences and perspectives
- b. Study coordinators will provide draft list of interviewees (selected knowledgeable sources covering a range of roles in the housing development process, including housing staff, agency and service provider staff, lenders, developers, etc.) and invite recommendations from stakeholders and advisory group members