

IHS Releases DULL Regarding Updated Allocation of \$95 million in CARES Act Telehealth Funding

Category: Policy Blog

written by NCUIH | April 7, 2021

Yesterday, the Indian Health Service (IHS) released a [March 26, 2021 Dear Urban Indian Organization \(UIO\) Leader Letter \(DULL\)](#) announcing an updated allocation of \$95 million in telehealth funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. Since IHS' announcement of these funds in an [April 23, 2020 DULL](#), NCUIH has regularly been asking IHS officials about updates regarding funding allocation.

Of the \$95 million in telehealth funding, **only \$4 million will be allocated to UIOs through existing IHCIA contracts by providing a one-time, base amount for each UIO, and an additional amount based on each UIO's Urban Indian users.** \$67 million will be allocated to the IHS and Tribal Health Programs (THPs) and the remaining \$24 million will be used by IHS to support nationwide outreach, education, training, technical assistance, contract management, coordination and program/policy development activities, as well as the acquisition of a clinical video telehealth solution.

UIOs deliver quality and culturally competent healthcare to the >70% of American Indian/Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) living in urban areas. Despite this large number of the AI/AN population served, UIOs receive a disproportionately low amount allocated funds to serve their patients, especially during a global pandemic.

[Read the Letter](#)