# **NCUIH Tribal Coalition Update**

Category: Policy Blog

written by NCUIH | March 7, 2025

#### March 2025

NCUIH has joined a coalition with over 20 Tribal organizations to ensure current administrative actions do not harm American Indian and Alaska Native people and the programs that serve them. The ability of Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) to continue delivering health care services depends on the stability and protection of federally funded Native health programs. UIOs play a critical role in ensuring that American Indian and Alaska Native people living in urban areas are not left behind.

The coalition has been active in creating joint messages to share with policy makers, sending letters to key administration officials, and developing advocacy strategies. This email is a collection of information meant to provide UIOs and allies with tools to protect these programs and ensure continued access to care.

# We need your help!

- We need stakeholders to use their voices to protect the future of the Indian Health Service.
- We urge supporters to send letters and schedule in-person meetings with their Congressional representatives to advocate for programs that serve American Indian and Alaska Native people and the importance of upholding trust and treaty responsibilities.
- Engagement from our supporters is critical.
- Please contact your members of Congress today!

### TALKING POINTS

#### Federal Funding Must Remain Secure and Uninterrupted

- Federal funding for UIOs is a legal commitment, not a discretionary program.
- The *Indian Health Care Improvement Act* (IHCIA) affirms the federal obligation to support Tribal health services, including UIOs.
- Agencies must ensure that executive orders or budgetary changes do not delay, reallocate, or restrict funding.

# **Stay Up to Date**

The Tribal Coalition is tracking the administration's actions, federal agency memos, and congressional responses. <u>Check back regularly for updates.</u>

### **SURVEYS**

Many coalition members are conducting surveys to assess the impacts of the current actions on programs that serve American Indian and Alaska Native people. It helps all of our efforts to document these impacts and show the urgency of our work. The results of these surveys will be used to inform the advocacy work done with federal agencies, Congress, and the administration.

- NIHB Story Gathering: Indian Country Impacts from Recent Executive Policies
- NARF: Tracking Changes to Federal Programs for Tribal Nations and Tribal citizens and communities
- NIEA: Assessing the Impact: Federal Funding Freezes & Executive Orders on Native Education
- NICWA: Share How Federal Funding Delays Impact Native Children & Families