

# National Indian Health Board



## DRAFT 2023 Legislative & Policy Agenda Overview

---

NIHB Board of Directors Webinar

*February 27, 2023*

# Evaluation & Feedback Process

---

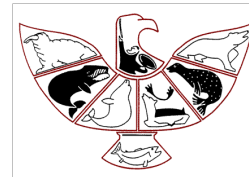
## Ways We Solicited Feedback

- A. Pre-Drafting Evaluation on 2022 Legislative & Policy Agenda
- B. Feedback & Comment Period for Draft 2022 Policy Platform



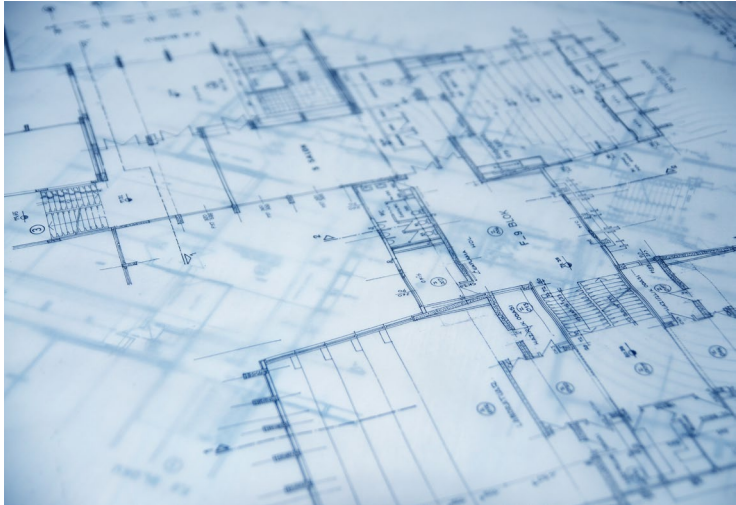
## Who Provided Feedback

- A. Tribal Leaders
- B. Tribal Organizations
- C. Member Organizations
- D. Technical Advisors
- E. NIHB Staff



# Overview

---



- The ***Legislative & Policy Agenda*** guides the work of the NIHB as we strive to identify and elevate national Tribal health priorities.
- Blueprint for ensuring that all AI/AN people and communities can achieve the highest level of health and well-being.
- Educate decision-makers on Tribal priorities, advocate and secure resources, build Tribal capacity, and support Tribally led efforts to strengthen Tribal health and public health systems.
- Intended to be an internal facing document, but we will develop outward facing materials.



# Focus Areas: 2023 Legislative & Policy Agenda

---

**Tribal Sovereignty  
and the Government-  
to-Government  
Relationship**

**Equitable and  
Comprehensive  
Funding**

**Innovative and  
Sustainable  
Infrastructure**

**Health Equity**

**Tribal Behavioral  
Health**

**Emergency  
Preparedness and  
Response**

**Empowered Health  
Care Workforce**

**Access to Quality  
Health Care**

**Tribal Public Health  
Capacity and  
Infrastructure**



# Treaties, Trust, and the Government-to-Government Relationship

To strengthen Tribal sovereignty and the government-to-government relationship, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) will pursue the following priorities:

- A. Ensure the Development and Implementation of Meaningful, Robust, and Tribally Driven Tribal Consultation Policies
- B. Support and Strengthen the White House Council on Native American Affairs
- C. Elevate the IHS Director to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health
- D. Increase Tribal Representation in All HHS Operating Divisions and Appoint a Senior Advisor to the Secretary of HHS
- E. Expand and Strengthen Tribal Self-Governance Throughout HHS
- F. Establish Interagency Agreements Between HHS Operating Divisions and IHS
- G. Expand Technical Assistance Support to Tribal Advisory Committees



# Equitable and Comprehensive Funding

---

To ensure Indian health receives equitable and comprehensive funding, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) will pursue the following priorities:

- A. Establish a Tribally Driven process to determine Full Funding for Indian health
- B. Phase in Full Funding and Mandatory Appropriations for Indian Health
- C. Protect and Expand Advance Appropriations for Indian Health
- D. Establish a 10% Set-Aside, Non-competitive, Direct Funding for Tribes in all available HHS Operating Divisions and Funding Streams
- E. Eliminate Federal Match Requirements for all Federal Programs Serving Indian Country
- F. In Coordination with Tribal Nations, Enact and Implement a “Marshall Plan” for Tribal Nations





# Innovative and Sustainable Infrastructure

---

To build an innovative and sustainable infrastructure to support Indian health, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) will pursue the following priorities:

- A. Support the Tribal Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Investments
- B. Prioritize Support for Health Care Facilities Construction
- C. Modernize Health Information Technology in Indian Country
- D. Ensure Access to Reliable High-Speed Internet



# Promote Health Equity In Indian Country

---

**To address chronic health disparities and promote health equity in Indian Country, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) will pursue the following priorities:**

- A. Elevate a Tribal Perspective in Federal Health Equity Plans and Initiatives
- B. Create and Invest in an Indigenous Model of Social and Structural Determinants of Health
- C. Improve Federal Standards for Data Collection and Reporting to Improve AI/AN Visibility and Better Measure Health Inequities
- D. Promote and Sustain Environmental Health Improvements in Indian Country
- E. Prioritize Indian Country in HIV Funding
- F. Address Housing and Homelessness in Indian Country
- G. Establish Permanency, Increased Funding, and Self-governance authority for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians
- H. Support the Native Farm Bill Coalition's policy priorities when it comes to nutrition programs for Indian Country
- I. Address the Maternal Health Crisis in Indian Country



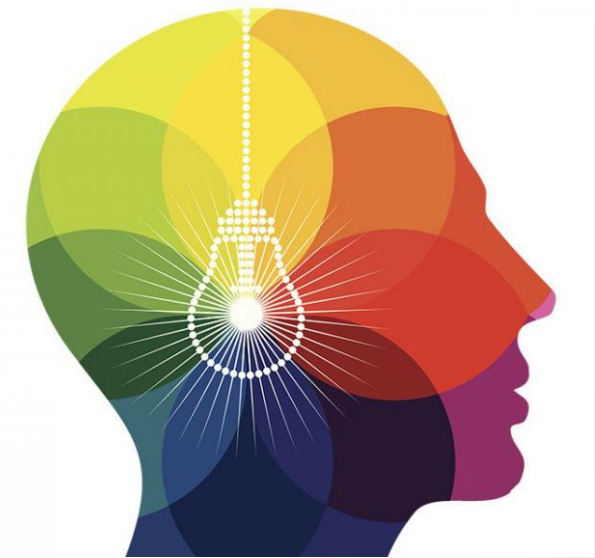


# Tribal Behavioral Health

---

**Any policies or initiatives designed to improve Tribal behavioral health must be grounded in culture, tradition, language and native ways of knowing. To that end, in order to reduce AI/AN behavioral health inequity and improve health outcomes, the NIHB will pursue the following priorities:**

- A.** Address Historical and Intergenerational Trauma
- B.** Promote Culturally Centered and Tribally Driven Behavioral Health Policy and Programs
- C.** Strengthen Tribal Behavioral Health Systems
- D.** Advance Comprehensive Tribal Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services to address the opioid and Suicide Crises in Indian Country



# Support Empowered and Culturally Informed Health Workforce

---

To address the chronic Tribal health workforce shortages, the NIHB will pursue the following priorities:

- A. Ensure a Sustainable and Culturally Informed Tribal Health Care Workforce
- B. Support and Expand the Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) and the Dental Health Aide (DHAT) Program
- C. Develop an Empowered and Culturally Informed Public Health Workforce
- D. Invest in Graduate Medical Education staffing and Infrastructure in Indian Country



# Increase Access to Quality Health Care

---

To increase access to quality health care for AI/AN people, the NIHB will pursue the following priorities:

- A. Remove Barriers that Inhibit the Integration of Traditional Practices
- B. Protect Access and Improve Health Services for Native Veterans
- C. Strengthen the Role of Medicaid in AI/AN Healthcare
- D. Increase Access and Financial Support for Indian Health Through Medicare and Support Tribal Priorities



# Strengthen Tribal Public Health Capacity and Infrastructure

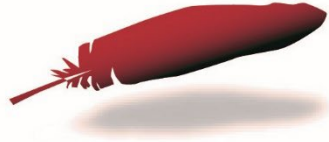
---

To strengthen Tribal public health capacity and infrastructure, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) will pursue the following priorities:

- A. Strengthen Tribal Public Health Agencies and Authority
- B. Expand Surveillance and Epidemiology Capabilities
- C. Invest in Tribal Health Research Capacity
- D. Improve COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery Efforts and Address Impacts of Long COVID
- E. Expand Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities in Indian Country
- F. Support Tribal Funding for Climate Resilience, Climate Adaptation, First Responders Training, and Community Education



# National Indian Health Board



## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

---