



December 16, 2024

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Minority Health (OMH) is recruiting primary and alternate delegates for the Center for Indigenous Innovation and Health Equity Tribal Advisory Committee (CIIHE TAC), in alignment with the 12 geographic areas served by the Indian Health Service (IHS).

Alaska Area	California Area	Oklahoma Area
Albuquerque Area	Great Plains Area	Phoenix Area
Bemidji Area	Nashville Area	Portland Area
Billings Area	Navajo Area	Tucson Area
		National At-Large Members (4)

There are vacancies for all areas, except the Navajo and Tucson Areas, due to the ending of the CIIHE TAC members' 2-year terms.

Through the Joint Explanatory Statement (JES) accompanying the 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act, Congress directed OMH to create the CIIHE to advance Indigenous solutions that ultimately address health disparities in American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations. Congress identified four CIIHE priority areas: research, education, service, and policy development. The JES accompanying the subsequent annual appropriations acts has included language for OMH to continue funding the CIIHE.

OMH established the CIIHE TAC to provide Tribal leaders a venue to exchange views, share information, and provide feedback to OMH in the development of activities addressing the four CIIHE priority areas. The CIIHE TAC supports, but does not supplant, other government-to-government consultation activities that OMH undertakes.


Nominated CIIHE TAC delegates must be: (1) elected Tribal officials from a federally recognized Tribe acting in their official capacity as elected officials of their Tribe, with authority to act on behalf of the Tribe; or (2) individuals designated by an elected Tribal official. Designees must have the authority to act on behalf of the Tribal official and the Tribe and be qualified to represent the views of the AI/AN Tribes in the IHS area from which they are nominated.

We encourage you to submit your nomination letter no later than January 17, 2024, to minorityhealth@hhs.gov. Please use the following email subject line: CIIHE TAC Nomination. OMH will continue to receive nominations until all TAC primary and alternate delegate positions are filled.

If you have questions about the nomination process for CIIHE TAC delegates, please contact Dr. Rochelle Rollins, at Rochelle.Rollins@hhs.gov.

We look forward to continuing partnerships that help eliminate health disparities and improve the health of AI/AN populations.

Sincerely,

Felicia L. Collins - S10  Digitally signed by Felicia L. Collins -S10
Date: 2024.12.16 16:32:26 -05'00'

Felicia Collins, MD, MPH
Rear Admiral, U.S. Public Health Service
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health
Director, HHS Office of Minority Health

Attachments:
CIIHE TAC Sample Nomination Letters

Cc: Devin Delrow, HHS Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs