

2021

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

YEAR IN REVIEW

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021





NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

October 29, 2021

This past year has been met with many significant events for the National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH) and Indian Country alike. On behalf of NCUIH, I would like to first acknowledge that Indian Country has been hurting—I see, hear, and feel your cries.

Many of us have lost relatives and loved ones due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. NCUIH continues to be at the forefront of advocating for Indian health care, working to ensure the stability of Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) and equipping them to face this and future crises head-on.

Over the past year we have testified before Congress on COVID-19 impacts in Indian Country, have written testimony to Congress with budget requests for UIOs, and testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on COVID-19.

Our advocacy has not stopped there.

We have been tirelessly working behind-the-scenes to ensure that UIOs are included in discussions, have their voices heard, and are adequately funded—all for the unifying purpose of providing desperately-needed health care services to our relatives in urban areas.

As we look back on this year at NCUIH, the adversity and loss urban Indians have faced, and accomplishments in Indian Country – we see that our work is only just beginning and is needed now more than ever. We are dedicated to continuing this fight against COVID-19, and other health crises that disproportionately impact our people, and will ceaselessly work for equitable, accessible, and culturally-competent health services for all urban Indians.

Sincerely,

Francys Crevier, JD

Chief Executive Officer

National Council of Urban Indian Health



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

ABOUT NCUIH

Mission

NCUIH is a National 501(c)(3) organization devoted to the support and development of quality, accessible, and culturally-competent health services for American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) living in urban settings.

Vision

NCUIH envisions a nation where comprehensive, culturally competent personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indians and Alaska Natives living in urban communities throughout the United States.

Our Impact

NCUIH is at the forefront of protecting and advocating for Indian health to ensure the sustainability of Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs). Because of NCUIH's deep collaborative relationships with UIOs, our team is strategically positioned to advocate for health equity for the urban AI/AN population. NCUIH regularly works with federal agencies, policymakers, and the general public to provide critically needed information on health disparities and needs among urban AI/AN. NCUIH's critical work accomplishes the following unmet needs:

- Brings Urban and Tribal leaders together to establish a continuous flow of communication and collaboration
- Cultivates and coordinates relationships between UIOs and major mainstream health research centers and universities
- Creates awareness among mainstream media outlets
- Fosters political and managerial leadership among urban AI/AN youth
- Establishes connections between the urban AI/AN population and private foundations, corporations, and donors

Urban Indian Organizations by Service Area





NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

Awards

- National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH) Vice President of Public Policy, Julia Dreyer, JD, was a nominee at the Excellence in Advocacy Awards for the Federal Issue Campaign Award from the Women in Government Relations.

Key Events

- NCUIH Testifies at House and Senate Hearings Highlighting Need for Urban Indian Health Infrastructure Fix.
- NCUIH Testified Before House on COVID-19 Impacts in Indian Country
- NCUIH Endorsed Bill Introduced by Sen. Warren, Rep. Davids and Rep. Cole on National Day of Remembrance
- NCUIH to Testify before House on Urban Confer Bill This Week
- NCUIH Submits Written Testimony to Senate Interior Appropriations with FY22 Budget Requests for UIOs
- NCUIH Efforts on MMIP Lead to Congressional and Administrative Action
- NCUIH Submits Written Testimony to House Interior Appropriations with FY22 Budget Requests for UIOs
- Senators Smith and Murkowski Re-introduced Tribal Health Data Improvement Act
- National Native Organizations Call for Bold Action, Inclusion of Urban Indians in Infrastructure Package
- NCUIH Testifying Before Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on COVID-19
- House Energy and Commerce Holds Legislative Hearing on ACA including NCUIH's Bill on 100% FMAP for UIOs
- NCUIH Submits Testimony to House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees
- NCUIH Submits Testimony to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
- NCUIH Secures Huge Wins for Urban Indians in Final Enacted COVID-19 and Omnibus Bills
- House Passed NCUIH IHS - VA Bill
- House Passes NCUIH Bill to Extend FTCA Coverage to Urban Indian Health Workers
- NCUIH Signs Three Joint Letters Urging Congressional Action Before the End of the Year



345+

Hours of Technical Assistance
Provided to UIOs in 2020



\$8M+

Total Grants
Given to UIOs



~\$500M

COVID-19 Funding for UIOs
Through NCUIH Advocacy

COVID-19 Continuing Response

Viewed resources on COVID-19 Resource Center:

<https://www.ncuih.org/coronavirus>

1,650+



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

Partnership with NAL Baltimore, UMB, Uber



The Power of Partnership: *Vaccine Access for DMV Natives*



April 28, 2021
3-4 p.m. EST

Join: bit.ly/dmv-vaccine-access

After months of tireless advocacy, the National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH) partnered with Native American Lifelines (NAL), the University of Maryland, Baltimore, and the Indian Health Service (IHS) to bring the COVID-19 vaccine to the 65,000 urban Indians in the Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia metropolitan area beginning April 14, 2021.

Vaccine appointments were held at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, could be scheduled online, and were open to DMV metropolitan Natives (ages 16+) as well as non-Native individuals who work in organizations serving the Native community.

After months of barriers, urban Indians in the DMV were finally able to get vaccinated.

Since fall of 2020, NCUIH and NAL have pushed for inclusion of the 65,000 Natives in the Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia Metropolitan Area. As Natives are dying from COVID-19 at the highest rates worldwide, NCUIH has advocated to the federal government to prioritize this population for vaccines.





NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

POLICY

The success of National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH) member organizations hinges on impacting federal legislation and Indian Health Service (IHS) policy and budgetary decisions.

NCUIH's Policy Division establishes legislative priorities, tracks development and implementation of federal legislation and regulations, and works to protect the interests of urban Indian populations. NCUIH also educates other audiences such as research institutes, foundations, and federal and local agencies on the impact of federal policy decisions.

Temporary 100% FMAP for UIOs

A provision within the American Rescue Plan Act extended the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) to 100% for services to medicare beneficiaries through UIOs. This is a major win for UIO parity with the rest of the ITU system, as both IHS and Tribal facilities already receive 100% FMAP. The extension through ARPA is set for 8 fiscal quarters, starting April 2021.

FTCA

In December of 2020, the Federal Tort Claims Act was amended through legislation to cover UIOs as well. This allows UIOs to redirect funds from medical malpractice insurance to more pressing operational matters that would directly impact their patients.

Facilities Amendment

Currently, IHS interprets IHCA in a way that only allows UIOs to use their annual appropriations from IHS on facilities issues if those renovations and changes allow them to be accredited by The Joint Commission. This accrediting body is not ideal for outpatient or ambulatory facilities, as most UIOs are, but is also only currently used by 1 of 41 UIOs. The Facilities fix bill was introduced as a standalone bill, but was also introduced as the first amendment heard on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Package. The amendment was included in the final bill, with a vote of 90-7

Highlights

12

HEARINGS

House And Senate Hearings With UIOs Represented Through Testimony And Witnesses

135

BILLS

Bills And Committee Reports In Congress Introduced Impacting UIOs

279

MEETINGS

Advisory Committee, Federal Agency, Independent And Other Meetings With Uio Advocacy

27

LETTERS

Letters Submitted On Behalf Of UIOs Regarding Rules and Other Policy Proposals



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RESEARCH CENTER

As part of its core mission, the National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH) is devoted to providing Technical Assistance (TA) for our member programs across Indian Country. Technical Assistance is a term used in Public Health to describe topic-specific guidance tailored based on needs and coupled with the use of innovative technology to facilitate capacity building of organizations. NCUIH strongly believes that providing customized and culturally sound capacity building and knowledge tools is essential to foster and trigger changes necessary to advance our community in the optimal direction.

In 2008, NCUIH founded the Technical Assistance and Research Center (TARC) to become the organization's implementing agent to assist the Urban Indian Health Programs to attain their own goals in diverse areas such as Management, Health Information Technology, Finance and Operations, Board Education, Evaluation, Outreach, Quality Care and Technology, among other topics. As such, TARC has been designed to operate under a holistic approach that is both in seamless coordination with NCUIH's Executive Office, the Policy and Legislation Center (PLC), and the Communications Division.

Highlights

345+

TA HOURS

Number of Technical Assistance Hours Provided

68+

EVENTS

Number of Events, Webinars, Trainings, COLs, ECHOs

5

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Number of NCUIH Youth Council Members





NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RESEARCH CENTER CONTINUED

NCUIH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are collaborating on infection prevention and control (IPC) training initiatives for frontline healthcare personnel.

CDC's Project Firstline is a collaborative of diverse healthcare and public health partners that aims to provide engaging, innovative, and effective infection control training to more than 6 million healthcare personnel in the United States. Project Firstline will provide every person working in a U.S. healthcare facility a foundational understanding of infection control to protect the nation from infectious disease threats such as COVID-19. The project provides core training, engagement, mentorship, public health capacity building, and educational innovation in infection prevention & control training.



Bakersfield American Indian Health Project

Outreach & Referral Center

Johnny Delgado, Grants & Project Director



Denver Indian Health and Family Services

Full Ambulatory

Aron Wahkinney, Project Director—Contracts and Grants Program



Fresno American Indian Health Project

Outreach and Referral

Nancy Pierce, Director of Health Service



Native American Connections

Residential/Outpatient Treatment Center

Jennifer Thompson, Project Director



Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake

Limited Ambulatory; Outreach and Referral

Rochelle Moore, QI & Compliance Officer and Project Director

Research and Public Health

The Research and Public Health Programs Division is a collaborative unit across NCUIH that specializes in knowledge management, public health expertise, and deploying qualitative and quantitative methods in Indian Country.

Additionally, the Research Center at NCUIH is devoted to ensuring that Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) have access to the most recent, useful, and culturally competent data, research, and public health programming available.

27

RESOURCES

Data resources developed and published

4

INFOGRAPHICS

Data infographics about COVID-19

3

ARTICLES

Peer-reviewed journal articles reflecting NCUIH data

2

BLOGPOSTS

Blogposts published

18

REPORTS

Bi-weekly COVID-19 reports



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

PROGRAMS, DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMUNICATIONS

Media Mentions



Pew Research Center

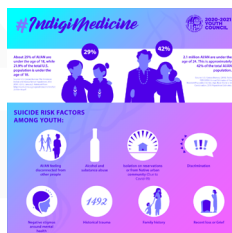


THE KRESGE
FOUNDATION



Key Reports, Products, and Featured Campaigns

- **Be a Good Relative** - We have developed a campaign toolkit for Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) to help encourage COVID-19 vaccination among urban Indians in our communities.
- **GOTV Resource Guide**
- **IndigiMedicine Social Toolkit**
- **Black History Month**
- **Native American Heritage Month Virtual Powwow 2020**



Collaborations with national Organizations and Stakeholders

- NCUIH Partners with Native American Lifelines to Provide COVID-19 Vaccine
- CDC Project Firstline
- Morehouse School of Medicine
- GOTV-IVE (NUIFC)



Webview and Social Statistics

Total user and site visits increased by **63%**

ncuih.org



146,384
post impressions



376,487
impressions



7,600
video views



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

PROGRAMS, DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMUNICATIONS CONTINUED

Development Highlights

39 COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

Major Contributors



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention
(CDC)



Indian Health Service (IHS)



Administration for Native
Americans (ANA)

THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

University of Chicago



Substance Abuse and
Mental Health Services
Administration



Morehouse School of
Medicine

THE
KRESGE
FOUNDATION

Kresge Foundation



University of North Dakota

NCUIH is sincerely grateful for ALL our generous supporters.



This year we were rated by **Charity Navigator**, which indicates to our donors that they can give with confidence due to our financial health, transparency, and accountability.



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH'S 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
CIRCLE OF RESILIENCE: EMPOWERING INDIAN COUNTRY IN A VIRTUAL WORLD
May 25 - 27, 2021 | 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. EST, Daily

The 2020 Annual Conference, Circle of Resilience: Empowering Indian Country in a Virtual World, featured high priority issues such as COVID-19, mental health disparities, community outreach, Missing and Murdered Native Americans (MMNA), and policy directly affecting American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations in urban areas. This was a space to learn best practices and hear lessons learned on providing care during the COVID-19 pandemic, how to support community engagement and sustain partnerships virtually, and staying connected.

A key component of our conference was the level of engagement we promoted with our government partners to increase our understanding of existing programs and to identify future opportunities. Whether it was Indian Health Service (IHS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in our Meet & Greet with Agencies or during one of the Coffee Breaks, there were plenty of opportunities to have participant's voices heard to elevate Urban Indian Organization (UIO) issues.

Joining Breakout Sessions and General Sessions were encouraged to learn from one other, as well as the networking opportunities to discuss the priorities of urban Indian health. Overall, just embracing this year's theme by empowering Indian Country in a virtual world.

We are thankful for our attendees and being committed to making a positive difference, not only in their communities, but throughout their state and country.

- **275** Registrants
- Session Topics Included:
 - Meet & Greet with Agencies (IHS, VA, CDC, CMS, SAMHSA)
 - Mental Health Presentation: Telling Tales- Stories That Can Transform Your Work Life
 - Healing the Healers: Culturally Relevant Employee Wellness Initiatives
 - Building a Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) for a Virtual World
 - Listening Session: Missing and Murdered Native Americans: A Virtual Dialogue
 - Project Firstline Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) UIO Champions Panel
 - NCUIH Youth Council Cohort 3 Presentation
 - Listening Session: Indian Health Service Update Division of Behavioral Health Forum on Behavioral Health Concerns
 - NCUIH Advocacy Training

Keynote: Recognizing 2021 Urban Indian Health Champions

2021 Urban Indian Health Congressional Champion Award Recipients

- Senator James Lankford (R-OK)
- Senator Tina Smith (D-MN)
- Representative Ruben Gallego (D-AZ)
- Representative Don Young (R-AK)



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS

All Nations Health Center

(formerly Missoula Urban Indian Health Center Inc.)

American Indian Council on Alcoholism

American Indian Health & Family Services

American Indian Health & Services, Inc.

American Indian Health Services of Chicago

Bakersfield American Indian Health Project

Butte Native Wellness Center

First Nations Community Healthsource

Fresno American Indian Health Project

Friendship House Association of American Indians

Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center

Helena Indian Alliance-Leo Pocha Clinic

Hunter Health Clinic

Indian Family Health Clinic

Indian Health Board of Minneapolis

Indian Health Care Resource Center

Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley

Juel Fairbanks Chemical Dependency Services

Kansas City Indian Center

(formerly Morning Star Outreach Program)

NARA of the Northwest

Native American Connections

Native American Development Corporation

(formerly Billings Urban Indian Health & Wellness Center)

Native American Health Center

Native American Lifelines of Baltimore

Native American Lifelines-Boston

Native Americans for Community Action

Native Directions, Inc.

Native Health Center

NATIVE Project

Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition, Inc.

Nevada Urban Indians

New York Indian Council, Inc

North American Indian Alliance

Oklahoma City Indian Clinic

Sacramento Native American Health Center

San Diego American Indian Health Center

Seattle Indian Health Board

South Dakota Urban Indian Health

Tucson Indian Center/American Indian Association Of Tucson

United American Indian Involvement, Inc-Los Angeles

Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake City

Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – AUGUST 31, 2021

NCUIH LEADERSHIP

Francys Crevier, JD
Chief Executive Officer

Alejandro Bermudez Del-Villar, MA/IBDD
*Vice President, Programs and Operations,
Development and Communications*

Kimberly Fowler, Ph.D.
*Vice President, Technical
Assistance and Research
Center (TARC)*

Julia Dreyer, JD
Vice President, Public Policy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Walter Murillo
Choctaw
President

Robyn Sunday-Allen
Cherokee
Vice-President

Sonya Tetnowski
Makah Tribe
President Elect

Linda Son Stone
Secretary

Scott Black
Descendant of Miami of Ohio
and Mohican of Ohio
Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

Region 1
Kerry Lessard
Board Member
Descendant of Absentee Shawnee
Executive Director
Native American Lifelines of Baltimore

Region 5
Maureen Rosette
Board Member
Chippewa Cree
Chief Operations Officer
N.A.T.I.V.E. Project

Region 7 (b)
Walter Murillo
Board President
Choctaw
Chief Executive Officer
Native Health Center

Region 2
RoxAnne Lavallie-Unabia
Board Member
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
Executive Director
American Indian Health Service of
Chicago

Region 6 (a)
Sonya Tetnowski
Board President-Elect
Makah Tribe
Executive Director
Indian Health Center of Santa Clara
Valley

Region 7 (c)
Robyn Sunday-Allen
Board Vice-President
Cherokee
Chief Executive Officer
Oklahoma City Indian Clinic

Region 3
Vacant

Region 6 (b)
Scott Black
Board Treasurer
Descendant of Miami of Ohio and
Mohican of Ohio
Executive Director
American Indian Health Services

Region 8
Adrianne Maddux
Board Member
Hopi
Executive Director
Denver Indian Health and Family
Services

Region 4
Todd Wilson
Board Member
Crow Tribal Nation
Executive Director
Helena Indian Alliance-Leo Pocha
Clinic

Region 7 (a)
Linda Son-Stone
Board Secretary
Executive Director
First Nations Community HealthSource

2021



National Council of Urban Indian Health

ncuih.org

