

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Northwest Office of Native American Programs Federal Office Building 909 First Avenue, Suite 300, 0API Seattle, WA 98104-1000

June 4, 2021

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Thomas D. Wooten Tribal Chairman Samish Indian Nation PO Box 217 Anacortes, WA 98221-0217

Dear Chairman Wooten:

Subject: Expenditure of Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Formula Funding Provided Under

the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act

Grant Number: 20BV5313870

The Northwest Office of Native American Programs (NwONAP) continues to work with Tribes and TDHEs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have recently assessed your expenditure of the **IHBG-CARES** funding to ensure the availability of resources you need to continue your pandemic response and that CARES Act funding is spent expeditiously throughout recovery. As of May 25, 2021, our assessment (see below) has indicated that your IHBG-CARES balance is greater than 50% of the awarded amount. This could be due to a variety of project issues, including untimely draw downs. Therefore, please ensure that you are drawing down IHBG-CARES expenditures from LOCCS at least monthly.

Recipient Name	Grant Number	Grant Amount	Balance	Drawn	% Undisbursed
Samish Indian					
Nation	20BV5313870	\$281,241	\$192,456.54	\$88,784.46	68.43%

As the pandemic recovery has progressed and circumstances have changed, you may find it necessary to amend your Abbreviated Indian Housing Plan (AIHP) to meet your current needs. Amendments can be submitted to NwONAP at any time by revising the AIHP that was previously found in compliance by NwONAP. The prompt utilization of the IHBG-CARES funding continues to be a priority for the HUD Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) and is especially critical as ONAP prepares to award \$450 million in IHBG American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to further assist Tribes and TDHEs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

Technical Assistance is available to assist you with assessing current needs, coordinating the use of IHBG-CARES funding for COVID-19 related activities, and amending the AIHP. Should you need technical assistance, please reach out to us at NwONAP.

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Additionally, resources for IHBG-CARES, including guidance on eligible activities and submitting or amending the Abbreviated IHP, are on ONAP's <u>CodeTalk</u> website and listed below:

- <u>Abbreviated IHP Form</u> and Instructions for Opening Form. Please note it is very important for grantees to check the IHBG-CARES box to get the abbreviated IHP version of this form.
- Abbreviated IHP Form Guidance
- PIH Notice 2020-06: IHBG-CARES Implementation Notice
- <u>PIH Notice 2021-14:</u> Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Waiver Notice.
- ONAP COVID-19 FAQ

NwONAP looks forward to working with you to address the COVID-19 national emergency as set forth in your Abbreviated IHP. If you have any questions, or if NwONAP can be of assistance, please contact Katie Wilson, Grants Management Specialist, at (206) 220-6219, or by email at Katherine.T.Wilson@hud.gov; or Andrea Sexton, Grants Evaluation Specialist, at (206) 220-6165, or by email at Andrea.R.Sexton@hud.gov.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. Carney Administrator

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cc: Sharon Paskewitz, Housing Director, Samish Indian Nation