

**AHCCCS hosted a listening session regarding tribal housing needs and resources on February 1, 2021. This session was held specifically for individuals from tribal housing authorities and organizations serving tribal members in need of housing. Participation was therefore limited to individuals representing an ITU and/or tribal representatives.**

This summary is intended to provide a record of the pieces of discussion during the listening session, and provide key recommendations for AHCCCS to consider as the agency moves forward with housing program initiatives.

### Attendance:

- Community Health Representatives
  - Selena Holgate – Flagstaff - CHR
- Tohono O’odham Housing Authority
  - Alexandra Terry - Deputy Director of Tohono O’odham Housing Association
- Inter Tribal Council of Arizona
  - Verna Johnson – Project Manager – HHS intertribal council of Arizona
- Hopi Health Department
  - Royce Jenkins – Director
- Hopi Tribal Housing Authority
  - Stan Pahe - Executive Director Hopi Tribal Housing Authority
  - Thana Leslie – Hopi Tribal Housing Authority
  - Elfina Kalemsa – Hopi Tribal Housing Authority
- Pascua Yaqui TRBHA
  - Maria Molina – PY, CSP in men’s inpatient residential treatment home
  - Sue Tham – PY, Deputy Director
- Pascua Yaqui Housing Authority
  - Keith Gregory – Director of Housing for PY
- Native Americans for Community Action
  - Lucinda Yazzie – Native Americans For Community Actions in Flagstaff
- Native American Connections
  - Diana Devine “DeDe” - Native American Connections
- Native HEALTH
  - Alicia Aragon – Native Health, front office supervisor,
  - Dawn Murphy – Integrated Behavioral Health Consultant for Native Health

### Key Discussion Points:

- Difference in provider types
  - Indian Health Facility
  - Tribal 638 facilities
  - Urban Indian Organizations
  - AIMHs
- Issues or Barriers:
  - Substandard housing

- Lack of housing available on tribal lands
  - Bureaucratic barriers related to land use on tribal lands
- High cost of housing for members when available
  - Often exceeds applicable funding sources/vouchers
- Housing directors may be used to working with federal dollars via HUD or IHS
- Lack of culturally competent and responsive providers
  - “Individuals are more comfortable being unhoused than having to access the services available”

### Recommendations:

- Recommend looking more closely at housing-related cultural competency requirements currently in place
  - ACOM Policy 405
- Recommend requiring cultural competency training specific to tribal populations for housing administrator and/or providers
  - Topics of particular interest: Governance structures, historical trauma, best practice for language
- Creation of a tribal housing resource guide
- Tribal Housing Learning Collaborative to facilitate relationship building among AHCCCS housing partners and staff, and provide technical assistance and education
  - Potential topics:
    - AHCCCS Housing Program updates
    - Partner presentations: Time to learn about other programs and network
      - Maricopa and Pima Continuums of Care
      - VA
      - HUD: Tribal Liaison in Phoenix
    - Technical Assistance on any requests from the group
    - Policy Review

### Next Steps:

- Survey to gain additional feedback from the group - link will be sent to the group and others who are interested in submitting feedback. Responses due:
  - Responses to help inform conversation at March 24, 2021 Special Tribal Consultation and ongoing tribal housing initiatives.
    - *POST-PUBLISHING NOTE: AHCCCS did not receive any survey responses.*
- ACOM 448 to be formally discussed/open for Tribal Consultation at March 24, 2021 Special Tribal Consultation.
  - Meeting Registration Link:  
[https://ahcccs.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_P5N7jNHjR8-qlco5pGJfyg](https://ahcccs.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_P5N7jNHjR8-qlco5pGJfyg).
  - Meeting Materials Link:  
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AmericanIndians/TribalConsultation/meetings.html>.

- Special Tribal Consultation on Housing Waiver Amendment scheduled for 4/5/2021 at 12 pm (MST).
  - Meeting Registration Link:  
[https://ahcccs.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_NgCnjmcJQ2Wd01kHq0lsbA](https://ahcccs.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NgCnjmcJQ2Wd01kHq0lsbA).
  - Meeting Materials Link:  
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AmericanIndians/TribalConsultation/meetings.html>.
- Responses from Tribal Housing Listening Session to be incorporated into draft amendment where appropriate.
  - *POST-PUBLISHING NOTE: Please see incorporated elements in 1115 Waiver Housing Amendment submitted: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Federal/HousingWaiverRequest.html>.*