

## TLDC Virtual Meeting Highlights: December 8, 2020

**TLDC Representatives Present (Area):** Edie Baker (Nashville/alternate), Evelyn Beeter (Alaska/primary), Ann Bullock (IHS/federal Co-Chair), Beverly Coho (Albuquerque/primary), Phyllis Davis (Bemidji/primary), Nancy Elliott (Oklahoma City /alternate), Rosemary Nelson (California/primary), Jonathan Nez (Navajo/primary), Daniel Preston (Tucson/acting Tribal Co-Chair), Darlene Rubio (Phoenix/primary), Cassandra Sellards-Reck (Portland/primary)

### **SDPI Update (Ann Bullock, IHS Division of Diabetes)**

- SDPI 2020 [Report to Congress](#) released in October 2020. Includes recently reported improvements in diabetes for AI/AN people, including decreases in diabetes prevalence, diabetes-related deaths, diabetes-related kidney failure, and hospitalizations for uncontrolled diabetes.
- IHS Division of Diabetes online resources include continuing education for providers, SDPI training, and an [online catalog](#) with materials that can be downloaded or ordered at no charge.
- To date, Congress has authorized SDPI approximately \$29.5 million for FY 2021, which is 20% of the usual \$150 million. In order to maximize existing funds and to issue the NoAs as timely as possible, the IHS Division of Grants Management is utilizing a combination of:
  - \$29.5 million of SDPI FY 2021 authorized funds,
  - \$30 million in SDPI FY 2020 offset and prior year funds, and
  - Funds from offsets being implemented in FY 2021 to 78 SDPI grants with large unobligated (carryover) balances.
- If/when Congress fully authorizes SDPI at the usual \$150 million level for FY 2021, the \$30 million in offsets from FY 2020 as well as the \$22.3 million in offsets from FY 2021 will be recouped.

### **Legislative Update (Shervin Aazami, NIHB)**

- Current continuing resolution authorizes SDPI funding through December 11.
- It appears likely that Congress will pass a 1-week continuing resolution through December 18.
- Congress is working to draft an omnibus appropriations package by December 18 that will fund the entire federal government for FY 2021. This budget package may include SDPI.
- NIHB and other stakeholders are calling for legislative language to offer the option to Tribes and Tribal organizations to receive their SDPI funds through their self-determination contracts and self-governance compacts.

### **Area Updates**

Representatives of the Portland, Tucson, and Bemidji Areas described the challenges in their Areas caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **IHS Leadership Update (RADM Chris Buchanan, IHS Deputy Director)**

- IHS released its COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccine plan. All Tribal health care programs and urban Indian organizations have chosen their preferred vaccine distribution channel (IHS or their state) for the vaccine once it receives U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval.
- IHS has distributed more than 300,000 Abbott BinaxNOW rapid point-of-care COVID-19 tests, 78 million units of personal protective equipment, more than 21,000 vials of remdesivir, and 1,800 doses of bamlanivimab throughout the Indian health system

### **Upcoming TLDC Quarterly Meetings**

- March 9, 2021, 1-5 pm ET (virtual)
- June 15, 2021, 1-5 pm ET (virtual)