



MAY 1, 2026

Dear Tribal Leaders and Tribal Organization Partners,

CDC's Public Health Infrastructure Center (PHIC) is pleased to share a funding update in alignment with the federal commitment to strengthening tribal public health capacity. In CDC's Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 appropriation, Congress appropriated \$360 million to the Public Health Infrastructure and Capacity (PHI+C) appropriations line. In addition, Congress included a new requirement for FY 2026 directing that **three percent of the PHI+C appropriations line (\$10.8 million) be designated specifically for tribes and tribal organizations.**

Prior to this requirement, CDC has strengthened tribal public health infrastructure with awards to tribes and regional tribally designated organizations through the 5-year cooperative agreement (CoAg), [*Strengthening Public Health Systems and Services in Indian Country*](#), known as the Tribal Umbrella CoAg.

To benefit tribal public health programs without delay and allow tribal partners to begin strengthening capacity sooner, PHIC intends to award \$10.8 million (from FY 2026 appropriations) in addition to \$5.4 million existing base funding (from FY 2025 appropriations) in FY 2026. As a result, Tribal Umbrella CoAg recipients will receive a total of approximately \$16.2 million in this award cycle. This allocation meets the Congressional requirement and reflects CDC's ongoing commitment to tribal health and sovereignty. Additionally, PHIC engaged with the CDC/ATSDR's Tribal Advisory Committee, which expressed support for this plan and appreciation for CDC's transparency and swift action. The funds are available for two years through September 30, 2027.

CDC will provide this funding as a non-competitive supplemental award to the 34 current Tribal Umbrella CoAg recipients. This approach ensures the timely release of funds and supports continuity for organizations already working to strengthen tribal public health systems. Recipients will have until August 30, 2028, to use these funds.

CDC remains committed to supporting the sovereignty, health, and well-being of tribal nations and having meaningful engagements with tribes. We look forward to continued collaboration with tribal leaders and organizations as we work together to build stronger, more resilient public health systems.

Thank you for your partnership and ongoing leadership in protecting the health of tribal communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ermias Belay".

Ermias Belay, MD
Interim Designated Federal Official, CDC/ATSDR Tribal Advisory Committee
Director (Acting), Public Health Infrastructure Center
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Department of Health and Human Services