



October 9, 2024

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to invite you to provide updated Facility Master Plans and other identified health care facility needs to be considered for inclusion in the 2026 IHS and Tribal Health Care Facilities' Needs Assessment Report to Congress.

The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is required to submit to Congress every 5 years an updated report of Indian Health Service (IHS) and Tribal health care facilities' needs (25 U.S.C. § 1631 et seq.). The next report is due in 2026. The report includes renovation and expansion needs identified by Tribes, Tribal Organizations, and the IHS. The IHS is requesting your assistance in identifying potential facility needs.

The report is updated in close collaboration with the Facilities Appropriation Advisory Board, and with assistance from the Facilities Needs Assessment Workgroup. The report estimates cost and space requirements across Indian Country using the same consistent methodology and data sources as in the previous reports. To view the last report, "2021 Indian Health Service and Tribal Health Care Facilities' Needs Assessment Report to Congress," on the IHS Web site at https://www.ihs.gov/sites/newsroom/themes/responsive2017/display_objects/documents/The-2021-IHS-Facilities-Needs-Assessment-Report-to-Congress.pdf.

The report is neither a funding request nor a priority system. It is an estimate of needs for planning-level use. I encourage you to provide updated Facility Master Plans and/or other identified health care facility needs to your local IHS Area Facilities Program Director for possible inclusion in the 2026 Report to Congress.

The IHS will provide an opportunity to answer any question on this request via a Zoom call on October 24, 2024, at 2:30 PM E.T. Zoom link: <https://ihs-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1604968303?pwd=camo2owOTaPcKYdICO90rzF8N5LfdU.1>

Because of the extensive lead time needed to complete the draft and clearance process for the report, I am asking that you please provide your data by no later than **December 31, 2024**. If you have questions please contact your IHS Area Facilities Program Director (see enclosure).

Sincerely,

/ Roselyn Tso /

Roselyn Tso
Director

Enclosure: IHS Area Facilities Program Directors