



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

May 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Work and Dignity Coalition Invitation

Dear Tribal Leader:

As Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), I invite you to partner with us to advance policies that strengthen opportunity, promote self-sufficiency, and support economic mobility for Native families by joining the [Work and Dignity Coalition](#).

On February 27, 2026, I announced a proposed rule that would – for the first time ever – provide all Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) owners with the flexibility to implement reasonable work requirements or time limits for non-elderly, non-disabled, work-able adults.

As you may know, for PHAs, HUD is working on transformational rulemaking to allow all PHAs the ability - for the first time ever - to implement reasonable work requirements or time limits for non-disabled non-elderly residents. As part of this effort, Secretary Turner launched the Work and Dignity Coalition. This coalition brings together housing authorities, states, Tribes, nonprofit partners, and faith-based organizations committed to strengthening pathways to work and economic independence for residents. The Work and Dignity Coalition is intended to provide a platform for collaboration and shared learning. Coalition members share best practices, highlight successful local approaches, and engage in ongoing dialogue to support families in achieving greater self-sufficiency.

We are specifically interested in learning more about the approaches Tribal communities already use to support self-sufficiency and economic mobility. While transformational rulemaking is necessary for PHAs, HUD recognizes our government-to-government relationship and the authority Tribes already have to design and administer housing programs that reflect their community priorities. Many Tribal housing entities already implement policies and programs that promote employment, connect residents to supportive services, and encourage long-term economic independence.

As an example, earlier this year, the Cherokee Nation and the Choctaw Nation participated in a best practices webinar highlighting their approaches. Both Nations have implemented time-limited housing assistance paired with supportive services, helping promote employment, support resident success, and, notably, eliminate their housing waitlists. Their experience demonstrates how Tribal-led policies can expand access to housing while strengthening pathways to long-term economic independence. The Cherokee Nation also became the first Tribal Nation to join the Work and Dignity Coalition, further demonstrating its leadership in this space.

If you are interested in implementing, or already have, work-focused policies, time-limited assistance, job training or education requirements, mandatory supportive services, or other strategies

that promote employment and opportunity as part of your Tribal housing programs, we invite your Tribe to join the Coalition.

If you are interested in joining the Coalition or learning more, please email us at WorkandDignity@hud.gov. Participation in the Work and Dignity Coalition reflects a shared commitment to collaboration and policy innovation and is entirely voluntary.

Thank you for your continued leadership in strengthening Tribal communities and expanding opportunity for Native families.

Sincerely,



Benjamin Hobbs
Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development