**FY 2020 Conference Spending *(reported January 29, 2021)***

HUD has implemented a departmental conference review, approval, and reporting process to ensure that appropriated funds are spent properly relative to our essential mission. Managers throughout the department are thoroughly evaluating ways to leverage technology when possible and maximize the benefit from the expenditures on conferences and travel. To this end, HUD has also increased the use of webcasts and online trainings in place of in-person conferences and meetings. The conference process includes input from within HUD and from our constituents on the required training and information exchange that is best accomplished in-person. With proper internal controls, HUD’s leadership is confident that we will continue to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

The department is reporting on each conference sponsored by HUD during the prior fiscal year where US Government appropriated funds were expended in excess of $100,000.

**Conferences in excess of $500,000**

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020 (FY 2020), HUD did not sponsor any conferences which expended appropriated federal funds in excess of $500,000.

**Conferences in excess of $100,000**

Two conferences sponsored by HUD during FY 2020 incurred the expenditure of appropriated funds in excess of $100,000.  This is the information presented for each of these conferences:

* sponsoring HUD program office
* conference name
* location
* date
* total number of individuals whose travel expenses or other conference expenses were paid by HUD
* total conference expenses incurred
* brief explanation how the conference advanced HUD’s mission

The following table contains the required information for those conferences that HUD sponsored during FY 2020 which cost more than $100k.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Listing of FY 2020 HUD-Sponsored Conferences Over $100k** | | | | |
| **Program Office** | **Conference (Name, Location and Date)** | **Number of Payees** | **Total Conference Expenses** | **How the Conference Advanced**  **the Mission of the Agency** |
| [**Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH)**](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing) | National Crime Prevention Summit  Location:  Denver, CO  Dates:  February 4-6, 2020 | 213 | $110,213 | The Office of Native American Programs offered a forum for tribal leaders and federal agencies to discuss methamphetamine prevalence, opioid addiction, violence against women, and gang violence. Information on available funding sources and strategies for implementing policies to prevent and address these crimes was shared. Tribal leaders, housing department executives, housing authority leaders, interested tribal community members, staff from federal agencies, and other organizations participated in this event.  Participants of the summit increased their understanding on how these crimes affect housing and the greater tribal community and how to develop high-quality, compliant action plans that identify clear priorities and accurately reflect community needs to combat these challenges. They also gained knowledge on best practices and resources available from federal agencies, local agencies, nonprofits, and funders to assist them in developing crime prevention programs. |
| **Listing of FY 2020 HUD-Sponsored Conferences Over $100k (continued)** | | | | |
| **Program Office** | **Conference (Name, Location and Date)** | **Number of Payees** | **Total Conference Expenses** | **How the Conference Advanced**  **the Mission of the Agency** |
| [**Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH)**](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing) | PIH Leadership Conference  Location:  Arlington, Virginia  Date:  February 25 – 27, 2020 | 134 | $180,061 | The Public and Indian Housing (PIH) leadership conference:” Inspiring Leaders to Empower People, Build Sustainable Programs and Strengthen Communities” was held in February 2020, for leaders, managers, and presenters from across the organization. The purpose of this conference was to build on the leadership skills and competencies of employees, afford leaders an opportunity to engage and collaborate in-person with their peers from other field offices and headquarters, and learn more about the Secretarial initiatives and PIH priorities for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020.  Leaders and managers also had an opportunity to gain more insight and information on employee engagement, equal employment opportunity rules and regulations, and discuss tools and techniques for effectively managing underperforming employees. |

HUD's executive team continues to be personally involved in the review and approval of HUD-sponsored conferences. In October of 2011 HUD implemented M-11-35 and on January 23, 2014 the Deputy Secretary certified that the system of internal controls required by this memorandum was in place.

In each program and administrative office, the Senior Official (Assistant Secretary or equivalent) authorized any HUD-sponsored conference over $50k. The Second-most Senior Official (General Deputy Assistant Secretary (GDAS) or equivalent) authorized any HUD-sponsored conference over $20k. For those HUD-sponsored greater than $100k, these office executives also requested two additional approvals from the Chief Financial Officer and the Deputy Secretary. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer served as the single channel for both these approvals and reporting. Conferences are an important component of our mission critical activity. Through these efforts we continue to reduce spending and properly prioritize the limited funding available.