May 15, 2020

SUBJECT: Publication of ICDBG-CARES Implementation Notice

Dear Tribal Leader:

On March 27, 2020, the President signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136), which provides additional funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The CARES Act included $100 million for the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG-CARES) program, as well as providing the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) the authority to waive and establish alternative requirements for the ICDBG program.

On April 10, 2020, HUD published Notice PIH 2020-05, which describes in detail the waivers and alternative requirements that apply to new ICDBG-CARES funds. This Notice can be found at: www.hud.gov/coronavirus.

Today, HUD published the ICDBG-CARES Implementation Notice (Notice PIH 2020-11), which provides instructions on how to apply for ICDBG-CARES funding and other program requirements. This Notice can be found at: www.hud.gov/coronavirus and www.hud.gov/codetalk. HUD will begin accepting applications on June 1, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. eastern standard time (EST) on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications submitted prior to this date and time will not be accepted and will need to be resubmitted. Applicants are encouraged to thoroughly review the Notice in its entirety to ensure that a complete application is sent to ICDBGCARES@hud.gov.

HUD has worked to streamline the application process as much as possible, while ensuring that all ICDBG-CARES funds will be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, as required under the CARES Act. HUD anticipates a lot of interest and encourages Indian tribes or approved Tribal organizations to submit their application as soon as the application window opens.

HUD is working to allocate this funding as quickly as possible. HUD will host a training for Tribes and Tribal organizations on the Notice, waivers, and application submissions on May 15, 2020.

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in serving Indian Country.

Sincerely,

R. Hunter Kurtz
Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing