

Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act

30th Anniversary



COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

2026

NAHASDA30

30 Years of Strengthening Tribal Housing Through Self-Determination

February 4, 2026

SUBJECT: NAHASDA 30th Anniversary

Dear Tribal Leader,

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA). For three decades, Tribes, Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs), and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands have utilized NAHASDA to build homes and strengthen American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities. To honor this milestone, HUD is proud to announce **NAHASDA30**—a special initiative dedicated to commemorating the legacy and impact of this landmark legislation throughout 2026.

We are inviting Tribal leaders, housing practitioners, and stakeholders to celebrate with us. We cannot do this alone—we need you. Your voice is essential to telling the story of NAHASDA's impact. Whether it is a success story from your community, a reflection on how far we have come, or a vision for the next 30 years, your perspective is the heart of this commemoration.

HUD has developed the **NAHASDA30 Communications Toolkit** to make it easy for you to share your Tribe's story. In this toolkit, you will find:

- Event Suggestions
- Photo Guidance
- Key Messages
- NAHASDA Fact Sheet
- Talking Points
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Sample Media Advisory
- Sample Proclamation

Additionally, you can visit our NAHASDA30 webpage (www.hud.gov/NAHASDA30) for further resources, including the official logo, graphics, web banners, and customizable event materials.

If you have any questions, please send an email to NAHASDA30@hud.gov. Thank you for joining us to commemorate 30 years of strengthening Tribal housing through self-determination!

Sincerely,

Benjamin Hobbs
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public and Indian Housing

NAHASDA30
30 Years of Strengthening Tribal Housing Through Self-Determination

EVENT AND MEDIA SUGGESTIONS

NAHASDA30 is a nationwide effort to recognize the positive impact of NAHASDA in Tribal communities over the past 30 years. This is an excellent opportunity to share success stories, recognize Tribal housing practitioners, and spotlight Tribal housing across Indian Country.

There are many ways you can participate. Below are suggested activities in three categories: Public Events, Recognition, and Media. After you have created your plans, please feel free to tell us about them by email at NAHASDA30@hud.gov

Event Suggestions

Host an Event: Invite Tribal housing practitioners to a recognition ceremony during your Tribal Council meeting. Consider inviting non-tribal partners (Ex. public housing authorities, state housing agencies, non-profits) to host a story sharing or site visit. Ask a Tribal housing staff member and/or HUD assisted resident to share their story. At the end, read a proclamation and take a photo.

Host a Project Site Tour: Host visitors on a tour of a NAHASDA funded project such as a housing development, community center, or other location. Hear from the HUD-assisted residents about how NAHASDA has impacted the community.

Native Youth Art: Celebrate the creativity of Native youth living in HUD-assisted housing by inviting them to participate in an art event. Encourage young artists to create original works that reflect the theme “What Home Means to Me.” Submitted artwork will be displayed in HUD’s new headquarters building in 2026, showcasing the voices and visions of Native youth across the country.

Service Project: Organize a service project to bring together Tribal housing staff, HUD-assisted residents, local community volunteers or have the Tribal leader serve as a “Tribal housing staff for a day” to highlight the important work being done in your community.

Take a Photo: Take a group photo with your Tribal housing practitioners and/or HUD assisted residents in your community. We encourage you to hold a sign that reads “NAHASDA Works for [Tribe Name].” A downloadable sign is available at our resources page (www.hud.gov/NAHASDA30). Post a photo on your website

and social media page and email it to us at NAHASDA30@hud.gov. See our Photo Guidance for more details.

Issue a Proclamation: Tribal leaders could consider issuing a proclamation to highlight the impact of NAHASDA. A sample proclamation is available in this toolkit. Customize the proclamation using examples and data from your Tribal community.

Put Out a Report: Highlight the scope and impact of NAHASDA by working with local programs to put together a short report. Use data and examples with photos and videos from your Tribal community or across the country.

Media

Pitch the Media: Talk about NAHASDA30 in a local press conference or other media venue. Issue a press release on the scope and impact of NAHASDA in your community. Write an op-ed about the unique contributions of IHBG funded projects in your Tribal community. Our toolkit has a sample media advisory to get you started. Send your press release to NAHASDA30@hud.gov so we can highlight activities across the country in our national press outreach.

Create a Video: Put together a short video that shows what NAHASDA has done in your Tribal community. ([See example video](#)) You could consider including interviews and footage of your project, HUD-assisted residents, soundbites from Tribal leaders, and NAHASDA30 activities. Post it on your YouTube channel, play it through local cable stations, and send us a link at NAHASDA30@hud.gov.

Social media: Social media is a powerful tool for Tribal leaders to highlight the impact of Tribal housing programs, thank those who serve as Tribal housing practitioners, and acknowledge the work yet to be done. We strongly encourage Tribal leaders to use social media to leverage social media to build engagement. Please direct any questions to NAHASDA30@Hud.gov. See example web banners and badges found on our NAHASDA30 resources webpage.

Who can I contact for more information?

For more information on NAHASDA30, contact NAHASDA30@hud.gov.

PHOTO GUIDANCE

We encourage you to take and share photos of Tribal leaders with Tribal housing staff and HUD-assisted residents at a NAHASDA funded site. Participants in the photo could hold a “NAHASDA Works for (Tribe Name)” sign. (Ex. Consider setting up a photo booth at events.)

Where Can I find a customizable NAHASDA30 sign?

- Visit the “Graphics” section of our Resource page to find a customizable sign.
- Add YOUR Tribe or TDHE name to the sign and print.
- Take a photo of your Tribal leader holding the sign with HUD-assisted Tribal residents and Tribal housing staff.
- Photos must be named by respective Tribe or TDHE (Cherokee-1.jpg)



Where should I share photos?

1. First, share your photos on your Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, or other accounts.
2. Second, email the photos to NAHASDA30@hud.gov so we can share them on our national accounts and Flickr album.

Provide a detailed caption that includes the names of the individuals in the photo, where the photo is taken and a description.

Photo submissions will be collected until November 2026.

HUD will feature some of the photos in the new HUD headquarters building!

NAHASDA30

30 Years of Strengthening Tribal Housing Through Self-Determination

KEY MESSAGES

Delivering on Mission

Since 1996, NAHASDA has helped build, acquire, rehabilitate, and maintain over 160,000 homes, addressing overcrowding and improving living conditions for native families. In Tribal communities across America, NAHASDA has provided a flexible solution for Tribes to address their most pressing housing and community needs. From developing new housing and infrastructure to bolstering economic development and serving native Veterans, through NAHASDA, HUD is delivering on its mission and demonstrating its commitment to serve Tribal communities.

NAHASDA Empowers Tribes to Meet Local Needs

NAHASDA was founded on the principle of Tribal self-determination empowering Tribes and TDHEs to manage their own housing and community development affairs in a manner that respects cultural traditions and addresses locally defined priorities, rather than imposing top-down federal solutions.

Investing in the Future

NAHASDA has enabled Tribes to build, acquire, or rehabilitate more than 160,000 housing units, creating jobs and supporting economic development in Tribal communities.

Thanking those who Serve

NAHASDA30 is a nationwide effort to recognize the lasting impact NAHASDA has had on Tribal communities, to thank those who serve as Tribal housing practitioners, and to acknowledge the work ahead.

Renewing the Commitment

As we celebrate 30 years of NAHASDA, we look forward to building on its progress and to further strengthening our government-to-government relationship with Tribal nations for future generations.

NAHASDA FACT SHEET

- Enacted on October 26, 1996, NAHASDA consolidated multiple federal housing programs into one streamlined block grant program.
- NAHASDA created the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) ---the federal government's largest housing investment in Indian Country--- and the Title VI Loan Guarantee Program.
- NAHASDA shifted housing policy from federal control to Tribal self-determination, empowering Tribes to design housing solutions that reflect their culture, priorities, and sovereignty.
- Since 1996, Tribes have:
 - Built or acquired more than 44,000 units with NAHASDA funds.
 - Rehabilitated over 120,000 homes to improve safety, resilience, and comfort.
 - Acquired hundreds of acres of land for housing development and community infrastructure.
 - Invested in infrastructure development such as supported water, sewer, and energy systems, further strengthening community resilience.
 - NAHASDA projects have spurred economic opportunity: creating jobs, expanding workforce training, and stimulating local Tribal economies.
 - Through the Title VI program, HUD has issued over 120 loan guarantees, totaling over \$300 million in investments for Tribal communities. This has resulted in the development, rehabilitation, or installation of infrastructure for nearly 3,600 affordable housing units.
 - NAHASDA has allowed Tribes to design housing programs that reflect their own Tribal traditions, values, and community priorities.

TALKING POINTS

- Housing is a cornerstone of community well-being, and NAHASDA has been central to how Tribes meet housing challenges for 30 years.
- Tribal leaders rely on NAHASDA's flexible funding to design housing solutions that reflect their community's local culture and priorities.
- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a key partner. HUD administers NAHASDA programs, including the Indian Housing Block Grant (largest Federal Tribal housing investment) and Title VI Loan Guarantee Program, which empower Tribes to build, rehabilitate, and modernize housing.
- HUD maintains a government-to-government relationship with Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) to support high-impact housing and community development projects across Indian Country.
- HUD continues to honor the sovereign status of Tribal nations as it engages with Tribes in Tribal consultation and through convening the Secretary's Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee.
- NAHASDA was born out of direct engagement with Tribal leaders. Furthermore, the Indian Housing Block Grant formula requires HUD to formally engaged Tribal leaders in negotiated rulemaking.
- Over the past three decades, NAHASDA has helped to address pressing challenges such as overcrowding, aging infrastructure, and affordability. Whether constructing new homes, rehabilitating existing units, expanding homeownership opportunities, or strengthening community infrastructure, NAHASDA has helped Tribal leaders tackle tough housing problems.
- NAHASDA investments increase the impact of Tribal housing projects, both through direct development and by leveraging additional financing, partnerships, and workforce opportunities.
- We are pleased to join Tribal leaders, HUD officials, and partners in commemorating the 30th Anniversary of NAHASDA.
- Across Indian Country, communities are taking time to recognize the impact of NAHASDA and honor the substantial progress that has been made to address Tribal housing needs over the past 30 years.
- Let us build on this progress and work to ensure that Tribal communities have access to housing and community development needs for generations to come.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is NAHASDA?

The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 or NAHASDA, was signed into law on October 26, 1996, after being introduced in Congress earlier that year by Representative Rick Lazio.) Before NAHASDA, Native American housing programs were fragmented under multiple federal initiatives with numerous reporting requirements, often limiting Tribes' ability to address their unique needs. NAHASDA consolidated these programs into a single Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) system, providing Tribes and TDHEs local control over funds and empowering them to design housing strategies tailored to their own communities. It also created the Title VI Loan Guarantee Program, enabling Tribes to access private financing for affordable housing development. The legislation reflected a broader movement toward Tribal sovereignty and self-governance, recognizing that Tribes should have greater authority to determine how to meet local housing challenges such as overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure, and poverty. Since its implementation in 1997, NAHASDA has been periodically reauthorized and remains a cornerstone of federal housing policy in Indian Country, significantly expanding Tribal capacity to build, rehabilitate, and manage housing

What is NAHASDA30?

NAHASDA30 is a nationwide effort to capture success stories and create a deeper understanding about the impact of NAHASDA over the past three decades. HUD is sharing this communications toolkit to support Tribal leaders and Tribal housing practitioners in telling their NAHASDA story. For 30 years, under NAHASDA, Tribes have determined how best to address their community's housing needs.

Who is participating in NAHASDA30?

Tribal leaders, Tribal housing practitioners, Tribal community members, partner organizations, Tribal housing associations, HUD staff, and more.

What are the goals of NAHASDA30?

- Highlight how Tribal leaders have used NAHASDA to address Tribal housing needs over the past 30 years.
- Thank Tribal housing practitioners for their commitment and recognize the impact of the IHBG, Title VI, and Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant programs.

- Build public awareness about the value and impact of the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant, the Indian Housing Block Grant, and other Tribal housing programs.
- Highlight the role that NAHASDA plays in addressing Tribal housing needs and publicize the impact Tribes have created to further housing and community over the past 30 years.
- Provide opportunities for Tribal leaders to communicate about the impact of NAHASDA to national policymakers
- Generate press coverage and online discussion about Tribal housing past, present, and future.

What is HUD and how does HUD support Tribal communities?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is an executive department of the U.S. federal government with the mission “to foster strong communities by supporting access to quality, affordable housing, expanding the housing supply, and unlocking homeownership opportunities for the American people.”

HUD serves Tribal communities primarily through **the Office of Native American Programs (ONAP)**. A key tenet of HUD's operational structure is the formal recognition and adherence to the Federal Government's [Trust responsibility](#) to sovereign Native American Tribes and Alaska Native Villages. In fulfilling this duty, HUD emphasizes Tribal self-determination, ensuring that programs are designed to empower Tribal governments and TDHEs to manage their own housing and community development affairs in a manner that respects cultural traditions and addresses locally defined priorities, rather than imposing top-down federal solutions.

This commitment is primarily fulfilled through the administration of the following key programs:

Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG): This is the single largest source of Federal funding for housing assistance and development in Indian Country. The program provides flexible formula grants to Tribes for a wide range of activities, including housing construction, rehabilitation, and housing services, supporting self-determination.

Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant (NHHBG): Authorized by Title VIII of NAHASDA, provides HUD funds to Hawaii's Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) for affordable housing on Hawaiian home lands, supporting construction, rehab, infrastructure, and rental aid for eligible Native Hawaiians.

Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program: Guarantees mortgages to facilitate homeownership for Native Americans on and off reservations by increasing access to mortgage capital.

Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG): Funds community development projects and economic opportunities for Tribes.

Title VI Loan Guarantees: Allows Tribes to leverage future IHBG funds as collateral for private financing of large housing and infrastructure projects.

Tribal HUD-VASH: Provides rental assistance and supportive services in partnership with the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs for homeless Native American veterans.

HUD's programs empower Tribes to address local housing needs in a culturally relevant manner. You can find more information and resources on HUD's Codetalk website (www.hud.gov/codetalk).

SAMPLE MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release
March XX, 2026

Contact Name
Phone and Email

[Tribe Name] to Join Nationwide Effort to Recognize Impact of NAHASDA

[CITY, STATE]– On [DATE], [TRIBAL LEADER TITLE] [NAME] will join more Tribal leaders from across the country to recognize and highlight the impact of NAHASDA in address Tribal housing needs over the last 30 years.

[TRIBAL LEADER TITLE] [NAME] will participate in a special recognition for Tribal housing staff [INSERT SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES TRIBAL LEADER WILL PARTICIPATE IN].

For 30 years, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA), under IHBG, has provided Tribes with a flexible resource to address Tribes' housing needs. The program gives Tribes direct control over funds and allows us to design housing strategies tailored to our community's needs. It also created the Title VI Loan Guarantee Program, enabling tribes to access private financing for affordable housing development.

Through NAHASDA, we have [INSERT SPECIFIC LOCAL EXAMPLES].

NAHASDA30 is part of a national effort to recognize the positive impact of Tribal housing programs, thank those who serve as Tribal housing practitioners, and to acknowledge the work ahead.

WHAT:

WHO:

WHERE:

WHEN:

The effort is coordinated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in coordination with key stakeholders. For more information, visit www.HUD.gov/NAHASDA30.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is a federal agency that is dedicated to fostering strong communities by supporting access to quality, affordable housing, expanding the housing supply, and unlocking homeownership opportunities for the American people. For more information, visit www.hud.gov.

NAHASDA30

30 Years of Strengthening Tribal Housing Through Self-Determination

SAMPLE PROCLAMATION

Commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA)

WHEREAS, thirty years ago, on October 26, 1996, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) was signed into law, marking a historic shift in federal housing policy by consolidating programs and empowering Tribes to design and implement housing solutions that reflect their sovereignty, culture, and community priorities;

WHEREAS, NAHASDA has provided Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities with direct access to the Indian Housing Block Grant and Title VI Loan Guarantee Program, enabling the construction, rehabilitation, and modernization of thousands of homes across Indian Country;

WHEREAS, NAHASDA embodies the principle of self-determination, affirming that Tribes know best how to meet the housing needs of their people, while also advancing economic opportunity, and community resilience;

WHEREAS, over the past three decades, NAHASDA has not only improved housing conditions but also created jobs, strengthened infrastructure, and supported robust development in Native communities;

WHEREAS, the (Name of Tribe) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development remain committed to honoring Tribal sovereignty, expanding affordable housing opportunities, and ensuring that future generations benefit from resilient, stable, and culturally grounded housing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, (Tribal Leader's Name), (Tribal Leader's Title) of the (Name of Tribe), do hereby commemorate the 30th Anniversary of NAHASDA, celebrating its legacy of partnership, progress, and empowerment, and reaffirm our commitment to building strong, healthy, and thriving Tribal communities for the decades ahead.