



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

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

July 21, 2017

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is pleased to invite American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, or their Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs), to apply to participate in the ConnectHome Nation project. Over the next three years, HUD has plans to expand ConnectHome Nation by including 100 new communities, 25 of which will be rural or tribal.

ConnectHome Nation is HUD's program to connect low-income households to the Internet. The program leverages the expertise of digital inclusion champions, including HUD's nonprofit partner, EveryoneOn, and dozens of private stakeholders, such as Best Buy's Geek Squad, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, CollegeBoard, and GitHub. These partners provide ConnectHome communities with the tools and resources to offer affordable connectivity, devices, and training to HUD-assisted families.

In 2015, the Choctaw Nation Housing Authority, in Oklahoma, was the first TDHE to participate in ConnectHome, and it was successful at introducing affordable, high-speed Internet to its target families with school-age children. With this program expansion, other tribes will now have the opportunity to emulate Choctaw's success, and work with HUD and its partners to install this critical infrastructure and receive the necessary computer literacy training.

To apply, please register at this website: ConnectHomeNation.org. Applications will be released beginning on July 17, 2017.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about this effort, please contact the Office of Native American Programs' ConnectHome Program Manager, Michelle Tinnin. Ms. Tinnin can be reached at 405-609-8532, or by email at Michelle.K.Tinnin@hud.gov.

Thank you for your support of Native American housing programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heidi J. Frechette".

Heidi J. Frechette
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Native American Programs