

elders, there is an urgent need to develop both services and systems of care to support families as they care for their elders. The way systems are developed and implemented can have significant impact on the cultural and spiritual health of the community. Home and community based services have been demonstrated to be the most cost efficient approach to long-term care, have the potential for meeting the needs of the vast majority of elders requiring long-term care services, and support the key roles of the family in the care of the elders and the elder in the care of the family and community.

Tribes and communities have very different histories, capabilities, and resources with regard to long-term care program development. Thus, each tribe or community will have different priorities in building an infrastructure of long term care. The focus of long term care planning and service delivery is at the tribal and urban community level. An efficient and effective system of long term care would make use of all available resources, integrating and coordinating services to assist families in the care of their elders. A necessary step in that process is to develop tribally administered and delivered long term care services.

Applicants are required to demonstrate the sustainability through ongoing reimbursement or other funding of projects initiated with grant funds. Applicants are also required to demonstrate how the grant-funded program integrates into a long-term care for the Tribe and community. A variety of resources are available to fund Tribal or urban AI/AN long-term care services. While currently funded IHS services comprise parts of a long-term care system, the degree to which these resources are applied to the needs of elders depends both on the local health care priorities and on the degree of organization of the system to care for elders. Programs funded through the Administration on Aging (including the recently funded National Family Caregiver Support Program) have been key elements in the long-term care infrastructure in Indian communities. Other resources are available to provide long-term care services on a reimbursable basis to eligible AI/AN elders. The majority of long-term care services in this country are funded by Medicaid, Medicare (limited) and various State-home and community-based care programs. The Veterans Administration is also a source of reimbursement for long-term care services for eligible AI/AN Veterans. Federal housing programs are a potential resource in developing the

long-term care infrastructures. Each of these resources has unique eligibility requirements.

The Long-Term Care Technical Support Center (Dave Baldrige, Program Director, (505) 292-2001 or dave@nicoa.org) will be available to provide consultation and technical support to Tribes and communities as they develop their grant application.

Eligibility and Documentation Requirements: Any federally recognized Indian Tribe, Tribal or American Indian/Alaska Native organization or 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations serving primarily American Indians and Alaska Natives is eligible to apply for a grant from the IHS under this announcement. All eligible Tribes, Tribal, or American Indian/Alaska Native organizations must meet the descriptions and criteria established to determine non-profit status as specified in this grant announcement. American Indian and Alaska Native Faith-Based non-profit organizations are both included and encouraged to apply as implied in American Indian/Alaska Native organizations as referenced above.

Documentation of Support

1. Tribal Resolutions.

(a) A resolution of the Indian Tribe or Indian Tribal organization supporting this specific project must accompany the application submission.

(b) Applications which propose services which will benefit more than one Indian Tribe must include resolutions from all affected Tribes to be served.

(c) Applications by Tribal organizations will not require resolution(s) if the current Tribal resolution(s) under which they operate would encompass the proposed grant activities. A statement of proof or a copy of the current operational resolution must accompany the application.

(d) If a resolution or a statement is not submitted, the application will be considered incomplete and will be returned without consideration.

2. Non-Profit organizations must submit a copy of the 501(c)(3) certificate, a valid IRS tax exemption certificate or a statement from a State taxing body certifying applicant organization has a nonprofit status.

3. Letters of Cooperation/ Collaboration/Assistance.

(a) Letters included in the application should be specific to this program.

(b) If other related human services programs are to be involved in the project, letters confirming the nature and extent of their cooperation/

collaboration/assistance must be submitted.

Project Types

Eligible projects are those that aim to develop the capacity to deliver long-term care services at the Tribal or regional level. The application should describe a comprehensive plan or vision for elder care services for the community and how the grant proposal will move toward that vision through program development. Examples include the establishment of a personal care agency licensed through a state home and community based care waiver program, establishment of hospice or home health agency, licensed elder day program, geriatric assessment (to identify the needs of the frail elder and their family and identify services which are currently available to meet those needs), case management to organize, broker, and monitor services, community housing such as assisted living, board and care or adult foster home.

The proposal should:

1. Include a brief assessment of current resources and programs.

2. Demonstrate how the need for the particular service or program was identified. If information is not currently available regarding elder demographics and functional impairment rates, this should be obtained in the first year of the grant. Additional years of funding will be contingent on demonstrating this basic demographic information.

3. Show how the project will make use of available funding streams (Medicaid waivers, personal care options or State-home and community based care services, VA long-term care benefits, other resources) for service delivery.

4. Integrate or coordinate with currently available local services for the elderly (including those available through current IHS funding, Title VI or Family Caregiver Support funding, Tribal funding, and other resources). When possible this should be indicated in letters of support.

5. Demonstrate consistency with cultural values of the community around the care of the elderly.

6. Build upon the family as the primary source of support for the elder.

7. Applicants are encouraged to explore novel funding streams to provide services (e.g., TANF training funds, HUD, USDA programs).

8. The application should include a clear plan for self-sufficiency through reimbursement or ongoing funding by the end of the grant cycle. This should