



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

**OCT 20 2011**

Dear Tribal Leader:

The President's Budget to the Congress includes a proposal of approximately \$12.6 million for the Housing Improvement Program (HIP). If appropriated, funds will be available to federally recognized tribes and tribal organizations for the use in providing program services to Indian applicants who meet the eligibility criteria in 25 CFR Part 256.

Your servicing Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Regional Office will be in contact with your Tribal Housing Office to notify you of the availability of funds and to collect HIP data. Although the collection of Housing applications is an on-going process throughout the year, to be considered for FY 2012 funding, the applications must be received at the Regional Offices by close of business on December 31, 2011.

The forms enclosed in this packet are for implementation in the FY 2012 Program Year. They include the FY 2011 Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Federal Poverty Income Guidelines, as published in the Federal Register on January 24, 2011; the FY 2012 Annual Performance Report Forms; and the BIA Housing Assistance Application Form 6407 (BIA 1076-0084) which has an expiration date of October 31, 2014. Additional information about HIP can be viewed and downloaded online at the following address:

<http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/OIS/HumanServices/HousingImprovementPlan/index.htm>

If you need additional information or have any questions or concerns, please contact your local BIA Regional or Agency office or your Self-Governance representative. You may also contact the BIA Office of Indian Services, Housing Program Officer Mr. Les Jensen at (907) 586-9397.

Sincerely,

Larry Echo Hawk  
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosures