

# 2023 Local Legislative Priorities—King County

Seattle Indian Health Board (SIHB) ensures the health and well-being of urban American Indian and Alaska Native communities by providing culturally attuned healthcare and human services; conducting data research through its research division, Urban Indian Health Institute; and collaborating with tribal, community, and local partners.

## Urban Indian Infrastructure

### Address housing and healthcare infrastructure disparities.

- Invest in capital infrastructure for SIHB's 92-bed substance use disorder (SUD) inpatient treatment facility, Thunderbird Treatment Center, offering culturally attuned behavioral health services with expanded options for pregnant adults.
- Invest \$30 million for affordable housing to support underserved communities.
- Make meaningful investments in culturally attuned and affordable, temporary, and long-term housing models led by—and for—American Indian and Alaska Native people.

## American Indian and Alaska Native Relationship Priorities

### Honor trust and treaty obligations to American Indian and Alaska Native citizens.

- Develop Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer policies within county departments and King County Regional Homeless Authority to inform, develop, and implement Indigenous perspectives within legislation and government-funded programs.

## Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

### Address violence against Native women and girls.

- Invest \$2.8 million for domestic violence survivor services such as community advocacy, crisis intervention, legal advocacy, shelter, and safety planning.
- Invest \$1.5 million for sexual assault victim services.
- Create and set aside funding for department budgets for tribes and urban Indian organizations to conduct culturally attuned services in the areas of gender-based violence.
- Increase funding for county court staffing to address the backlog of cases, support victims, and maintain critical court services.

## Supporting Priorities

### Build thriving communities through community-led and culturally attuned services.

- Increase funding for Health and Human Services contracts to match inflation rates of 7.6%.
- Invest \$89 million to continue funding a coordinated crisis response to homelessness.
- Invest \$2.1 million to launch co-response units that include behavioral health professionals.
- Invest in Indigenous and community-based programming and services.
- Invest in culturally attuned behavioral health services.

