

Seattle Indian Health Board 2026 Federal Priorities

Seattle Indian Health Board (SIHB) ensures the health and well-being of urban American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) 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 Health

Ensure Native people have access to healthcare regardless of their location.

- Support the Urban Indian Health Parity Act (H.R. 4722) push to permanently extend 100% FMAP to Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) by amending Section 1905(b) of the Social Security Act, to ensure equitable Medicaid reimbursement for urban AI/AN beneficiaries.
- Support Medicaid reimbursement for traditional and culturally responsive care at UIOs through permanent 100% FMAP, without diverting funds from Tribes and while providing states with additional federal funding.
- Ensure full funding of Indian Health Services (IHS) budget.
- Support the reintroduction of the Urban Indian Health Confer Act.

340B & Community Health Centers (CHC)

Protect programs and services delivered by CHCs.

- Protect the 340B access for UIOs and FQHCs like SIHB to preserve affordable medications, uncompensated care, and culturally attuned services for low-income and underserved communities, consistent with Congress's intent to stretch scarce federal resources.
- Exempt all FQHCs and I/T/U systems of care from future 340B rebate programs to prevent unsustainable financial and administrative burdens that would force service reductions and divert resources from direct patient care.

Workforce Development

Invest in the health care workforce.

- Amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Sec. 111 on Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) to include UIOs as eligible participants.

Maternal and Infant Health

Invest in programs and services to support AI/AN mothers and infants.

- Introduce a Native maternal health bill to improve funding, workforce development, and maternal and infant mortality data for AI/AN communities.
- Hold a hearing on AI/AN maternal health.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People (MMIWP)

Address violence against Native women and people.

- Hold the Department of Justice (DOJ) accountable for addressing this crisis in urban Indian communities by providing local law enforcement the appropriate training and resources.
- Urge the Federal Communications Commission to establish an AI/AN-specific missing and endangered persons alert code.
- Protect victim services funding.

Housing for Native Communities

Address housing disparities for AI/AN individuals and families.

- Increase funding for culturally attuned in-patient facilities, sober beds, transitional housing, and detoxification facilities.

Protect Federally Obligated Grant Funding

Ensure grant stability for I/T/U providers and FQHCs.

- Prohibit abrupt termination of already-obligated federal funds, such as recent SAMHSA grant termination and termination reversal, so providers can reliably staff programs and deliver essential services.

