



# United Native American Housing Association

Jason Adams, Chairman  
PO Box 38  
Pablo, MT 59855

*"Tribes Helping Tribes"*

October 26, 2015

MAILED AND E-MAILED TO: Lourdes.M.Castro-Ramirez@hud.gov

Lourdes Castro-Ramirez  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Public and Indian Housing  
U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Rm. 4100  
Washington, D.C. 20410

RE: New Deputy Assistant Secretary for ONAP

Dear PDAS Castro Ramirez,

As the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development proceeds to fill the recently vacated Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs position that resulted from Roger Boyd's retirement, it would seem now to be an appropriate time for the Department, together with some of the tribes, to discuss goals, principles and key mechanisms of the Department's Native American programs.

Along with supporting our national association, NAIHC, in these matters, representatives of tribes and tribally designated housing entities in the Northern Plains region would like to meet and discuss these matters with you. Our purpose would be to exchange our respective beliefs and views regarding the goals of and approaches to federal Indian housing and economic development programs.

Our membership's varied and recent contacts with you and Secretary Julian Castro have caused us to hope that we and the Department share mutual and genuine interests in finding ways to primarily direct these federal resources to the most needy in Indian country.

#### UNAHA Board Members

Sharon Vogel-Vice Chairman  
Cheyenne River Housing Authority  
PO 480  
Eagle Butte, SD 57625

Iva Grainger - Secretary  
Fort Peck Housing Authority  
PO Box 667  
Poplar, MT 59255

Joey Nathan-Treasurer  
Northern Ponca Housing Authority  
PO Box 2486  
Norfolk, NE 68701

Gauthier Agency LLC  
Administrator  
63316 US HWY 93  
Ronan, MT 59864

From our perspective, as stakeholders and HUD's tribal partners, we feel the legal principles of tribal self-determination and the statutorily-mandated direction to assist the most needy families in Indian country are fundamental. UNAHA, represented by Paul Iron Cloud, Bob Gauthier, Dave Heisterkamp, Jim Wagenlander, and myself would like to schedule a meeting with you in Washington in the next sixty days to further discuss these principles. At the same time we would also like to take up Secretary Castro's offer last year to Paul Iron Cloud to stop-in for a few minutes and see the Secretary.

The next few months could well be the next defining moment for federal and tribal efforts to improve Indian and Alaska Native housing and economic development. We are available to work with your staff to find times for both of these meetings. We look forward to meeting with you and the Secretary very soon.

Sincerely,



Jason Adams  
Chairman

cc: daniella.d.mungo@hud.gov

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