Discussion Questions for Tribal Leaders and Native American Policy Experts

1) What are the unique challenges presented by homelessness among Native Americans both on and off tribal lands?

2) What actions can be taken at the tribal, state, and/or Federal-level to address challenges and barriers associated with ending Native American homelessness?

3) The interagency working group is currently developing strategies to support a path to end Native American homelessness. This work is being organized within 4 distinct strategy areas:

   a) Provide guidance and technical assistance to: 1) increase the knowledge and capacity of tribal communities and homelessness services and housing providers to improve access to housing and services; and 2) increase the availability of housing options for Native Americans experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness both on and off tribal lands.

   b) Improve data collection on homelessness among Native Americans both on and off tribal lands to better enumerate the size and scope of the problem;

   c) Ensure that Federal strategies and actions to set a path to end Native American homelessness are informed by consultation and engagement with tribal leaders, urban Native communities, and experts in the field; and

   d) Elevate awareness of the crisis of homelessness and housing instability among Native Americans, both on and off tribal lands, through coordinated Federal messaging and communications.

4) Are these the right set of strategies? From your perspective, what are the challenges associated with achieving these?

5) It is our understanding that tribal communities face barriers in accessing Federal programs for which they are eligible. Which programs in particular are there barriers to accessing? What types of assistance or guidance from Federal partners would be helpful in mitigating these challenges?

6) Is it more helpful for existing Federal programs to be opened up to tribal communities or to boost targeted programs already available to tribal communities?

7) What types of messaging and communication would be most helpful in elevating the crisis of homelessness and housing instability?