

NIHSDA 2021 STRATEGIC PLAN

NIHSDA MISSION STATEMENT STANDING STRONG AND PRESERVING THE IDENTITY OF AIAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

NIHSDA PURPOSE TO REMAIN THE LEADING VOICE FOR AIAN CHILDREN IN HEAD START PROGRAMS, THE NATIONAL INDIAN HEAD START DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION STRIVES TO PRESERVE AND RESPECT INDIGENOUS IDENTITY, WHILE ACTIVELY PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY ADVOCACY, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES TO CURRENT AND FUTURE EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION LEADERS.

KEY OBJECTIVES

Increase Advocacy and Education Efforts

Increase Leadership and Engagement with Parents and Staff

Enhance Membership Benefits

INITIATIVES

- Develop and disseminate NIHSDA information packets to Congressional offices
- Encourage programs to invite their elected officials to visit their centers
- Prepare annual Labor-HHS testimony
- Prepare annual ACF Consultation comments
- Increase virtual and in-person visits to Washington, DC
- Better utilize tribal partners during advocacy efforts (NCAI, tribal lobbyists, etc.)
- Increase meetings with federal offices (ACF, OHS, BIE, White House, STAC, etc.)
- Coordinate a “call-in-day” for AIAN programs to contact their representatives
- Hold and AIAN Head Start reception on the Hill

- Establish a Parent Advisory Council
- Develop and hold a Parent Leadership Institute
- Establish a Staff Advisory Council

- Offer Leadership Skills Training through a cluster focusing on items such as: Coaching, Goal Setting, Conflict Resolution, Communication, Staff Motivation/Appreciation, and Leader vs. Boss
- Establish leadership cohorts (virtual) to encourage peer networking via training and group work
- Partner with TTA to offer New Staff Training Clusters to include sample/example materials developed by NIHSDA in addition to “textbook” materials from TTA