

Tribal Leader Consultation on HUD's Housing Needs Assessment: Proceedings and Notes

Second National Consultation

Lincoln, Nebraska, June 17, 2012

A. Proceedings

Chuck Hanson, Econometrica, welcomed the participants to the consultation. He then introduced Jennifer Stoloff, the Study Manager for HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R). Jennifer greeted the participants and then Ron Bearskin delivered the invocation. Chuck Hanson then introduced Erika Poethig, Acting Assistant Secretary for PD&R.

Erika Poethig: Thank you Mr. Bearskin for the invocation, and thank you Chuck and Jennifer for leading this work. This has been a meaningful and important consultation endeavor. Each meeting has offered us additional insights into the study. Thanks to all of you for taking the time out of your schedules, especially today on Father's Day. Your presence is important to us.

Chuck Hanson led an introduction of the attendees, beginning with tribal leaders and elders. He then provided the agenda for the day.

Jennifer Stoloff: This series of consultations follows up on last year's series of outreach sessions. This is an opportunity to get input from tribal leaders and representatives. Please check in with Doray Sitko of Econometrica, if you did not sign up already for the electronic mailing list, so that you can stay up to date with progress of the study.

HUD has had an interest in this work for some time and Congress gave a mandate that has allowed the work to occur. The office of PD&R is managing this study and working closely with the Office of Native American Programs (ONAP). The Urban Institute is the lead research firm undertaking this work along with their partners, NORC, and Econometrica and SSI. The main study piece is a household survey designed to produce a national level estimate of housing need. More detail will follow later on that. In the packet you have, there are a variety of materials including a summary; FAQs; a listing of the impact of previous outreach sessions; a complete list of the sample tribes, which is a draft although we are getting closer to the final list; a sampling process overview; and a questions sheet with contact information for submitting questions. Copies of all of today's presentations, and two survey instruments are also included. The link to the study website is included in this presentation so you can access all of today's materials and get updates with others. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Erika Poethig: I want to provide a history of why we are here, the foundation for this study, and how we are using your input to refine the study approach. The last time we had an opportunity to assess housing needs was in 1996. We have not been in a position to update the study until this Congressional mandate and we are thrilled to have this means to update this study. All of the data and information we have about needs in Indian Country are based on that outdated information. We have devoted time and resources to address this study. The study is designed to give a picture of needs at a national level; Tom Kingsley of the Urban Institute led the study in 1996 and will speak further on this shortly. It is an effort to quantify the scale and nature of need. Several components will accomplish this goal. This is not a tribal level assessment. The results will not inform the grant formula. But one may imagine that the study would be an important piece of education that could enlarge the size of the pie. It could be an important part of tribes' education of Congress and others. Finally, this is not a closed exercise. It is very much a partnership across tribes to ensure we are going forth with the comfort and trust necessary to get the response to make this study valid. As a complement, while we cannot survey every tribe, tribes can undertake their own surveys and implement the process on their own.

There are three major phases to this study. First is developing the surveys and sample as well as finalizing the methods; this is the design phase and is where we are today. Then we will move to implementation where we actually conduct the surveys and finally we will analyze the survey responses and write the report, scheduled in 2014. This illustration provides a sense of the steps and demonstrates that throughout we are eliciting input. We have conducted four months of listening sessions. We are now in formal consultation process. We have already made modifications based on input we have received, such as reducing the minimum tribe size from 150 to 250 households. We are taking input and going back to look and see what modifications we can make. This is about getting tribal support and endorsement on making this important. This is not window dressing. We have very busy lives to lead and would not do this if there was no value. As Jennifer noted, we continue to take input. We have the Office of Management and Budget who reviews all surveys. They are reviewing what we have currently. Once our package is approved we can move to implementation. Now I will turn the presentation over to Tom for greater details about the study.

Tom Kingsley: At the time of the 1996 study there was a great feeling that housing needs were not well understood, that the story wasn't being adequately told. We got the data and got the story told. The national objective data reinforced what had been reported anecdotally. This coincided with NAHASDA. It gives me a feeling that this can make a difference and get people, like Congress, to pay attention in a time of resource constraints. I greatly appreciate your advice and ideas.

The project team includes the Urban Institute, a nonprofit research organization. I feel especially happy to have NORC at the University of Chicago as our survey team for this work. Carol Hafford is here today to answer questions regarding that aspect of the study. NORC has staff that know how to conduct surveys in Indian Country better than anyone else; they are sensitive to

cultural aspects and have worked with many of the tribes already. Another organization that Chuck and Doray belong to is a team that has done work with ONAP, and that is Econometrica, a research firm in Bethesda, MD. Finally we are assisted by SSI, a Native American owned research firm in Silver Spring, MD.

I will not be going to go in depth but I will provide an outline of the research components. This is about housing conditions and needs; once completed, we will know something about conditions in all geographies. Most important is the condition in tribal areas. From the Census and other sources, we will understand the population and other changes in demographics, social, and economic conditions. There is very little out there on what effect the Great Recession has had on the Native American population. We will make visits to urban areas to assess how American Indians are faring in those areas. We are looking at housing policies and programs via a survey of TDHEs and other sources. None of this is an evaluation of anyone's performance. The reason we are doing this is to understand what is working and what is not, in a comprehensive way. NAHASDA performance will be assessed overall. Sources of data include the Census although we recognize its imperfections and limitations. The core of this is the household survey that will be undertaken in these 40 sample tribal areas. You can't understand what is going on unless you get out in the field and see things first hand and can report on conditions and local perceptions. What we learn in places will contribute to this national sample. NORC will be designing and working this out, but also recruiting tribal members to conduct surveys; there will be paid training and interviewing. We will also be including a telephone survey with TDHEs and in person interviews of key stakeholders. As I mentioned, we will perform site visits and in-person interviews in urban areas. The sample selection is in your packet; this nationally representative sample taking into account population size within region. As we go to these sites we will develop a sampling frame to sample addresses for whom to interview.

B. Questions and Answers

Chuck Hanson thanked Tom and Erika and indicated that the consultation would move into an open discussion period. He noted the ground rules for this period and invited tribal leaders and elders to begin the comments and questions.

Sabrina Stephens: Is the team interviewing or is local staff performing that function?

Tom Kingsley: Tribal leaders will be consulted and if appropriate, tribal members will conduct the interviews in the homes. Regarding the survey, it focuses on housing conditions. Will learn a lot more about factors such as homelessness, family, housing shortage, etc. Comments on the survey instrument are welcome and helpful.

Chester Atone: Regarding tribes undertaking their own survey, what will the elements be required for HUD to accept it from the tribes?

Erika Poethig: Given the rigor of the study design, that comment was noting that the survey has been developed and tribes can use those resources on their own. We cannot however incorporate local results into the aggregate results, but those can complement it. We need to follow our sampling frame. HUD invested in this survey and tribes could use it for their own purposes. The other piece to point out is that there are two surveys. One is a household survey and one is a survey of TDHEs. In addition to the random list of TDHEs selected for the survey, all of the TDHE's can go to the web portal and complete the survey. Those findings will be incorporated into the overall findings. At the household level, please use the tool and if you conduct a survey share the results with us, as they will be useful even if they can't be incorporated.

Chester Atone: So if you are not on the TDHE list, what can you do?

Erika Poethig: You can complete the TDHE survey on the website. The site is not ready yet but will be distributed via the e-list when it becomes available.

Alvin Moyle: Our reservation is an allotment status. Looking at the growth of our people, we are adjacent to a parcel of federal land and interested in obtaining that. Will a part of this survey be able to contain that information from our tribe? When the federal government made the reservation, everyone located 10 acres in are landlocked, with no official easements or access. This left us in a bind for being able to assist those people with housing if they wanted to erect any. So being able to acquire federal land for residential purposes would be a solution.

Erika: We need to consider what questions we might ask to capture that issue. Is the principal issue easement or access? And this constrains your ability to grow, is that true?

Alvin Atone: It is better to draw and explain. [Mr. Atone then proceeded to draw a diagram of the land he described.] These 10 acre allotments are from the federal government. Half of the population has no legal right of way to access their property. I would like to obtain that federal land to address this issue.

Erika Poethig: We can perhaps ask the TDHEs a question about this issue related to the easement or access to land.

Tom Kingsley: We are aware of problems like this and recognize the challenges allotments present. The TDHE survey asks about the challenges in development and land issues will be a good illustration.

Karla Knife Chief: We had issues with easements when we had FEMA trailers for owners with trust properties. There were a few people that were declined due to easement and right of way issues. These properties belonged to very low income families. My concern is that I'm from Oklahoma and our office in the Southern Plains office. I wanted to make sure that all area offices' tribes will be represented in the survey research. Also I want to ensure that tribal members will be conducting the surveys and that a gift will be given out for completing the

questionnaire. I worked previously for Census and diabetes in women project. When you choose a tribal member to assist, you have to be careful about who you select. Sometimes the environment, if you are talking to grandmother, she may not reveal all of the people staying with her. Another issue is being able to get the family to meet with you. A reward will help address this somewhat. When you refer to area, is that your tribal members or other tribes as well?

Erika Poethig: Are you referring to household or TDHE with respect to areas?

Karla Knife Chief: I am referring to both.

Erika Poethig: The household sample will be drawn from the tribe listed; there will be lots of consultation with the elected leadership and tribal council regarding how to approach families and recruitment as well as suggestions for potential survey team applicants.

Carol Hafford, NORC: The compensation for completing the survey is \$20 and we will work with each tribe to determine the best incentive type (cash, gift card, etc.).

Tom Kingsley: The sample is the tribal members who live there, not those who moved away. We are aware that we need to select the right tribal members as interviewers.

Carol Hafford: As part of our outreach, we will discuss how to recruit the tribal members to conduct the survey. This may be through college or university, TANF [Temporary Assistance for Needy Families] office, workforce office, or such. Surveyors will receive 18-20 hours of training. And another trained person will be available as a backup. We will work with each tribe regarding logistics. One other thing, working through research regulation protocols as well such as IRB, the tribal council for resolution approval, a permit to do survey research, etc.

Carrie O'Toole: The people doing the surveys in the communities, will they sign a confidentiality pledge? Will they be compensated?

Carol Hafford: Yes to both; tribal members conducting the survey will be compensated at about \$17 per hour, as well as reimbursement for mileage and training. A confidentiality pledge will be signed as standard procedure.

Carrie O'Toole: Will the tribes get the results of the survey?

Carol Hafford: The results are securely sent back to the NORC office in Chicago. With respect to data ownership, HUD can address that question.

Erika Poethig: That is an important question, thank you. These are confidential surveys so our obligation is to not provide data back that gives any identification. So we have to strip away any identity of the people surveyed. It will be considered, but the size of the sample in any tribe is not large enough to be meaningful for grant applications. You cannot get any identifiable information and the results will not be at a scale to be considered meaningful. It's not an assessment of tribes, its' an assessment of tribal members.

David Kwail: When the report is issued will I be able to say I can pull out any one tribe specifically?

Erika Poethig: No, this is not a tribal assessment. It's a national assessment. We don't have a sample large enough to give an assessment of any one tribe's conditions. We will be using it collectively to a larger sense of housing challenges nationally. This cannot drill down to the local level.

Jennifer Stoloff: The TDHE surveys will get at challenges, needs, etc. As a policy matter, it can be quite important as a housing provider.

David Kwail: How do you choose to sample at the tribal level? Concerning the five urban areas that are chosen – are these where tribes operate or where there are no tribes?

Jennifer Stoloff: How we choose the sample at each tribe depends on what is available. Postal data is our first choice. We will work closely with tribes from enrollment files to develop a sample and if not, we do an onsite enumeration (drive around and count housing by Census blocks). For the urban areas, they will be places with a high proportion of American Indian populations. Our focus is on metropolitan areas with lots of self-identified Native Americans living there.

Tom Kingsley: The urban areas are not recognized tribal areas.

David Kwail: Regarding the postal method, that works on a reservation, but not in Oklahoma.

Jennifer Stoloff: Correct, we expect that to work at about 1/3 of the sample sites. We know we can't build the frame off the USPS list everywhere and we can use those alternative strategies I mentioned.

Jason Dollarhide: Does the size of a tribe determine how many individuals get interviewed? Or is there a tribal population that determines that?

Erika Poethig: The tribes were picked based on distribution and the people are also selected on distribution.

Jennifer Stoloff: We are targeting 1600 respondents and 1280 is an 80 percent success rate. Average per site is 40 households.

Jason Dollarhide: It is concerning that in FAQs there is a statement regarding impact on the IHBG formula. You indicate this will not affect formula allocations in first sentence but the second sentence contradicts the first. This will impact monies. Tribes are best suited to determine their own need. With the TDHE survey, we can ensure representation but not so with the household survey. I have heard HUD staff state that they don't want tribal input because they would skew numbers. This is a concern across the nation and Alaska.

Erika Poethig: Obviously this is an important question that we have heard before. The size of the pie is what we are referring to, not the formulas that allocate it. We are hoping to affect the size of the pie. This will be a helpful insight into the needs but it is not going to change the slices. However it perhaps could be the foundation for enlarging the pie.

Jason Dollarhide: It could be the foundation for decreasing the pie.

Erika Poethig: You are right; we cannot presuppose the outcome of the study. We have designed this to be rigorous so it can stand up to any questions. It's also why we cannot include household survey results from tribes who have conducted on their own surveys.

Sabrina Stephens: All through the literature and from the beginning I have heard that Census data is flawed in several areas. But then you are using it. How did you determine what is flawed and what to use?

Erika: This study has various components. An important piece is that with this survey design, we can compare what Census says to what we learn to see how close or far apart the findings are. That will give us information about Census strengths and weaknesses.

Tom Kingsley: Regarding the Census, flaw is a strong term. Census is useful if used in the right way. For example, with the newer American Community Survey, the small sample cannot produce reliable numbers everywhere. When we do county or regional averages, the numbers are more valid. We will only display numbers where we are sure the numbers are reliable. The strongest motivation for this study is that the Census has not included all of the aspects of American Indians' or anyone's housing. They talk about overcrowding, and plumbing facilities, but do not have modules on structural qualities or heating systems. Those are not measured at all and they are very important. Again, our methodology will be spelled out so you can see what we use.

Sabrina Stephens: Regarding structure, what qualifications will these people have to assess structure?

Tom Kingsley: In the 1940s and 1950s the Census used engineers to try and describe housing structure as adequate or substandard and discovered those were meaningless terms. We will use factual, observable things such as 'is there a toilet?' 'Does it work'? This is used in HUD's worst case studies and is credible and accepted by Congress.

Sabrina Stephens: What is OMB reviewing and in what depth and for what purpose?

Erika Poethig: That is a great question. This is standard procedure. OMB looks at all of our surveys and we have strict rules to follow. OMB is a part of that process. This can take a long time. Our point is we have engaged them on the front end so we can minimize the lag time.

Jennifer Stoloff: OMB is operating under a law called the Paperwork Reduction Act. The point is to not put undue burden on the public by overlapping on data collection or replicating questions. They look at the instruments to see if the information will be useful and a good use of person's times. They can question us on any part of the design. They have people that have worked in Indian Country and have expertise in various offices that they bring in to review things. The thing they are most concerned about that they pressed us on that and we went back and forth to determine is to include a strategy to yield good results (a national representation). We have a tentative agreement with OMB now, but HUD is not moving anywhere until the consultations are over, the final survey instruments are submitted to OMB, and then we will proceed.

Sabrina Stephens: Why don't you open the survey up to everyone like Census?

Erika Poethig: We don't have the Census budget.

Jennifer Stoloff: The powers of statistical sampling will allow us to generalize the findings to everyone.

Framon Weaver: Alabama is not listed as a survey area. Our problem is we struggle over a 2 county area and one of those counties does not provide any money to us so we use half funding to fund total population. Will anything address this?

Erika Poethig: This is the kind of challenge or issue that we want to capture on the TDHE survey and so you can talk about this on the web survey even if you aren't on the list to be interviewed directly. Fill this out and discuss this challenge.

David Kwail: Do tribes know that they will obtain no information on the data collected?

Erika Poethig: As part of the conversation that each tribe will have, we will come back to determine what we can supply back to the tribe. It will be a de-identified small sample. We will have to discuss a strategy.

Jennifer Stoloff: One thing we have discussed is that we will hold a meeting or conference and invite tribes to attend and discuss the report findings. We also will give any participating tribes an early draft of the report to get feedback before it is final.

David Kwail: These tribes usually want answers to a survey, individualized, not just the region or national. You get their data. My other concern is regarding housing deeds. Have you asked a question about deeds? A lot of tribes own their home but deeds are not processed at all.

Jennifer Stoloff: We will get at this at the TDHE survey; we have heard this before and if not asked explicitly, it can be expressed as an issue. It is not asked in the household survey because it may or may not be known by the tribal member.

Erika Poethig: We will go back and talk about what kind of report we can provide back to the tribes on the household data that is not statistically representative sample but that gives a sense of findings.

Chester Atone: How was the study design done and how will the complementary results be used?

Erika Poethig: One thing that Tom pointed out is that we looked at the 1996 study as a way to inform this approach. Other considerations included last year's listening sessions and these consultations. And as Jennifer mentioned, OMB provided input as well.

Jennifer Stoloff: The survey in the packet is the one we want to use in the field and it can also be used by tribes in their own efforts. A final version will be made available once it is ready. We also drew questions from the American Housing Survey, a HUD and Census effort used for several years. A household roster is a new element to this study. We are going to make an attempt to enumerate the number of persons in a household, especially as it relates to homelessness/overcrowding, etc.

Chester Atone: What are the benefits of participating as a TDHE survey respondent versus a household survey participant?

Erika Poethig: The TDHEs are well informed as to their conditions, program and policy issues, challenges, etc. So that survey will inform changes to programs and policies that might be useful. The household survey will give us results that can help drive policy but not as much as TDHE.

Chester Atone: How did the 2 largest land base tribes end up on the on the household survey sample?

Erika Poethig: There are many more tribes than the 40 on this list. We took into consideration regional distributions and then the populations. We put all of that information into a 'weight' in a computer program with an algorithm that 'spat out' this representative sample.

Chester Atone: I bring that up because of the national children's study which did the same thing. It did not include sites with the most need as documented by IHS.

Erika Poethig: I cannot speak to that sampling frame. One thing Tom can address is the need component.

Tom Kingsley: Need was not a variable considered in the sampling frame. It is population with the various characteristics we discussed.

Erika Poethig: This has come up in other settings. We not have picked up a tribal community that we know has need. The purpose is to get a national assessment of need. We cannot with any validity have need characteristics because we have no valid selection to choose from.

Jason Dollarhide: Looking over the survey, it is mostly yes or no questions. Why can't tribes be more involved with the study along with housing authority or TDHE's? Also how much weight will the TDHE survey have in the study? Are you going to combine all of the TDHE's and break them down individually and put them into some type of formula for OMB or Congress? It's really hard for me to believe. I feel all tribes need to be involved. I don't see extensive training needed for administering this survey.

Erika Poethig: You heard us say OMB is paying a lot of attention and to the rigor. It is important that we have a study that OMB and Congress will pay attention to and with valid results. Our sampling frame is not larger because of a resource issue. Congress appropriated us the resources and we are working within those. We drew a study we feel can be representative within those constraints. Due to selection bias, we cannot accept those tribes that just want to come forward with results. That would throw off the validity of the study. We can use it to complement our knowledge but not to be included in final assessment of need.

Jason Dollarhide: What was the budget allocated to you?

Jennifer Stoloff: About 4 million dollars

Tom Kingsley: The TDHE survey is an opportunity to say things in a different way. It won't be quantified in the same way as need estimates but by analyzing the results we can pull out specific issues e.g. allotment systems. We can bring up issues that might not get covered in a more simplistic study. It will have tremendous importance in many ways and offers an opportunity to say qualitative things as well.

Carrie Billy: I wanted to associate myself with the comments about leaving out tribes or not opening it to all tribes to participate. It's horrible of the federal government to say we don't trust what you will give us. I urge you to take that back to OMB. We can do this, which is why tribal colleges exist. When studies are conducted among tribal college student population, you get more reliable and extensive data. I don't think that there are as many roadblocks as people think.

I want to urge you to look at housing in Indian Country very broadly. There are different types of housing and especially as higher education grows, the need for dorms is a big issue. There are more tribal colleges covering very large reservations. Housing needs of students is a serious thing. Some drive 100 or more miles each way to get an education. There is no funding for dorms.

Erika Poethig: That issue can be considered as part of TDHE study and can be cited there. Where we could expand the survey, we tried – the TDHE is now open to any tribe.

David Tom: I have a hard time when others do an assessment of needs on my reservation. Each and every one of us knows what our needs are and using this select type of survey without input from Natives is troubling. The sample that creates a picture is not true because our needs are so

unique and different; I don't agree with this. I applaud the efforts but you need to involve all tribes and their voice needs to be heard.

Erika Poethig: Thank you for the comment. That is why we had four months of listening sessions prior to these consultations, where all tribes are invited. This series of consultations have not been exclusive either and include two national sessions. We have heard from tribes not on any list who want to provide input which we take seriously. I would underscore the point that this will only be successful if it is a partnership. We talked earlier about outreach to the tribes that will be surveyed including consultation with tribal leadership and engagement of tribes.

David Tom: I have a hard time swallowing that this sampling of tribes is a true reflection.

Erika Poethig: We have a sample with a high level of confidence and I understand your frustrations. We have to work with our resources. You are absolutely invited to present your own assessment to your elected officials or HUD, no one precludes this. We have to meet our obligations, though, within the constraints given to us.

Jason Dollarhide: I realize that it is a money issue. Tribes could have helped by engaging their members and using their data to stretch the money. We know the most about our needs yet we are not able to express those needs. We know how "lies, damn lies and statistics" work. The process of the study is very disturbing because the tribes were left out from the inception and we are doing consultation after the process is completed. The study will be a fallacy, not true numbers. It may produce a small sense of needs but in all reality will be a fallacy.

Carrie O'Toole: Is OMB aware how disappointed we are and that we don't think this will be a true study of our needs? Can it be noted somewhere in this consultation that we are not satisfied with this consultation?

Erika Poethig: This is not the first time this has come up. We can convey this to OMB and they are part of the parties that hold us to a particular standard. I invite you to communicate that message directly as well. Congress was the body that appropriated the resources at the level that they did.

Carrie Billy: If a tribe or a tribal college wants to help their tribes do a survey, what's the percentage of households per tribe that you need? What's the date and timeframe of when you are conducting the surveys? By signing the form today and checking the box, will you get the final version of the survey?

Erika Poethig: In general, we are hoping that 1600 households with an 80% response rate. The average number of households that will be surveyed is 40. In terms of the timeframe, the final consultation is July 9, 2012. After that we will be finalizing the instruments and gaining final OMB approval. In the fall we will begin outreach with tribes.

Jennifer Stoloff: The website link has all of the materials from your packets. When the final version is available, we will post it. And yes, as we post new things, we will send a message out to the list.

Alvin Moyle: I've been involved with the State of Nevada's Indian Health. Regarding OMB's involvement, they will decide how housing is funded. I don't mean to offend but the health care in the US and Alaska is about 54% of the need and what this survey may result in as well. Will this assessment be ongoing? Every few years? How long will it be used for?

Erika Poethig: That is an excellent question. There are a few important parties that influence resources for the study. HUD's appropriations committee is the most important. They mandated and gave us the resources. OMB influences survey instrument and design. Congress also plays a role as well in thinking about the implications of the study when it is finalized. I agree it is a travesty that we have waited this long to do this assessment. We would like to see it done more regularly, even every 5 years. That is a negotiation with our appropriations committee with OMB's buy in as well. The sampling frame could expand in the future.

Sabrina Stephens: Have there been conversations about getting additional funding to better facilitate this with a partnerships we all are comfortable with?

Erika Poethig: I don't want to presuppose what the outcome of the study will be. If we don't have a good response rate, that would be a reason for concern and to reconsider approach. There are a couple of things we would point to in terms of what helps to support the study and to improve design or repeat study. From the standpoint of resources, the debates in Washington right now show that it is hard to get resources for programs let alone research. Considering adding resources, even every 5 years, would require real effort. If the study doesn't result in the response rate we are hoping for, we would have reasons to revise the approach.

We have \$4 million and we have tried to add additional funds but there is nothing additional in the Fiscal Year 2013 budget as of now. We have adapted this approach to try to do our best at getting as a high of a response rate as possible. This includes outreach to the tribes selected, the use of tribal members as surveyors, and other practices NORC employs with this population. We are most focused on the implementation of this survey design as of now. Resources for the future would require additional advocacy.

Sabrina Stephens: How long will you be surveying?

Jennifer Stoloff: We plan to be in the field about 9 months. The survey takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete.

Patterson Joe: Regarding the telephone part of the survey, will this replace the in house visit for household survey?

Erika Poethig: Thank you for the clarifying question. The household survey is in-person. The TDHE survey will be conducted on the phone for those on the list and any other tribes complete it online.

Patterson Joe: So the household surveys are all in house?

Erika Poethig: Correct.

Patterson Joe: Regarding the use of the study for the negotiated formula, will this be used in formula negotiations and if so, how?

Erika Poethig: Tom made a reference to the use of the 1996 study in informing NAHASDA.

Jennifer Stoloff: The formula is based on Census data. What the study could do is to give a feel for areas of need that affect the need half of formula. But those variables come from Census so even if we learned more things about need; we have to look to those variables to run the formula.

Tom Kingsley: The answer is that the study laid a basic case to expand the aggregate size of the pie but it did not talk about how to divide the pie. This is the same environment as before. The important thing that happened by the NAHASDA adoption is the discretion tribes have in spending money once received. This study does not influence the distribution of monies.

Patterson Joe: Can a tribe get the complete results of their responses without identifiers?

Erika Poethig: We are going to have to explore this. If so, it will probably be at a summary level and will not be statistically significant for that tribe; the data will come with real limitations on its use.

Jennifer Stoloff: We would like to make the full data set available so that analysis can be replicated or new analysis can be conducted. That will have value in demonstrating transparency.

Carrie O'Toole: If someone does not fully complete the survey, do you still use that one survey or not?

Suzanne Bard: The respondents have no obligation to answer and when you are calculating the results you might impute information to account for missing information. If there are significant gaps in the data you might need to question how valuable it is. Since the instrument is separated into modules there might be more complete data in some areas than others. We recognize the sensitive nature of some of the modules.

Chester Atone: Was the 1996 survey congressionally mandated? Is this one?

Erika Poethig: This is congressionally mandated and resources were attached to do it.

Chester Atone: Is it possible that the pie might shrink?

Erika Poethig: I cannot presuppose the study outcome but everything we have heard from you and others indicates that needs have increased. Therefore I could conclude that the pie needs to increase. But the study has not been completed so I cannot infer the result but I put value in what I have heard from you.

Tom Kingsley: I believe the 1996 study was congressionally mandated but I am not entirely certain.

Barbara Rose: Going through the survey, I thought some of the questions are wonderful feedback that could be used by my tribe. We have never asked our community how they would rate us as TDHE in providing services, for instance. This would be good to give our community to get this kind of information. It would be useful for our executive director.

Erika Poethig: You could use that section of the survey for your own purposes if you wanted. We know these are good questions because they are tested and validated. We have had tribes say they will use this to inform their own approach. We love to hear that.

Erica Poethig: Thanks again for your time today. We have had points of agreement and disagreement but I hope you leave today feeling more informed and able to go back to your tribes and talk about this study. We take the input you provided very seriously and we will consider issues such as easement issues, ways to provide results back to tribes, a public use dataset, and more that we took away today and will feed back into this process. I am very conscious of the fact that we are in a resource constrained world. I have seen where research makes a difference in convincing Congress and moving OMB to a new space. Homelessness is an area where resources are growing because the research is so strong and rigorous. It is our hope that this will meet that same standard. We need your help and partnership to make this the best assessment we can with the resources we have. Thanks for providing us with an honest dialogue today.