

## National American Indian Housing Council

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**Please join us at a Congressional Briefing on these issues: September 25, 2006**

### **Briefing to Highlight Homeownership Rates for Native Americans; Launch of Native American Homebuyer Website**

- Native Americans Homeownership on Reservations: Half that of General Public
- Homeownership Levels Lowest of all Ethnic Groups

**What: National American Indian Housing Council Congressional Briefing**

**When: Monday, September 25, 2006 12:00pm, Lunch will be served.**

**Where: U.S. Congress, Rayburn House Office Building**

**Room 2220**

**Washington, DC 20515**

**Why:** The Native American homeownership rate is **33%** on reservations, lowest among all ethnic groups and less than half that of the U.S. population (GAO). Native American communities are **in need of a resource to gain information on their unique homeownership needs**. NAIHC is launching a new **Native American Homebuyer Web site** to meet those needs. Through this Website **NAIHC** is working to correct some of these disparities:

- Native Americans are increasingly targeted by sub prime or “predatory lenders” and are still denied prime loans at higher rates than Caucasians.
- Some lenders are wary of going to Indian country, out of fear that tribes’ sovereign status would prohibit foreclosure on unpaid loans.
- A 2003 NAIHC survey of tribal housing executives revealed that **52.9** percent of respondents believed that lenders discriminated based on race and identified predatory lending in their tribal area as a serious concern. **54 percent** of respondents said they or someone they knew had accepted a high interest rate loan; the average interest rate for subprime or manufactured home loans was **15.3 percent**.

**Invited Speakers:** NAIHC Chairman Marty Shuravloff, Housing Assistance Council Deputy Executive Director Joe Beldon and representatives from: National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Education Association and NAIHC supporters Fannie Mae, Greenpoint Mortgage, FHLB System, PMI Foundation, Washington Mutual, Bank One and the Enterprise Foundation.

Successful Native American Homebuyer programs around Indian Country will also be highlighted.

The Website is a part of **NAIHC’s Housing First for First Americans** initiative, a \$10 million capacity building campaign to help its members develop 100,000 homes in Indian Country. This web site will include key information from NAIHC’s Pathways to Homeownership course and other resources on homeownership.

**Congressional members, staffers and the media are welcome to attend. RSVP to Kim Hayes, NAIHC, (202) 454-0931 or email: [khayes@naihc.net](mailto:khayes@naihc.net)**

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*The National American Indian Housing Council ([www.naihc.net](http://www.naihc.net)) assists tribes and tribal housing entities in reaching their self-determined goals of providing culturally relevant, decent, safe, sanitary, and quality affordable housing for Native people in Indian communities and Alaska Native villages. “NAIHC...A Tradition of Native American Housing” [www.naihc.net](http://www.naihc.net)*