

October 23, 2013

Dear Honorable Tribal Leader (I/T/U):

Consultation with New Mexico's Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their healthcare providers is an important component of the government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico. In accordance with the New Mexico Human Services Department's (HSD) Tribal Consultation requirements, this letter is to inform you that HSD is proposing rules for the implementation of the Centennial Care Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) for our newly eligible population. HSD is proposing to administer the ABP two ways: Medical Assistance Division (MAD) Administered and Managed Care Organization (MCO) Administered. MAD ABP and MCO ABP have two benefit packages included in each rule: Limited ABP and Qualifying ABP. Limited ABP are those services that are similar to the Medicaid Standard State Plan benefits and the MCO Medicaid benefits with limitations. Qualifying ABP is for an ABP recipient or member who has an ABP 'qualifying' condition and selects its benefit package.

HSD is seeking advice, questions and comments from Native American communities on these proposed rules. You may send your comments, questions to our Native American Liaison for the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), Theresa Belanger at (505) 827-3122 or by email at: Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us. The proposed rules are located for your review on MAD's website at: <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/TribalConsultation.html>.

Important Dates:

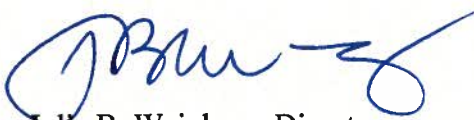
Comments will be received through **November 29, 2013**, to allow time for interested parties to submit their comments. All comments will be reviewed and recorded. HSD will incorporate recommended changes to these proposed rules whenever feasible. All comments and responses will be compiled and available after **December 22, 2013**.

The tentative public hearing date for the proposed Centennial Care managed care rules is **December 2, 2013**. You will receive formal notice of the actual date, time and location of the hearing at least 30 days in advance. The proposed rules have a projected effective date of **January 1, 2014**.

Included in this mailing of the tribal consultation requests are the proposed Centennial Care fee for service benefit rules.

Thank you in advance for your input and your continued support of HSD's Native American initiatives.

Sincerely,



Julie B. Weinberg, Director
Medical Assistance Division