

October 8, 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 a new rule for Indian Health Services that contains provider enrollment and reimbursement processes that are unique to IHS and Tribal 638 facilities.

HSD is seeking advice, questions and comments from Native American communities on this proposed rule, as it is the first rule we have promulgated specifically to address these matters. 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 15, 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 IHS and Tribal 638 facilities rule 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**.

The tribal consultation comment period for the proposed Centennial Care eligibility and managed care rules closes **October 20, 2013**. Included in this mailing of the tribal consultation requests are the proposed repeal of the current managed care rules and proposed Fee-for-Service benefit services 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