



OCT 20 2017

Indian Health Service
Rockville, MD 20857

Mr. Nicholas Barton
Chairman
c/o Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 167
Concho, OK 73022

Dear Chairman Barton:

Thank you and Chairwoman Lynn Malerba for your jointly signed, September 14-dated letter on behalf of your respective committees, which shares concerns about insurers and other third-parties underpaying reimbursements to Indian Health Service (IHS), Tribal, and Urban Indian (I/T/U) health care facilities.

We are continuing to provide updates and other information on these challenging issues to the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department reached out to CVS/Caremark, one of the larger pharmacy benefit managers, and initiated discussions about these issues with representatives from CVS/Caremark's headquarters. CVS/Caremark generally indicated an interest in resolving payment issues, but additional conversations were needed to help CVS/Caremark understand the statutory right to recovery under 25 U.S.C. 1621e.

During the first week of October, CVS/Caremark informed the IHS that it would like to discuss the necessary logistics to ensure that payment is being made in accordance with 25 U.S.C. 1621e. CVS/Caremark also verbally agreed to identify an internal point-of-contact for Tribes and Tribal Organizations operating under an Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), Public Law No. 93-638, agreement with the IHS, in the event a particular Tribe or Tribal Organization would like to discuss a different claims submission process with CVS/Caremark.

The IHS believes that great progress has been made and anticipates sending a Tribal Leader Letter and Urban Indian Leader Letter next month to outline the process that the IHS plans to follow to address these issues, and to provide contact information for an individual designated by CVS/Caremark.

I trust this update is helpful. A similar letter is being sent to Chairwoman Malerba.

Sincerely,

RADM Michael D. Weahkee, MBA, MHSA
Assistant Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service
Acting Director

SAVE-THE-DATE

8th Annual THRIVE Conference

June 25-29, 2018

WHO: For American Indian and Alaska Native Youth 13-19 years old

- 1 Chaperone for every 4 youth attending. **Background checks are required for all adults facilitating or attending who did not attend in 2017.
- Activities, materials, lunch and snacks Mon-Thurs. will be provided.
- Travel, parking, lodging, breakfast and dinners are not included.

WHERE: To be determined in Portland, Oregon

LODGING: Once a location is set we will circulate group rates for a local hotel.

WHY: Build protective factors and increase your skills and self-esteem, connect with other young Natives, learn about healthy behaviors (suicide prevention, healthy relationships, etc.) and how to strengthen your nation through culture, prevention, connections, and empowerment!

WHAT: This conference will be made up of FIVE (or six) workshop tracks and at registration each youth will need to rank their preference for which workshop they want to be in. Tracks may include: digital storytelling, movement, nutrition, art creation, physical activity, beats lyrics leaders (song writing and production), We Are Native youth ambassador leadership (additional application required), or a science and medical track sponsored by the Oregon Health and Science University.

NEW WORKSHOPS IN 2018!!
Registration (free) will open
the first week in April!!

#WeNeedYouthere

Contact Information:

Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board's project THRIVE
Celena McCray, project coordinator
Ph. 503-228-4185 x 270
Email. cmccray@npaihb.org
Website. <http://www.npaihb.org/epicenter/project/thrive>



N C C D P H P

GOOD HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN INDIAN COUNTRY

TRIBAL RESOURCE DIGEST

Welcome to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) tribal resource digest for the week of October 23, 2017. The purpose of this digest is to help you connect with the tools and resources you may need to do valuable work in your communities.



Yogurt Parfait Bar—Tamaya Wellness Center

Provided for the Purple and Pink Even to grow awareness of domestic violence and cancer prevention



*Photos courtesy of Perdita Wexler
Pueblo of Santa Ana*

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Request for Photos

Please send any photos of GHWIC work (community gardens, events, team meetings, etc.) to Anisha Quiroz, AQUIROZ@cdc.gov with a short description of the photo.

Announcements

IHS SDPI Diabetes Prevention Program Toolkit

The National Diabetes Prevention Program website now links to the IHS SDPI Diabetes Prevention Program Toolkit. The information and materials in this toolkit provide keys to success and lessons learned from 38 diabetes prevention programs addressing the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native communities. Read more [here](#).



First-Ever Youth Compendium of Physical Activity Just Released!

The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR) has launched online the [Youth Compendium of Physical Activities](#) to help childhood obesity and physical activity researchers and practitioners estimate the associated energy expenditure of a variety of activities in which youth participate. The Youth Compendium of Physical Activities provides measures of energy expenditure for 196 common youth activities including sedentary activities, standing activities, playing and participating in games, and walking and running. Learn more [here](#).

Webinars

Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board Community Health Webinar Series

The Community Health Department will be hosting monthly webinars for tribal partners. Contact information below regarding times and dial-in information.

Marie Zephier, MPH
Program Manager, GPGHW
Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board
Marie.zephier@gptchb.org
1770 Rand Road, Rapid City, SD 57702
(P) 605.721.7373 ext. 122 (F) 605.721.2876

Date	Topic	Presenter(s)
11/8/17	LEAN Essentials	Eugene Giago, PC
12/13/17	Making PSE Changes in Tribal Communities	Shannon Udy, PSE Health Educator

Funding Opportunities

USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

The USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program provides direct loans and/or grants for essential community facilities in rural areas. Priority is given to healthcare, education, and public safety projects. Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve facilities. Applications accepted on an ongoing basis. Read more [here](#).



Indian Health Service Youth Regional Treatment Center Aftercare Pilot Project

A grant for a youth regional treatment center aftercare pilot project designed to address the gap in services that occurs when youth are discharged upon successful completion of a Youth Regional Treatment Center (YRTC) program and return to their home community where necessary support systems may not exist. The goal of this pilot project is to develop promising practices between YRTCs and Tribal communities to reduce alcohol and substance use relapse by identifying transitional services that can be culturally adapted to meet the needs of AI/AN youth to increase resiliency, self-coping, and provide support systems. Read more [here](#).

Deadline: **November 12, 2017**



Clif Bar Family Foundation: Small Grants Program

These grants are awarded in five focus areas, including creating healthy food systems, increasing opportunities for outdoor activity, and reducing environmental health hazards. Small grants average approximately \$7,000 each. Read more [here](#).

Deadline: **February 1, 2018**

Contact Information

National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention
and Health Promotion

Office of the Medical Director
4770 Buford Highway, MS F80
Atlanta, GA 30341
(770) 488-5131

<http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/index.htm>

The digest serves as your personal guide to repositories of open and free resources where you can find content to enrich your program or your professional growth. Please note that CDC does not endorse any materials or websites not directly linked from the CDC website. Links to non-Federal organizations found in this digest are provided solely as a courtesy. CDC is not responsible for the content of the individual organization web pages found at these links.

If you have comments or suggestions about this weekly update, please email Anisha Quiroz at AQUIROZ@cdc.gov with the words "TRIBAL DIGEST" in the subject line.



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER – Governor
RUSSELL S. BARRON – Director

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

MATT WIMMER - Administrator
DIVISION OF MEDICAID
Post Office Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0009
PHONE: (208) 334-5747
FAX: (208) 364-1811

October 27, 2017

Dear Tribal Representative:

This is to let you know that Idaho Medicaid intends to submit a State Plan Amendment (SPA) in order to change the payment policy for facilities operated by Indian Health Service (IHS) or by Tribes. We intend to submit the SPA no later than December 28, 2017.

These changes will update the payment policy which affects federal funding for services received by Medicaid-eligible individuals who are Tribal Medicaid beneficiaries through facilities operated by Indian Health Service (IHS) or by Tribes. These changes will allow IHS/Tribal facilities to enter into written care coordination agreements with non-IHS/Tribal providers to furnish certain services for their patients who are Tribal Medicaid beneficiaries.

This change, effective January 1, 2018, is intended to help Idaho, the IHS, and Tribes to improve delivery systems for Tribal Medicaid beneficiaries by increasing access to care, strengthening continuity of care, and improving population health.

Tribal facilities that wish to bill for services furnished to their Medicaid beneficiaries outside of their "four walls" will need to change their provider enrollment from "clinic" to a Federally Qualified Health Clinic (FQHC) by applying to become an FQHC through Molina Healthcare at www.idmedicaid.com after January 1, 2018.

Idaho Medicaid's development of the proposed SPA will be reviewed as part of the Policy Update at the next quarterly Tribal meeting scheduled for November 8, 2017. Idaho Medicaid is interested in receiving your comments, questions or suggestions relating to this change. Should you have questions regarding this SPA, please contact KayLee Leavitt, Senior Financial Specialist, Office of Reimbursement, Bureau of Financial Operations, Division of Medicaid at (208) 287-1175 or kaylee.leavitt@dhw.idaho.gov prior to December 26, 2017.

Sincerely,

MATT WIMMER
Administrator

MW/kl



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER – Governor
RUSSELL S. BARRON – Director

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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DIVISION OF MEDICAID
Post Office Box 83720
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October 27, 2017

Dear Tribal Representative:

In accordance with section 1902(a)(73)(A) of the Social Security Act regarding the solicitation of advice prior to the submission of any Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) or waiver likely to have a direct effect on Indians, Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Organizations, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Division of Medicaid (Idaho Medicaid) provides notice on the following matter.

Purpose

Idaho Medicaid intends to submit a SPA to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on or before December 28, 2017 to renew Idaho's 1915(i) State Plan Option Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Benefit for Adults with Developmental Disabilities (Adult DD State Plan HCBS Benefit).

Idaho Medicaid's currently approved Adult DD State Plan HCBS Benefit will expire on June 30, 2018. At this time, the proposed changes to the existing Adult DD State Plan HCBS Benefit are expected to include:

- Updates to the projected number of participants based on historical trends;
- Addition of statements regarding the reasonable indication of need for services;
- Addition of relevant information from the approved HCBS settings Statewide Transition Plan (STP);
- Clarifications regarding limitations on amount of developmental therapy services;
- Clarifications regarding the provision of community crisis support services;
- Clarifications regarding the prospective individual budget amount as a limit on the amount of services;
- Revisions to the quality improvement strategy;
- Technical changes to accurately reflect current administration and operation;
- Updates to the CMS form; and
- Other minor revisions to correct language and grammar.

Anticipated Impact on Indians/Indian Health Program/Urban Indian Organizations

Indians receiving waiver services may be impacted by these changes. There is no anticipated impact on Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Organizations.

October 27, 2017

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Availability for Review

A copy of the proposed SPA to renew Idaho's Adult DD State Plan HCBS Benefit is available on the Department's website at:

<http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Medical/Medicaid/tabid/123/Default.aspx>.

Comments and Questions

Idaho Medicaid would appreciate any input or concerns that Tribal Representatives wish to share regarding this SPA. Please return any comments to Idaho Medicaid at 1-855-249-5024 or by email at HCBSWaivers@dhw.idaho.gov by Monday, November 27, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Idaho Medicaid's SPA to renew the Adult DD State Plan HCBS Benefit will be reviewed as part of the Policy Update at the next quarterly Tribal meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Wimmer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

MATT WIMMER
Administrator

MW/kw



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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Purpose

Idaho Medicaid intends to submit waiver amendments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on or before January 31, 2018 to revise the residential habilitation service rate methodology in the Aged and Disabled (A&D) and Adult Developmental Disabilities ((DD) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers in order to set new residential habilitation service rates. Idaho Medicaid conducted a cost survey (and had the results of the survey reviewed by an independent consulting company) to obtain the necessary information to develop new residential habilitation service rates. Implementation of the residential habilitation service rates is contingent upon certain legislative approvals.

Anticipated Impact on Indians/Indian Health Program/Urban Indian Organizations

Indians receiving waiver services may be impacted by these changes. There is no anticipated impact on Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Organizations.

Availability for Review

Idaho Medicaid is in the process of drafting the proposed waiver amendments, and will notify Tribal Representatives when the drafts become available for review.

Comments and Questions

Idaho Medicaid will make the drafts of the proposed waiver amendments available for tribal review and comment. This tribal comment period is expected to begin in late November 2017, and will continue for a period of at least 30 days. Idaho Medicaid will notify Tribal Representatives of the specific dates prior to the start of the formal comment period.

If you have any questions prior to the start of this comment period, you may email Idaho Medicaid at HCBSWaivers@dhw.idaho.gov or call Karen Westbrook at (208) 364-1960.

Idaho Medicaid's proposed waiver amendments will be reviewed as part of the Policy Update at the next quarterly Tribal meeting.

Sincerely,

MATT WIMMER
Administrator
MW/kw

Your Health Idaho

Tribal Quarterly Meeting

November 8th, 2017 | 9:30 AM Mountain Time

Conference Line

Dial-in: 1-415-594-5500

Conference ID: 806-496-557#

AGENDA

- ACA Update – Latest News
CSR funding

- YHI Updates
 - Crosswalked Plans
 - Auto Renewals
 - Certification Updates

- Carrier Discussion of Benefits and Tribal member issues

- Other Business and Questions

- Next Meeting