September 9, 2020

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the primary federal agency for improving health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically or medically vulnerable.

HRSA programs help those in need of high-quality primary health care, including people with HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, and mothers. HRSA also supports the training of health professionals, the distribution of providers to areas where they are needed most, and improvements in health care delivery. HRSA oversees organ, bone marrow, and cord blood donation, compensates individuals harmed by vaccination, and maintains databases that protect against health care malpractice, waste, fraud, and abuse. HRSA also manages the distribution of the $175 billion appropriation by Congress, known as the Provider Relief Fund (PRF). The PRF will reimburse health care expenses or lost revenue attributable to Coronavirus Disease 2019 and ensure uninsured people are tested and receive treatment without being billed.

As part of HRSA’s ongoing commitment to Indian Country, this letter serves as official notice of HRSA’s intent to hold its Annual Tribal Consultation. The consultation will be conducted as a virtual meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM (EDT) in conjunction with the National Indian Health Board’s 37th Annual National Tribal Health Conference.

To participate in this HRSA Tribal Consultation, please dial in at least 10 minutes before the appointed time to:

   Conference number:   800-779-7169  
   Participant passcode: 6122629  
   Adobe Connect:     https://hrsaseminar.adobeconnect.com/atcmeeting/

Please submit your testimony on health care issues that affect Indian Country or questions for HRSA no later than September 28, 2020, to aianhealth@hrsa.gov. If you are unable to submit your testimony before the consultation, please be prepared to email a copy of your testimony at the start of the session.

I look forward to speaking with you and engaging in a meaningful dialogue. HRSA looks forward to continuing to strengthen its relationship with tribes and tribal organizations.

Sincerely,

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Thomas J. Engels
Administrator