September 26, 2018

Dear Tribal Chair and Health Director:

RE: School Health Services Program

This letter, in compliance with Section 1902(a)(73) and Section 2107(e)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act, serves as notice of intent to all Tribal Chairs and Health Directors of the request by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to submit a State Plan Amendment (SPA) and Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) amendment. These amendments would allow intermediate school districts to receive Medicaid reimbursement for services provided by school nurses and non-physician behavioral health providers to students enrolled in Medicaid. The proposed change will increase access to these services for Native American children attending public schools. The anticipated effective date of the SPA and ABP amendment is October 1, 2018.

There is no public hearing scheduled for the SPA or ABP amendment. Input regarding these amendments is highly encouraged, and comments regarding this notice of intent may be submitted to Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDHHS Liaison to the Michigan tribes. Lorna can be reached at 517-284-4034, or via email at Elliott-EganL@michigan.gov. Please provide all input by November 13, 2018.

In addition, MDHHS is offering to set up group or individual consultation meetings in order to discuss the SPA and ABP amendment, according to the tribes’ preference. Consultation meetings allow tribes the opportunity to address any concerns and voice any suggestions, revisions, or objections to be relayed to the author of the proposal. If you would like additional information or wish to schedule a consultation meeting, please contact Lorna Elliott-Egan at the telephone number or email address provided above.
MDHHS appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with you to care for the residents of our state.

Sincerely,

Kathy Stiffler, Acting Director
Medical Services Administration

cc:  Keri Toback, Region V, CMS
     Leslie Campbell, Region V, CMS
     Kyle Straley, Region V, CMS
     Ashley Tuomi, MHPA, Executive Director, American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan
     L. John Lufkins, Executive Director, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.
     Keith Longie, Director, Indian Health Service - Bemidji Area Office
     Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDHHS
Mr. Bryan Newland, Tribal Chairman, Bay Mills Indian Community
Ms. Audrey Breakie, Health Director, Bay Mills (Ellen Marshall Memorial Center)
Mr. Thurlow Samuel McClellan, Chairman, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa & Chippewa Indians
Ms. Ruth Bussey, Health Director, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa/Chippewa
Mr. Kenneth Meshigaud, Tribal Chairman, Hannahville Indian Community
Ms. G. Susie Meshigaud, Health Director, Hannahville Health Center
Mr. Warren C. Swartz, Jr., President, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Mr. Soumit Pendharkar, Health Director, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Donald Lapointe Health/Educ Facility
Mr. James Williams, Jr., Tribal Chairman, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
Ms. Sadie Valliere, Health & Human Services Director, Lac Vieux Desert Band
Mr. Larry Romanelli, Ogema, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Ms. Regina Gasco-Bentley, Tribal Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Ms. Jodi Werner, Health Director, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa
Mr. Scott Sprague, Chairman, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Band)
Ms. Kelly Wesaw, Health Director, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi
Mr. Jamie Stuck, Tribal Chairman, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians
Ms. Rosalind Johnston, Health Director, Huron Potawatomi Inc.- Tribal Health Department
Mr. Matthew Wesaw, Tribal Chairman, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Mr. Matt Clay, Health Director, Pokagon Potawatomi Health Services
Mr. Ronald Ekdahl, Tribal Chief, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Mrs. Karmen Fox, Executive Health Director, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
Mr. Aaron Payment, Tribal Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Mr. Leonid Chugunov, Health Director, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians - Health Center

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