



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON
DIRECTOR

December 19, 2019

NAME
TITLE
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP

Dear Tribal Chair and Health Director:

RE: Notice of Intent to Submit a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to Allow Tribal Health Centers (THCs) to Become Tribal Federally Qualified Health Centers (Tribal FQHCs) and be Reimbursed Under an Alternative Payment Methodology

This letter, in compliance with Section 1902(a)(73) and Section 2107(e)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act, serves as notice to all Tribal Chairs and Health Directors of the intent by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to submit a SPA request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

The proposed SPA would allow THCs the option to change their enrollment subspecialty to a Tribal FQHC. This designation allows the facility to provide outpatient visits within the clinic's scope of services beyond the four walls of the THC, including telemedicine and contracted services. Additionally, the SPA would reimburse Tribal FQHCs at the Indian Health Services per visit outpatient rate published annually in the Federal Register for face-to-face qualifying visits provided to Medicaid and Healthy Michigan Plan beneficiaries. This SPA positively impacts THCs by removing the four walls restriction, resulting in increased access to health care services for Native Americans. The anticipated effective date of this SPA is January 1, 2020.

There is no public hearing scheduled for this SPA. Input regarding this amendment 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 February 3, 2020.**

In addition, MDHHS is offering to set up group or individual consultation meetings to discuss the SPA, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Massey', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kate Massey, Director
Medical Services Administration

cc: Tannisse Joyce, CMS
Keri Toback, CMS
Leslie Campbell, CMS
Justyna Redlinski, CMS
Chastity Dial, CEO, 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

**Distribution List for L 19-47
December 19, 2019**

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
Mr. Soumit Pendharkar, 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
Ms. Kathy Mayo, Interim 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
Mr. Daryl Wever, Health Director, 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. Bob Peters, 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

CC: Tannisse Joyce, CMS
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