



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

NICK LYON  
DIRECTOR

January 29, 2016

NAME  
TITLE  
ADDRESS  
CITY STATE ZIP

Dear Tribal Chair and Health Director:

**RE:** Notice of Intent to Submit a State Plan Amendment that Describes the Four Categories of Hospice Care, Including Two Levels of Routine Hospice Reimbursement and Severity Intensity Add-on Payment.

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.

Pending approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the State Plan will list the four categories of hospice care, including the new reimbursement methodology effective January 1, 2016 that permits two levels of routine home care reimbursement, an increased rate for days 1-60 and a decreased rate for days 61 and beyond, and a severity intensity add-on (SIA) rate for the last seven days of a beneficiary's life when in-person visits are made by a Registered Nurse or Social Worker.

The hospice categories of care are being included within the State Plan per CMS request. The new hospice reimbursement methodology is made in accordance to changes in the CMS fiscal year (FY) 2016 Hospice Wage Index Final Rule published on August 6, 2015 in the Federal Register, Vol. 80, No. 151, and also the CMS notice of Annual Change in Medicaid Hospice Payment Rates dated September 1, 2015.

It is expected that Native American beneficiaries will experience improved patient care through the promotion of skilled visits at the end of life when care needs are typically the greatest. The anticipated effective date of this State Plan Amendment is January 1, 2016.

There is no public hearing scheduled for this State Plan Amendment. 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 517-373-4963 or via email at [Elliott-EganL@michigan.gov](mailto:Elliott-EganL@michigan.gov). **Please provide all input by March 14, 2016.**

In addition, MDHHS is offering to set up group or individual meetings for the purposes of consultation in order to discuss this Amendment, according to the tribes' preference. This consultation meeting will 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 that reads "Chris Priest". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Chris Priest, Director  
Medical Services Administration

cc: Leslie Campbell, Region V, CMS  
Pamela Carson, 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.  
Jenny Jenkins, Acting Area Director, Indian Health Service - Bemidji Area Office  
Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDHHS

**Distribution List for L 16-04  
January 29, 2016**

Mr. Levi Carrick, Sr., Tribal Chairman, Bay Mills Indian Community  
Ms. Audrey Breakie, Health Director, Bay Mills (Ellen Marshall Memorial Center)  
Mr. Alvin Pedwaydon, Tribal Chairman, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa & Chippewa Indians  
Ms. JoAnne Cook, Tribal Vice Chair, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa & Chippewa Indians  
Ms. Loi Chambers, 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. Carole LaPointe, 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. Jessica Burger, Acting Health Director, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Mr. Fred Kiogima, Tribal Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians  
Ms. Sharon Sierzputowski, Health Director, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa  
Mr. DK Sprague, Tribal Chairman, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Band)  
Ms. Phyllis Davis, Health Director, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi  
Mr. Homer Mandoka, Tribal Chairman, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians  
Mr. Travis Parashonts, Chief Executive Officer, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians  
Ms. Rosalind Johnston, Health Director, Huron Potawatomi Inc.- Tribal Health Department  
Mr. John Warren, Tribal Chairman, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians  
Mr. Matt Clay, Health Director, Pokagon Potawatomi Health Services  
Mr. Steve Pego, 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  
Ms. Bonnie Culfa, Health Director, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians - Health Center

CC: Leslie Campbell, Region V, CMS  
Pamela Carson, Region V, CMS  
Ashley Tuomi, MHPA, Executive Director, American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan  
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