

August 7, 2015

Interested parties

**RE: Tribal Consultation Letter 15-17: New Mexico State Plan Amendment (SPA) 15-13, Nursing Facility Rate Increase**

Dear Tribal Leadership, Indian Health Service, Tribal Facilities and other interested parties,

Consultation with New Mexico's Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their healthcare providers is an important component of the government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico. In accordance with the New Mexico Human Services Department's (HSD) Tribal Consultation requirements, this letter is to inform you that HSD, through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting written comments through September 10, 2015, regarding its proposed amendment to the SPA 15-13 – Nursing Facility Rate Increase. The proposed amendment SPA 15-13 is to increase each private nursing facility's existing "Low Level of Care" rate by 4%, effective July 1, 2015. Each facility will be notified of their specific rate with an opportunity to comment or respond. Individual provider rates are available to the public upon request. The anticipated cost for this change is \$8,386,477 annually of which approximately 70% will come from federal matching funds. This change is being made following a review of the adequacy of current nursing facility reimbursement and the rate changes and inflationary costs over time.

**Tribal Impact:** *HSD does not anticipate a negative service or financial impact to individuals, tribes or their healthcare providers.*

**Tribal Consultation Comments -**

Tribes and their healthcare providers may view proposed SPA 15-13 on the HSD webpage at: <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations.aspx>, *Consultation Letter 15-17.*

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

- **Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (MDT) on September 10, 2015.** Please send your comments and questions to the MAD Native American Liaison, Theresa Belanger, Medical Assistance Division, P.O. Box 2348, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2348, by phone at (505) 827-3122 or by email at: [Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us](mailto:Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us).
- All tribal consultation comments and responses will be compiled and available *after September 22, 2015.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Smith-Leslie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Nancy Smith-Leslie, Director  
Medical Assistance Division

cc: Theresa Belanger, Native American Liaison, MAD  
Russell Toal, Deputy Director, MAD  
HSD/MAD/PPB/PMCU