

October 23, 2013

Dear Honorable Tribal Leader (I/T/U):

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 is proposing managed care Medicaid benefit and service rules in preparation for the implementation of Centennial Care. The State is seeking advice or comments from Native American communities on the proposed rules described below.

8.308.9 NMAC Managed Care Program, Benefit Package: This rule outlines the benefits included in the Managed Care Program. This incorporates previously offered benefits into one rule. Benefits outlined in this rule will only be available if Native Americans chose to participate in the Managed Care Program. Otherwise, there will be no impact.

8.308.12 NMAC, Managed Care Program, Community Benefit Package: This rule outlines benefits both self-directed and agency-based community benefits. Benefits outlined in this rule will only be available if Native Americans chose to participate in the Managed Care Program. Otherwise, there will be no impact.

8.308.13 NMAC, Managed Care Program, Member Rewards: This rule outlines an incentive program for a member of the Managed Care Program. Benefits outlined in this rule will only be available if Native American chose to participate in the Managed Care Program. Otherwise, there will be no impact.

8.308.14 NMAC, Managed Care Program, Cost Sharing: This rule outlines co-payments for participants in the Managed Care Program. Language in this rule exempts Native American Managed Care Program participants from all co-payments. They will have no impact on Native Americans.

You may send your comments and questions to our Native American Liaison for the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), Theresa Belanger at (505) 827-3122 or by email at: Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us. The proposed rules are located for your review on MAD's website at: <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/TribalConsultation.html>.

Important Dates:

Comments will be received through ***November 29, 2013***, to allow time for interested parties to submit their comments. All comments will be reviewed and recorded. HSD will incorporate recommended changes to these proposed rules whenever feasible. All comments and responses will be compiled and available after ***December 22, 2013***.

The tentative public hearing date for the proposed Centennial Care managed care rules is ***December 2, 2013***. You will receive formal notice of the actual date, time and location of the hearing at least 30 days in advance.

The proposed rules have a projected effective date of ***January 1, 2014***.

Included in this mailing of the tribal consultation requests are the proposed Centennial Care fee for service benefit rules.

Thank you in advance for your input and your continued support of HSD's Native American initiatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Julie B. Weinberg', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Julie B. Weinberg, Director
Medical Assistance Division