



FEB 17 2012

Dear Tribal Leaders:

As part of the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) ongoing commitment to Indian Country's healthcare needs, HRSA is updating the current HRSA Tribal Consultation Policy (TCP). In 2011, HRSA hosted two 2011 Tribal Kick-off sessions and received input from Tribal Leaders on the TCP at the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) conference in Anchorage, Alaska, and at the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) meeting in Portland, Oregon. HRSA has taken these comments, along with comments from HRSA Bureaus and Offices, and has drafted an updated TCP.

HRSA is disseminating the draft TCP through the NIHB and NCAI LISTSERVs for your review and comment. Additionally, the TCP will be shared with Tribal Leaders at the 14th Annual Department of Health and Human Services Tribal Budget Consultation in Washington, DC, being held at the Hubert H. Humphrey building, on March 7-9, 2012. Please review the attached draft TCP and send us your comments or concerns by March 16, 2012, to AIANhealth@hrsa.gov. HRSA will review Tribal comments and update the TCP accordingly.

HRSA is committed to working with Tribes at the highest levels and we look forward to receiving your input as we work to improve the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Wakefield".

Mary K. Wakefield, Ph.D., R.N.
Administrator, Health Resources and Services
Administration