

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
15th HHS ANNUAL TRIBAL BUDGET CONSULTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will host the 15th Annual Tribal Budget Consultation (ATBC) for Fiscal Year 2015 in March. The three-day session will include a *Tribal Resource Day on Wednesday, March 6, 2013* and the *Annual Tribal Budget Consultation Session on March 7 and 8, 2013*. Below is a summary of the 2012 Consultation Session as well as the planning call schedule.

Summary of 14th HHS Annual Tribal Budget Consultation

On March 7-9, 2012, HHS hosted the 14th in Washington, D.C. The 170 registered participants were tribal leaders and representatives, Indian organization leaderships and staff, such as the National Congress of American Indians and the National Indian Health Board, and HHS leadership and staff.

During the Tribal Resource Day on March 7nd, HHS presented on topics selected to assist tribes in understanding HHS, the federal government, and the resources available, specifically presentations on HHS, budget, performance and congressional appropriations, grants, and agency presentations from SAMHSA, NIH, CMS, and HRSA. The Tribal Resource Day provided HHS staff and tribal representatives a valuable opportunity to directly interact.

On March 8th, one-on-one sessions were held between Tribal Leaders and HHS agency leadership from ACF, AoA, CMS, HRSA, IHS, NIH, and SAMHSA. The new format allowed direct dialogue on issues specific to each participating tribe, and it received positive feedback from the participating tribes.

In the afternoon, Secretary Sebelius addressed all participants and stated her commitment to working with tribes. She provided comments on consultation, the FY 2013 President's Budget, HHS's efforts to provide greater access to federal resources for tribes, and relationships with states. In response, President Keel noted that the FY 2013 IHS budget increase of +\$116 million is significant, and also said in the past Indian policy was made by non-Indians, but during the current administration Indians have had a seat at the table. The IHS Budget formulation workgroup presented their FY14 recommendations to HHS Senior Leadership.

Impact of the 2012 Consultation:

HHS leadership noted that at last year's consultation behavioral health and Contract Health Services were two of the top priorities identified by tribes, and they both received increased funding in the FY 2013 President's Budget. HHS leadership stated that tribal recommendations are taken very seriously and pointed out that they were reflected in the FY 2013 President's Budget.

Planning Conference Call Schedule

- January 30, 2013 @ 3:00 PM EST
- February 6, 2013 @ 3:00 PM EST
- February 13, 2013 @ 3:00 PM EST
- February 20, 2013 @ 3:00 PM EST
- February 27, 2013 @ 3:00 PM EST

Conference Call Number (for every call)

Call In Number: 888-606-9538
Participant Code: 7679710

Deadline for Testimony Submission

Please have a copy of your testimony submitted to the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs no later than *Friday, February 22, 2012*. Testimony can be emailed to consultation@hhs.gov. Please note that if you do not meet the submission deadline, we will accept the testimony, but you will need to bring 200 copies to the session for distribution. The consultation record will remain open for 30 days after the formal face-to-face consultation session wherein additional testimony will also be accepted.