



Tribal Technical Advisory Group

To the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

c/o National Indian Health Board 910 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003 (202) 507-4070 (202) 507-4071 fax



Transmitted via e-mail

June 23, 2016

Mr. Kevin Counihan
Chief Executive Officer
Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO)
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Re: Tribal Technical Advisory Group Request to Access Enrollment Data for State-Based Marketplaces

Dear Mr. Counihan:

On behalf of the Tribal Technical Advisory Group (TTAG)¹ to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), we write to you regarding access to data on American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) enrolled in health insurance coverage through Health Insurance Marketplaces established under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Affordable Care Act or ACA).

First, we would like to express our appreciation for the data provided recently on enrollment in the Federally-Facilitated Marketplaces (FFMs). (See attached report.) The data covers enrollment at select points of time for the 2015 and 2016 coverage years. We have begun to analyze, and consider the policy ramifications from the data that were provided.

In order to have a broader and more complete understanding of enrollment of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) in Marketplace-facilitated coverage, we are asking that CMS/CCIIO provide similar reports in excel on enrollment in the State-Based Marketplaces. We understand there might be limitations on the data that are available from the activities of State-Based Marketplaces (SBMs). As such, we request as many of the data elements contained in the CMS/CCIIO Marketplace report on FFM enrollment be provided for SBM enrollment. As with the FFM-related data, we anticipated these SBM data will be instructive in understanding current

¹ The TTAG advises the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on Indian health policy issues involving Medicare, Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and any other health care programs funded in whole or part by CMS. In particular, the TTAG focuses on providing policy advice designed to improve the availability of health care services to American Indians and Alaska Natives under these federal health care programs, including through providers operating under the health programs of the Indian Health Service, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations.

enrollment levels, where enrollment is more or less successful, and where there might be misunderstandings of the AI/AN protections under the Affordable Care Act.

We understand the many demands on the CMS/CCIIO staff, but we would still like to communicate a sense of urgency with accessing as much of these data as possible. Again, being able to evaluate our outreach and enrollment efforts in AI/AN Tribal communities, as well as policy proposals, current and comprehensive data is critical to the effectiveness of CMS and the TTAG to improve AI/AN participation in Medicare, Medicaid, and market-based programs.

Thank you once again for your assistance with the work of TTAG.

Sincerely,



W. Ron Allen
Tribal Chairman and CEO, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe
Chairman, Tribal Technical Advisory Group

Cc: Kitty Marx, Director, CMS Division of Tribal Affairs

Attachment: CMS/CCIIO Marketplace – AI/AN Enrollment Report, 2016