

Submitted via e-mail

May 9, 2019

Kitty Marx, Director
Division of Tribal Affairs
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Blvd,
Baltimore, Maryland, 21244-1850

RE: Creation of TTAG Managed Care Subcommittee & Managed Care Compliance Symposium

Dear Ms. Kitty Marx:

On behalf of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Tribal Technical Advisory Group (TTAG), I write to request the creation of a new TTAG Subcommittee devoted to tracking and working through specific Managed Care problems that we are continuing to experience in Indian Country. As you are well aware, there are many ongoing challenges that Tribes are encountering with Managed Care Entities (MCEs) across the country. We appreciate former Managed Care Director, Jim Golden's remarks at the February TTAG meeting, sharing our frustration with getting compliance from MCE. During our discussion, Director Golden shared that while CMS, has a relationship with the states, it is the states that have the leverage to enforce compliance with MCEs. We kindly remind CMS that the Agency also has a relationship with the Tribes and in fulfillment of the United States' trust responsibility to provide health care to American Indians and Alaska Natives, more must be done to address these ongoing Managed Care challenges.

As such, we request the creation of a TTAG subcommittee on Managed Care that will meet on a monthly basis and include representatives from CMS' Division of Managed Care to work through and provide updates on some of the issues noted in the January 30, 2019, TTAG Letter as well as other specific ongoing Managed Care compliance challenges in Indian Country. We also appreciate the idea that was suggested by you at the last meeting to hold a Managed Care Symposium/Roundtable where the National Association of Medicaid Directors (NAMD) can participate and help recruit State Medicaid Directors to be a part of. We believe this would be another effective way to educate and address some of these ongoing challenges with Managed Care. We especially would want the focus to be on ensuring compliance with existing statutory and regulatory protections for AI/ANs regarding Managed Care.

The TTAG greatly appreciates CMS' commitment to working with us on these and other issues. We look forward to your response to our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Ron Allen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "W".

W. Ron Allen, Chair
Tribal Technical Advisory Group