



# 2025 CMS/ITU Outreach and Education Agenda

May 20-21, 2025  
 Holiday Inn Express  
 9175 W. Stockton Blvd  
 Elk Grove, California

## May 20 - DAY 1

8:00 – 8:30 am

### REGISTRATION

8:30 – 8:45 am

Welcome and Introductions

**Beverly Lofton**  
 CMS Division of Tribal Affairs

8:45 – 9:00 am

CEU Credits/Devices

**Beverly Lofton**  
 CMS Division of Tribal Affairs

9:00 – 10:00 am

CMS Tribal Affairs Update

**Beverly Lofton**  
 CMS Division of Tribal Affairs

10:00 – 11:00 am

Medicare 101

**Tatiana Fassieux**  
 California Health Advocates (CHA)

11:00 – 12:00 pm

With You Through Life's Journey  
 Social Security and Disability 101

**Michael Teixeira**  
 Public Affairs Specialist  
 Northern ADO

12:00 – 1:30 pm

### LUNCH (on your own)

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Medi-Cal Coverage of Traditional Health Care  
 Practices

**Paula Wilhelm**  
 Deputy Director  
 Medi-Cal Behavioral Health

2:30 – 3:30 pm

Office of Inspector General

**Morning Johnson**  
 Special Agent  
 Office of Investigations  
 Office of Inspector General

3:30 – 4:00 pm

Wrap-up

**Division of Tribal Affairs/NIHB**

May 21 – DAY 2

8:00 – 8:30 am

REGISTRATION

8:30– 8:45 am

Welcome and Introductions

**Beverly Lofton**  
CMS Division of Tribal Affairs

8:45 – 9:45 am

2025 Coding Update

**Christine Pfeifer**  
Senior Consultant  
McManis & Monsalve Associates

9:45 – 10:45 am

Outreach & Education

**Kristen Bitsuie**  
Tribal Health Care Reform Outreach and Education  
Policy Coordinator  
National Indian Health Board

10:45 – 11:45 am

Covered California 101 for American  
Indians/Alaska Natives

**Waynee Lucero**  
Deputy Director  
External Affairs  
Covered California

11:45 am – 1:00 pm

LUNCH (own your own)

1:00 – 2:00 pm

Tribal Medi-Cal Administrative Activities

**Elizabeth Zaragoza, MD**  
Health Systems Development Director  
California Rural Indian Health Board

**Sarah Ponnequin, BA**  
Program Analyst  
California Rural Indian Health Board

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Billing for CHWs/Other Provider Types

**Rosario Arreola Pro, MPH**  
Chief Operations Officer  
California Rural Indian Health Board

3:00 – 3:30 pm

Wrap-Up/Next Steps

**Division of Tribal Affairs/NIHB**