



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

February 18, 2010

Dear Tribal Leader:

In December, I requested your thoughts and comments about the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS's) Tribal Consultation Policy, and you and your colleagues responded with valuable insight. I appreciate your willingness to help us continue to improve our Departmental policies and communications.

As you know, each year, HHS hosts regional Tribal consultation sessions to discuss at a more local level how the Department can continue to improve our outreach and coordination with Tribes, as well as programmatic issues and concerns. This year I would like to use these sessions to discuss tribal consultation at HHS, to review comments that have been submitted, and to have an in-depth discussion about the following specific topics: (1) HHS's Tribal Consultation Policy, (2) the regional consultation format, (3) agency Tribal consultation policies, and (4) HHS Tribal Advisory Committees.

Dates and locations for the 2010 regional Tribal consultation sessions are provided below. We will post more detailed information on our web site ([www.hhs.gov/ofta](http://www.hhs.gov/ofta)), along with registration information provided by our Regional Offices in the near future. Please contact Stacey Ecoffey, Principal Advisor for Tribal Affairs, at 202-690-6060 or [HHSIGA@hhs.gov](mailto:HHSIGA@hhs.gov) with any questions.

**Dates and Locations:**

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Region 10: Seattle, WA            | Tuesday, March 23, 2010  |
| 2. Region 10: Anchorage, AK          | Thursday, March 25, 2010 |
| 3. Regions 1, 2, 4, & 6: Atlanta, GA | Tuesday, March 30, 2010  |
| 4. Region 5: Minneapolis, MN         | Tuesday, April 20, 2010  |
| 5. Region 6 & 7: Albuquerque, NM     | Thursday, April 22, 2010 |
| 6. Region 9: San Diego Area, CA      | Tuesday, April 27, 2010  |
| 7. Region 9: Phoenix, AZ             | Thursday, April 29, 2010 |
| 8. Region 8: Denver, CO              | Wednesday, May 5, 2010   |

At the conclusion of the regional consultation sessions, HHS will convene a Tribal-Federal Work Group whose task it will be to review the reports of the regional sessions and develop a strategy for implementing improvements to our Department-wide consultation policy.

Thank you for your continued hard work and support. I take my responsibility for Tribal consultation very seriously, and look forward to working with you as we continue to improve our relationship and build healthier communities.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Sebelius

Enclosures



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES 2010 Regional Tribal Consultation

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### **AGENDA**

9:00 – 9:05 A.M.	<b>Tribal Opening</b>
9:05 – 9:10 A.M.	<b>HHS Welcome</b>
9:10 – 9:15 A.M.	<b>Tribal Welcome</b>
9:15 – 9:30 A.M.	<b>Introductions</b>
9:30 – 9:40 A.M.	<b>Overview and Purpose Session</b>
9:40 – 10:30 A.M.	<b>Open Tribal Leader Comment/Testimony</b>
10:30 – 10:45 A.M.	<b>Break</b>
10:45 - 12:00 P.M.	<b>HHS Tribal Consultation Policy Discussion</b>
12:00 - 1:00 P.M.	<b>Lunch Break</b>
1:00 - 2:00 P.M.	<b>HHS Regional Consultation Format</b>
2:00 - 3:00 P.M.	<b>HHS Agency Tribal Consultation Policies</b>
3:00 – 3:15 P.M.	<b>Break</b>
3:15 – 4:15 P.M.	<b>HHS Tribal Advisory Committees</b>
4:15 – 5:15 P.M.	<b>Open Tribal Leader Comment</b>
5:15 – 5:30 P.M.	<b>Tribal Wrap-Up</b>
5:30 - 5:45 P.M.	<b>HHS Wrap-Up and Next Steps</b>
5:45 - 5:50 P.M.	<b>Tribal Closing</b>