



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

SEP 16 2010

PORTLAND AREA
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
1414 NW NORTHRUP, Suite 800
PORTLAND, OREGON 97209

Dear Tribal Delegate:

The enclosed letter was sent by the Portland Area Indian Health Service to the Tribal Chairpersons and Tribal Health Directors of each Tribe it serves. If you have any comments or questions, please call Phil Fritz, Biomedical Engineering Technician, (503) 414-5531

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Urell", is positioned above the typed name.

Bob Urell
Editorial Assistant



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INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
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SEP 07 2010

Dear Tribal Leader:

For a variety of purposes the Indian Health Service (IHS) annually collects information on Indian healthcare facilities. Last year we pilot tested an initiative to consolidate multiple data calls into a single request. We had hoped that this streamlined process would both improve the information we gathered, and reduce the workload on Tribal staff. We were pleased that the response rate to our request for space certification was the strongest we'd ever received.

Up-to-date information is important for a several reasons. Insufficient data about qualifying healthcare facilities can result in an incorrect share of M&I funds, or disqualification for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' IHS Encounter Rate.

It is very important that the Tribe complete the enclosed Combined Space Certification forms for all the buildings occupied by the Tribe's health programs as identified in the scope of work in the Tribe's IHS contract or compact and return them to this office by September 30, 2010. Doing so will ensure that the Tribe receives the proper M&I and Equipment funds, and the Medicaid IHS Encounter Rate for the Tribe's qualifying healthcare facilities and programs.

Thank you in advance for your strong commitment to our partnership. I urge you to contact Mathew Martinson at (503) 441-7777 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Doni Wilder
Director

Enclosure

cc: Tribal Health Director
Tribal NPA/ITB Delegate