

Dear Tribal Leader:

I want to take this opportunity to respectfully request your participation at the Region 10 Tribal Consultation on ***Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup> and Friday March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Westin Hotel in Seattle, Washington.*** This year we will be having a Regional Consultation with all four states in Region 10 coming together. The first day (March 29) will be devoted to one-on-one meetings between Tribal Leaders and HHS officials to discuss specific Tribal concerns. The second day (March 30) will be the Regional Consultation to address cross-cutting issues from a national perspective and specific regional issues and priorities. More specifically, the Regional Consultation session will focus on the Affordable Care Act, Tribal and State Relations as related to the delivery of HHS programs, and other cross-cutting issues, such as Community Well Being and Child and Family Well Being. A **draft** agenda is attached for your reference.

Registration for the one-on-one meetings, Regional Consultation, and hotel is available at <http://wcdapps.hhs.gov/TribalConsultation/Register/Create>. To ensure that all Tribes have the ability to meet with their requested individual HHS program official(s) for the one-on-one meetings on March 29, please register for the one-on-one meetings by **Monday, March 12**. This will provide HHS staff with time to coordinate and prepare for the meetings. Room block information is also available on the registration website.

Two open planning calls to develop the agenda have been held and an additional planning call will take place in March. Notification of the planning call will be sent in March prior to the call.

As you know, President Barack Obama and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius are committed to building and strengthening our nation-to-nation relationship with tribal governments. In December 2009, I was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Regional Director for HHS - Region 10 and one of my top priorities has been to work in partnership with you to achieve this goal, as well as to ensure effective delivery of the Department's services.

In 2010 and 2011, we saw several advancements made to achieve President Obama and Secretary Sebelius' goals. Secretary Sebelius established the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee, which signals a new level of attention to Government-to-Government relationship between HHS and Indian Tribal Governments, and I started holding quarterly calls to provide HHS and regional updates. It has been a privilege to visit with many of you either at meetings I attended or during site visits I made to your tribal governments. I have heard firsthand about the many challenges faced by Tribes and Alaska Natives, and I look forward to furthering my relationship with Tribal Leaders and serving as an advocate for Region 10 Tribes.

There will be a recorder at each regional session. However, the official record of the session will be left open for 30 days for Tribes and Tribal organizations to submit additional comments and material. Additional input may be sent by email to me at [Susan.Johnson@hhs.gov](mailto:Susan.Johnson@hhs.gov).

I hope that you and your Tribe's representatives will participate. I join you in working to ensure that Region 10 Tribes are actively involved in this process. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or if I may be of assistance. I can be reached at 206-615-2010 or, again, my email is [Susan.Johnson@hhs.gov](mailto:Susan.Johnson@hhs.gov). I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Susan

**Susan Johnson**

Regional Director

US Department of Health & Human Services

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*Region 10 serving Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington*

For information on health care resources and the Affordable Care Act, please visit:



## 2012 HHS Region 10 Tribal Consultation

Thursday, March 29 – One-on-One Meetings: Tribal Leaders and HHS Officials

Friday, March 30 – Regional Consultation

The Westin Seattle

1900 5th Ave

Seattle, WA 98101



### Thursday, March 29 - **ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS: TRIBAL LEADERS AND HHS OFFICIALS**

Individual meetings for Tribes to discuss issues specific to their tribe with HHS Program Officials.

Please complete the Pre-Session Registration form available online at (<http://wcdapps.hhs.gov/TribalConsultation/Register/Create>) **by Monday, March 12** to ensure that all Tribes have the ability to meet with their requested individual HHS program official(s). The amount of time allotted to meet with the HHS officials will be determined by the number of Tribes that wish to meet with that program during the timeframe. Those pre-registered will have priority.

HHS Programs/Officials Available for One-on-Ones with Tribal Officials:

- Office of the Regional Director (Susan Johnson)
- Administration for Children and Families (ACF)
- Administration on Aging (AoA)
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Health Resource Services Administration (HRSA)
- Indian Health Service (IHS)
- Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Thursday, March 29 - **TRIBAL CAUCUS** – St. Helens and Vashon Conference Rooms at the Westin. Time - TBD

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 Friday, March 30 – **REGIONAL CONSULTATION**


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**CONSULTATION AGENDA**

**8:00am – 5:00pm**     *Registration throughout the day*

**Facilitators**

- TBA (STAC representatives)
- Susan Johnson, Regional Director, HHS Region 10

**8:30am – 8:35am**     **Tribal Opening**

- TBA

**8:35am – 8:45am**     **Self Introductions of all Attendees**

**8:45am – 8:55am**     **HHS Updates**

- *National HHS – TBA*
- *2011 Region 10 Tribal Consultation Report - Susan Johnson, Regional Director, HHS Region 10*

**8:55am – 9:05am**     **Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee Update – TBA**

**9:05am – 9:15am**     **ACF Update – George Sheldon, Acting Assistant Secretary**

**9:15am – 9:45am**     **Indian Health Service Update - TBA**

**9:45am – 10:45am**     **Open Remarks by Tribal Leaders and Discussion of Regional Concerns**

- Tribal Leader comments, issues, or testimony.

**10:45am – 11:00am**     **Break**

**11:00am – 12:15pm**     **Affordable Care Act**

*11:00am – 11:10am*     *Introduction of Panel Members:*

- CMS Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight – TBD
- IHS – Geoff Roth, Senior Advisor, Office of the Director
- Office of Health Reform - Mayra Alvarez, Director of Public Health Policy
- Office of Personnel Management - TBD

*11:10am – 12:15pm*     *Open Discussion*

**12:15am – 1:15pm**     **Lunch (on your own)**

**1:15pm – 2:30pm**     **Tribal State Relations as related to the delivery of HHS programs**

*1:15pm – 1:25pm*     *Introduction of Panel Members:*

- ACF - Lillian Sparks, Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans
- Intergovernmental External Affairs - Stacey Ecoffey, Principal Advisor for Tribal Affairs
- Regional Director - Susan Johnson, Region 10

*1:25pm – 2:30pm*     *Open Discussion*

2:30pm – 3:45pm	<b>Community Well Being</b> <b>Potential Issues of Discussion:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioral Health Issues</li> <li>• Suicide Prevention</li> <li>• Alcoholism and Drug Abuse</li> <li>• Block Grant Programs</li> <li>• 330 Program Eligibility and National Health Service Corps Eligibility</li> <li>• Elder Well Being, including funding and long term care</li> <li>• Medicare Enrollment</li> </ul>
2:30pm – 2:40pm	<i>Introduction of Panel Members:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACF – Steve Henigson, Regional Administrator</li> <li>• AoA –</li> <li>• CMS – John Hammarlund, Regional Administrator</li> <li>• HRSA – Laurie Wylie, Regional Administrator</li> <li>• IHS –</li> <li>• SAMHSA – David Dickinson, Regional Administrator</li> </ul>
2:40pm – 3:45pm	<i>Open Discussion</i>
3:45pm – 4:00pm	<b>Break</b>
4:00pm – 5:15pm	<b>Child and Family Well Being</b> <b>Potential Areas of Discussion:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Abuse and Neglect</li> <li>• Child Support Enforcement</li> <li>• Domestic Violence</li> <li>• Early Education</li> <li>• Preventive Health Care</li> <li>• Suicide Prevention</li> <li>• TANF</li> <li>• Child Care</li> <li>• LIHEAP</li> <li>• Bullying Prevention</li> <li>• 477</li> </ul>
4:00pm – 4:10pm	<i>Introduction of Panel Members:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACF - Lillian Sparks, Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans</li> <li>• HRSA – Laurie Wylie, Regional Administrator</li> <li>• IHS –</li> <li>• SAMHSA – David Dickinson, Regional Administrator</li> </ul>
4:10pm – 5:15pm	<i>Open Discussion</i>
5:15pm – 5:25pm	<b>Wrap-up</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBA</li> </ul>
5:25 – 5:30 pm	<b>Tribal Closing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBA</li> </ul>