

## **Comprehensive Health Care Reform: The Impact on Indian Health Programs.**

Summary Notes: Breakout Session #5

May 4, 2010

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM

**Moderator:** Ahniwake Rose, Policy Advisor for Health & Education, National Congress of American Indians.

### **Edward Fox, Dept of Health Director, Squaxin Island Tribe**

- Create awareness of the massive health care reform bill.
- Childless adult: 57% of uninsured.
- American unions fought for this bill.
- This bill will save 7K to 10K American Indian lives each year after 10 universal years.
- Indian Health system is more centralized.
- Bill requires individuals to purchase insurance and subsidizes for low income individuals.
- Easier to enroll in medicaid programs.
- 15-16 million purchase health insurance.
- 300,000 American Indians will be covered through Medicaid.
- New Regulations:
- Independent Advisory Board- reducing in payment to meet expenditure goals.

### **Carol Barbero, Partner, Partner, Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP**

- 2010: 30 million of uninsured will have access to some form of health insurance.
- 2010: States allowed expanding Medicaid for individuals to 133% FPL.
- 2014: Medicaid programs will be required to cover at/below 133% FPL.
- Indian Specific Exchange
- Monthly window
- Indians are eligible to purchase
- No cost sharing for Indians up to 300% FPL.
- HHS pays for Indian cost-sharing protection
- Express Lane Agencies: TANF
- Pre Existing Conditions:
- Temporary program starting 2010.
- Insurance coverage to be provided.
- **Individual Coverage Mandate:**
- Requirement for all Americans to have some form of health Insurance.
- Tax penalties.
- Tribal members are exempt from penalties.
- Tribal provided Health Care Benefits:
- Excluded value of Health insurance.
- Exclusion – high priority for Indian Country.
- Indian Medicare Changes
- Medicare Part B:

- Medicare Part D:
- Maternal + Child Home Visitation Program:
- Appropriated 2010 – 2014
- Health Disparities Data Collection
- HHS to collect from Federal Health Programs.
- Health Workforce Development
- Eligible for new programs

**Myra Munson, Partner, Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller & Munson, LLP**

- Maximize benefits & generate revenue.
- Section 408
- Section 207
- Section 401

**Jim Roberts, Policy Analyst, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board.**

- Health Reform Overview
- 52, 870,000 enrolled in Medicaid (I.H.S areas)
- 12 million will be added for Medicaid services.
- 35% to 53% increase for Medicaid.
- ESI - Employee Supplemental Insurance: