



January 10, 2017

Dear Tribal Leader:

I write to invite you to the 19<sup>th</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Annual Tribal Budget Consultation (ATBC) which will take place March 29<sup>th</sup> through March 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Hubert H. Humphrey Building at 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, as well as to our 2017 Annual Regional Tribal Consultations held across the country. We will once again offer one-on-one consultation for individual tribes at the ATBC, as well as at each of the regional sessions.

As in previous years, HHS will continue to work with you to improve the consultation process. The Department understands the importance of hearing from tribes on national and regional issues, as well as tribal-specific concerns. Below you will find a brief description of the ATBC, as well as details for the Regional Tribal Consultation sessions. HHS will begin hosting planning calls for the ATBC on Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 PM ET. Additional details are included in the enclosure.

**19<sup>th</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Annual Tribal Budget Consultation (ATBC)**

The consultation session will provide a forum for tribes to collectively share their views and priorities with HHS officials on national health and human services funding priorities and make recommendations for the Department's FY 2019 budget request. We hope the consultation will provide a venue for a two-way conversation between tribal leaders and HHS officials on program issues and concerns that will lead to recommendations for action. The schedule for this year's consultation is as follows:

***One-on-one meetings with HHS Divisions: Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

We will once again be providing tribes time for one-on-one meetings to share their specific health and human service issues with HHS officials. Various HHS agencies will be available to listen and contribute to the conversation. Please note that the amount of time that you are allotted to meet with individual HHS officials will be determined by the volume of requests. All requests for one-on-one meetings must be received through pre-registration by COB Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

***Annual Budget Consultation: Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

At 9 AM on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, we will begin the consultation session. HHS will identify specific issues on which we would like to consult with tribes and will send them to you early in the New Year so that you can prepare your thoughts, ideas, and recommendations.

To pre-register for the ATBC and request one-on-one meetings, please visit the following link: [HHS Annual Tribal Budget Consultation Pre Registration](#).

**2017 Annual Regional Tribal Consultations (RTC)**

In addition to the ATBC, the Department will again host Regional Tribal consultation sessions to address how the Department can continue to improve our outreach and coordination and to discuss programmatic issues and overall concerns with tribes. Regional sessions will include one-on-one time with the regional leadership. Additional details are included in the enclosure. Below are the dates for the consultations.

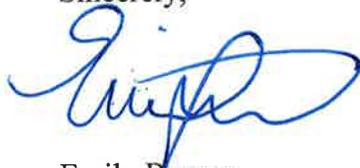
***Dates and Locations***

April 11-12, Seattle, WA (Region 10)  
May 9, Syracuse, NY (Region 2)  
May 16-17, Las Vegas, NV (Region 9)  
May 17-18, Boston, MA (Region 1)  
May 17-18, Kansas City, MO (Region 7)  
June 15-16, New Buffalo, MI (Region 5)  
May 23-24, Oklahoma City, OK (Region 6)  
May 23-24, Denver, CO (Region 8)  
TBA Washington, DC (Region 3)  
TBA Nashville, TN (Region 4)  
TBA Window Rock, AZ (Navajo)

Thank you for your continued support of the consultation process. We look forward to your participation and ongoing partnership.

Please contact Elizabeth Carr, Associate Director of Tribal Affairs, at 202-690-6060 or [consultation@hhs.gov](mailto:consultation@hhs.gov) with any questions.

Sincerely,



Emily Barson  
Director  
Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

Enclosures

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
19<sup>th</sup> HHS ANNUAL TRIBAL BUDGET CONSULTATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

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The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will host the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Tribal Budget Consultation (ATBC) for Fiscal Year 2019 in March. The two-day session will include one-on-one sessions *March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017*, and the *Annual Tribal Budget Consultation session on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017*. Below is a summary of the 2016 ATBC session as well as the planning call schedule.

**Summary of 18<sup>th</sup> HHS Annual Tribal Budget Consultation**

On March 2-3, 2017 HHS hosted the 18<sup>th</sup> ATBC in Washington, D.C. The participants were tribal leaders and representatives, Indian organization leadership and staff, such as the National Congress of American Indians and the National Indian Health Board, as well as HHS leadership and staff.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, HHS held one-on-one sessions between tribal leaders and HHS agency leadership from ACF, ACL, CDC, CMS, HRSA, IHS, NIH, and SAMHSA. The one-on-one format allowed direct dialogue on issues specific to each participating tribe.

Tribal leaders and other attendees convened at the Hubert H. Humphrey Building on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to listen and respond to updates from HHS federal representatives regarding the HHS budget, human service priorities, the Affordable Care Act, as well as the IHS budget formulation. Acting Deputy Secretary Mary Wakefield and the HHS Budget Council attended the afternoon session to provide updates and listen to comments from tribal leaders.

**Impact of the 2016 Consultation**

At last year's consultation, tribal leaders expressed need for increases for health care services and full funding for Contract Support Costs at Indian Health Service, increases in behavioral health funding and increases in funding to Tribes for child welfare programs. HHS leadership reported that each priority received funding increases in FY 2016 and in the FY 2017 President's Budget, demonstrating the importance of the recommendations presented at the consultation.

**19<sup>th</sup> ATBC Planning Conference Call Schedule**

- February 22, 2017 @ 3:00 PM ET
- March 1, 2017 @ 3:00 PM ET
- March 8, 2017 @ 3:00 PM ET
- March 15, 2017 @ 3:00 PM ET
- March 22, 2017 @ 3:00 PM ET

**Conference Call Number (for every call)**

Call In Number: 888-455-7075

Participant Code: 94430

**Deadline for ATBC Testimony Submission**

Please submit your testimony to the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs no later than ***Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017***. Testimony can be emailed to [consultation@hhs.gov](mailto:consultation@hhs.gov). Please note that if you do not meet the submission deadline, we will accept the testimony, but you will need to bring 100 copies to the session for distribution. The consultation record will remain open for 30 days after the formal face-to-face consultation session wherein additional testimony will also be accepted.

**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
2017 HHS Regional Tribal Consultation  
INFORMATION**

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**Region 1:**

*Date:* **May 17-18, 2017**  
*Location:* **Boston, MA**  
*IHS Area:* **Nashville Area**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Paul Jacobsen  
Email: [Paul.Jacobsen@hhs.gov](mailto:Paul.Jacobsen@hhs.gov)

**Region 2:**

*Date:* **May 9, 2017**  
*Location:* **Syracuse, NY**  
*IHS Area:* **Nashville Area**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Sean Hightower  
Email: [Sean.Hightower@hhs.gov](mailto:Sean.Hightower@hhs.gov)

**Region 3:**

*Date:* **TBA**  
*Location:* **Washington, DC**  
*IHS Area:* **Nashville Area**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Melissa Herd  
Email: [Melissa.Herd@hhs.gov](mailto:Melissa.Herd@hhs.gov)

**Region 4:**

*Date:* **TBA**  
*Location:* **Nashville, TN**  
*IHS Area:* **Nashville Area**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Deric Gilliard  
Email: [Deric.Gilliard@hhs.gov](mailto:Deric.Gilliard@hhs.gov)

**Region 5:**

*Date:* **June 15-16, 2017**  
*Location:* **New Buffalo, MI**  
*IHS Area:* **Bemidji Area**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Sam Gabuzzi  
Email: [Sam.Gabuzzi@hhs.gov](mailto:Sam.Gabuzzi@hhs.gov)

**Region 6**

*Date:* **May 23-24, 2017**  
*Location:* **Oklahoma City, OK**  
*IHS Area:* **Albuquerque, Nashville, and Oklahoma City Areas**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Julia Lothrop (Region 6)  
Email: [Julia.Lothrop@hhs.gov](mailto:Julia.Lothrop@hhs.gov)

**Region 7**

*Date:* **May 17-18, 2017**  
*Location:* **Kansas City, MO**  
*IHS Areas:* **Great Plains Area**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Adele Sink (Region 7)  
Email: [Adele.Sink@hhs.gov](mailto:Adele.Sink@hhs.gov)

**Region 8:**

*Date:* **May 23-24, 2017**  
*Location:* **Denver, CO**  
*IHS Areas:* **Billings and Great Plains Areas**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Elsa Ramirez  
Email: [Elsa.Ramirez@hhs.gov](mailto:Elsa.Ramirez@hhs.gov)

**Region 9:**

*Date:* **May 16-17, 2017**  
*Location:* **Las Vegas, NV**  
*IHS Areas:* **California, Phoenix and Tucson Areas**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Kenneth Shapiro  
Email: [Kenneth.Shapiro@hhs.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Shapiro@hhs.gov)

**Region 10:**

*Date:* **April 11-12, 2017**  
*Location:* **Seattle, WA**  
*IHS Areas:* **Alaska and Portland Areas**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Barbara Greene  
Email: [Barbara.Greene@hhs.gov](mailto:Barbara.Greene@hhs.gov)

**Navajo Regional Session:**

*Date:* **TBA**  
*Location:* **Window Rock, AZ**  
*IHS Area:* **Navajo**  
*Regional Contact Info:*  
Kenneth Shapiro  
Email: [Kenneth.Shapiro@hhs.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Shapiro@hhs.gov)