

Tribal Technical Advisory Group

To the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

c/o National Indian Health Board 926 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003 (202) 507-4070 (202) 507-4071 fax

June 9, 2010

TTAG Conference Call - Action Items

Action Item	Timeline	Person Responsible	Status	Notes
Review the April 29 TTAG and April 30 HITECH meeting notes for discussion at the July meeting.	July 28	TTAG Members	Ongoing	
Forward suggestions concerning documents that should be included in the Indian health handbook document collection.	ASAP	TTAG Members	Ongoing	
Suggest myths and misperceptions concerning health reform that should be addressed in the outreach video.	ASAP	TTAG Members	Ongoing	
Distribute copies of the outreach video script for review by TTAG members.	ASAP	Ms. Baer	Completed	
Provide feedback on the script for the outreach video being developed by Two Feathers Media.	June 18	TTAG Members	Completed	
Recommend locations for filming scenes for the outreach video.	ASAP	TTAG Members	Ongoing	
Report on the status of the video during the July face-to-face meeting.	July 28-29	Ms. Marshall	Ongoing	
Invite a CMS staff member to discuss PPACA requirements concerning the collection of race, ethnicity, and disability data at the July meeting.	July 28	CMS	Ongoing	
Invite Ms. Mann and Ms. Wachino to participate in the July meeting.	July 28	CMS	Ongoing	
Invite the OCIO Director to participate in the July meeting.	July 28	CMS	Ongoing	
Include a discussion of the importance of the political status of Indians with regard to state budget reductions and service cuts on the July meeting agenda.	July 28	CMS	Ongoing	
Identify potential data symposium presenters and participants.	July 30	Data Subcommittee	Ongoing	
Invite Dr. Cullen to participate in the data symposium.	ASAP	Data Subcommittee	Ongoing	
Provide comments and suggestions concerning the symposium to Mr. Crouch .	ASAP	TTAG Members	Ongoing	
Submit proposals for end-of-year funding to Mr. Roberts .	ASAP	Subcommittee Chairs	Ongoing	
Send the TTAG end-of-year funding request to CMS in early July.	Early July	Strategic Plan Subcommittee	Ongoing	
Reconvene to revise the Strategic Plan.	ASAP	Budget Subcommittee	Ongoing	

Arrange the initial Consultation Subcommittee conference call for early July.	Early July	Ms. Baer	Ongoing	
Circulate relevant documents to Consultation Subcommittee members.	ASAP	Mr. Roberts	Ongoing	
Meet informally at the MMPC meeting.	MMPC Meeting	Consultation Subcommittee Members	Ongoing	
Submit comments on the ARRA Section 5006 (a) implementation provisions by July 27.	July 27	TTAG Members	Ongoing	

**June 9, 2010
TTAG Conference Call Minutes**

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Documents Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda (Attachment A) • Proposed Document Compilation (Handbook) (Attachment B) • 2009 Draft Script, <i>Covering Our Kids, Ensuring Our Future</i> (Attachment C) • CMCS Informational Bulletin – May 27, 2010 (Attachment D) 	
Welcome and Call to Order	<p>Ms. Valerie Davidson, Chair, Tribal Technical Advisory Group (TTAG) and Executive Vice President and Senior Director, Legal and Intergovernmental Affairs, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, welcomed participants. She asked that call participants take a moment of silence to honor Mr. Robert Moore, Tribal Council Member, Rosebud Sioux Tribe and Aberdeen Area TTAG Representative, who passed away recently.</p>	
Roll Call	<p>Ms. Tyra Baer, CMS Project Assistant, National Indian Health Board (NIHB), took the roll of the TTAG members participating in the call:</p> <p>TTAG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alaska – Valerie Davidson Aberdeen – absent Albuquerque – Carolyn Finster Bemidji – Phil Norrgard Billings – absent California – James Crouch Nashville – Dee Sabattus Navajo – Anselm Roanhoarse Oklahoma – absent Phoenix – absent Portland – James Roberts Tucson – absent TSGAC – W. Ron Allen NIHB – Sally Smith NCAI – Jason Dollarhide IHS – Carl Harper NCUIH – absent <p>Tribes and Tribal Organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carol Barbero, Technical Advisor, Nashville Area Daniel Delaney, Technical Advisor NCUIH 	

	<p>Sonciray Bonnell Teresa Jackson Tracy Jones Gerald Moses Roxane Spruce Bly CMS: Lindsey Cometa Nancy Grano John Johns Kitty Marx IHS: Adam Archuleta Elmer Brewster Balerna Burgess Chris Manydeeds Tena Larney NIHB: Tyra Baer Stacy Bohlen Other: Cindy Ferguson, Sense Inc. (Contractor) Gale Marshall, Two Feathers Media Consultants A quorum being present, Ms. Davidson called the meeting to order.</p>	
Report from Chair	<p>Ms. Davidson thanked all of the TTAG members for their work on their respective subcommittees. She anticipated that subcommittee work would increase as the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the Child Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009, and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) continues.</p>	
Report from Secretary	<p>Ms. Carolyn Finster, TTAG Secretary and Director, Pine Hill Health Center, reported that she had received, but had not fully reviewed, the minutes from the April 29 face-to-face meeting and the April 30 Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Roundtable meeting. She suggested tabling the acceptance of these minutes until the next meeting meeting. The members agreed to table the acceptance of the minutes until the July face-to-face meeting.</p> <p>Mr. W. Ron Allen, TTAG Vice-Chair representing the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, requested that the meeting materials be attached to the minutes to facilitate sharing with those in the members’ respective organizations. Ms. Kitty Marx, Director, Tribal Affairs Group (TAG), Office of External Affairs and Beneficiary Services (OEABS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service (CMS), noted that the materials were contained in the TTAG briefing books and NIHB Director’s report</p>	<p>TTAG members will review the April 29 TTAG and April 30 HITECH meeting notes in preparation for discussion at the July meeting.</p>
Report from CMS	<p><u>CMS/IHS Training</u> Ms. Marx reported that CMS had distributed the training session schedule, which was up to date as of June 3. CMS will update the schedule as more dates are confirmed.</p> <p>The training in New Town, N.D., is occurring simultaneously with the call and approximately 90 individuals are attending. Additionally, the</p>	

<p>May 3 training session in Anchorage, Alaska, was well received by participants. There will be three sessions in the Phoenix area: Phoenix, Nevada, and Utah. The Portland Area has not yet scheduled its training sessions. CMS hopes to complete all of the training before the NIHB Consumer Conference, which will take place the week of September 20.</p> <p>Indian Health Handbook CMS is working on preparing the documents that were pulled out of the handbook for publication (Attachment B). The compilation will be organized by subject. Ms. Marx anticipated that copies would be available for TTAG review and comment in July. CMS expects that copies will be available for distribution at the NIHB Consumer Conference.</p> <p>Mr. John Johns, Health Insurance Specialist, TAG, OEABS, CMS, has identified the list of documents available through the CMS website that TAG staff feels is very comprehensive. Ms. Marx asked TTAG members to forward their suggestions concerning any additional documents that should be included in the compilation.</p> <p>CHIP Video Update Ms. Lindsey Cometa, TAG, OEABS, CMS, explained that the Outreach and Education (O&E) Subcommittee reviewed and commented on a script for the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) outreach video. After a postponement, CMS has now entered into a direct contract with Two Feathers Media to produce the video.</p> <p>Ms. Gale Marshall, Two Feathers Media Consultants, thanked CMS for the opportunity and expressed her pleasure at working with the TTAG on this project. The script being used for this project is the same one that the O&E Subcommittee reviewed last year. Ms. Marshall stated that the O&E Subcommittee comments have not yet been incorporated into the script. The current script (Attachment C) is not the final version; it is simply a jumping off point. She indicated that Two Feathers hoped to receive input from the TTAG concerning the key elements of the new legislation that should be included in the video as well as myths or misperceptions that should be addressed.</p> <p>Ms. Marshall asked the group how quickly members could complete their review of the draft script. She hoped that they could complete their initial review by June 16 so that Two Feathers could submit a final script to CMS by June 30. Call participants agreed to provide comments to Ms. Marshall via email (and copies to Ms. Cometa and Ms. Baer) by June 18. Ms. Baer will resend the script, the link to the last outreach video developed two years ago by Two Feathers, and all of the appropriate email addresses to TTAG members.</p> <p>Ms. Carol Barbero, TTAG Technical Advisor, asked if the audience consisted of Indians served by the Indian/Tribal/Urban (I/T/U) system. Ms. Marshall replied that that audience is the end users, specifically families with children in the I/T/U system. Ms. Barbero expressed concerns that the script emphasizes Indians’ ability to enroll and access to better services, as both emphases have negative implications for what was available previously. Ms. Marshall</p>	<p>TTAG members will forward suggestions concerning documents that should be included in the Indian health handbook document collection.</p> <p>TTAG members will suggest myths and misperceptions concerning health reform that should be addressed in the outreach video.</p> <p>Ms. Baer will distribute copies of the outreach video script for review by TTAG members.</p> <p>TTAG members will provide feedback on the script for the outreach video being developed by Two Feathers Media.</p>
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	<p>indicated that the revised script could stress access to more, not better, services. She indicated that these are the types of comments Two Feathers hopes to receive from the TTAG.</p> <p>Ms. Marx added that the video is being funded through CHIP Section 201 (national outreach and education campaign) and is intended to encourage people to enroll in CHIP and Medicaid. Some topics that need to be addressed are the use of tribal documentation to determine eligibility and ARRA Section 5006 cost sharing and resource exclusion provisions.</p> <p>Ms. Barbero asked why, given the focus described by Ms. Marx, the script mentions Medicare in Cell #9. Ms. Cometa stated that the emphasis would be on enrolling in CHIP. CMS does not want to discourage people from enrolling eligible children in Medicaid. She indicated that the Medicare reference would be removed.</p> <p>Ms. Davidson asked why the Medicare reference would be removed if the goal is to reach as many people as possible and stimulate conversations within families about available benefits. Mr. Phil Norrgard, Director of Human Services, Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, pointed out that some children with disabilities are eligible for Medicare. He also noted that there are other materials that will be included in the toolkit that TTAG is developing that are directed toward other audiences.</p> <p>Ms. Barbero noted that the video that was developed several years ago and narrated by Ms. Davidson pointed out that enrolling in these federal programs brings more money into the I/T/U system. She noted that this message is not included in the current script. Mr. Elmer Brewster, Health Science Administrator, Office of Resource Access and Partnerships, Indian Health Service (IHS), added that enrolling in Medicaid and CHIP helps extend the availability of contract health services funds as well. Ms. Marshall indicated that it could be added.</p> <p>The O&E Subcommittee will work closely with Ms. Marshall to develop the script. Additionally, Mr. Norrgard indicated that the Subcommittee members were in favor of Ms. Davidson reprising her role as narrator.</p> <p>Ms. Marshall asked TTAG members for suggestions for locations for filming, specifically for filming in clinics and other appropriate settings.</p> <p>Ms. Davidson invited Ms. Marshall to participate the July TTAG face-to-face meeting and to provide an update on the video.</p> <p>Agenda Items for July TTAG Face-to-Face Ms. Davidson confirmed that the TTAG has invited Ms. Marilyn Tavenner, CMS Acting Administrator, and Ms. Donna Cohen Ross, Senior Advisor on Medicaid and CHIP Outreach, OEABS, CMS, to participate in the meeting. Ms. Marx added that Ms. Cohen Ross is currently providing advice to CMS on Medicaid and CHIP outreach, with an emphasis on developing outreach materials for the national enrollment campaign.</p>	<p>TTAG members will recommend locations for filming scenes for the outreach video.</p> <p>Ms. Marshall will report on the status of the video during the July face-to-face meeting.</p>
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	<p>Also included in the proposed agenda is an update on the HITECH Roundtable and a presentation by NIHB on its efforts to set up a HITECH regional extension center for tribal groups. Additionally, time will be devoted to PPACA implementation, which might include time with Ms. Charlene Frizzera, Executive Project Management Officer, CMS.</p> <p>Mr. James Crouch, Executive Director, California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc. (CRIHB), suggested that the meeting include a session on the PPACA requirements to collect data on race, ethnicity, and disability and how these requirements can be used to support the TTAG efforts to identify American Indians/Native Alaskans (AI/NAs) more precisely. Ms. Marx indicated that she could invite the CMS staff member who is addressing that issue to explain the requirements.</p> <p>Ms. Davidson indicated that Ms. Cindy Mann, Director, Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification (CMCS), CMS, and Ms. Vikki Wachino, Director, Family and Children’s Health Program Group, CMCS, CMS, should both be invited.</p> <p>Ms. Barbero asked if a representative from the Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (OCIIO) could be invited. Ms. Marx replied CMS would invite Mr. Jay Angoff, who serves as the OCIIO Director and oversees all of the Title 1 activities, including the exchanges. TTAG members discussed opportunities related to issues handled by OCIIO and possible activities that NIHB could undertake with regard to these issues.</p> <p>Mr. Crouch noted that time should be set aside to discuss the political status of Indians in light of budget reductions nationwide. Ms. Davidson suggested that this topic might be more appropriate for the Medicare and Medicaid Policy Committee (MMPC) strategy session. Ms. Marx agreed to include this topic on the agenda</p>	<p>CMS will invite a staff member working on PPACA requirements concerning the collection of race, ethnicity, and disability data to present at the July meeting.</p> <p>CMS will invite Ms. Cindy Mann and Ms. Vikki Wachino to participate in the July meeting.</p> <p>CMS will invite OCIIO Director Mr. Angoff to participate in the July meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Marx will include a discussion of the importance of the political status of Indians with regard to state budget reductions and service cuts on the agenda for the July meeting.</p>
<p>Subcommittee Reports: Outreach and Education</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>Subcommittee Reports: Data</p>	<p>Mr. Crouch reported that Dr. Carol Korenbrot, CRIHB, continues to finalize work from the previous contract related to outreach to the 35 states to identify their process for billing for the 100 percent federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP). The Native American Contacts and individual TTAG members are helping with this. Oklahoma and New Mexico are the last two states that Dr. Korenbrot is working on. He anticipated that this work would be complete by the end of the month.</p> <p>IHS published the sole source purchasing notice for NIHB support for the Interdepartmental Delegation of Authority. NIHB is in the process of responding (the response is due on June 10). The hope is that the new contract for the data portion of the work covered by the agreement will be in place by July 1. This will allow CRIHB to move forward with the IHS active user/Medicaid paid claims comparisons.</p>	

	<p>Ms. Stacy Bohlen, Executive Director, NIHB, confirmed that NIHB is on track to deliver its response to IHS on June 10 and anticipated funding the data project on the schedule indicated by Mr. Crouch.</p> <p>The IHS institutional review board met as a privacy review board to review the proposed data sharing agreement that will support the next phase of the work being conducted by CRIHB and approved the request. Mr. Crouch explained that CRIHB researchers would be sent behind the IHS firewall to do the work outlined in the proposal and subsequently merge the collected data with the masked data sets. He anticipated that this work would begin early in July.</p> <p>Mr. Crouch noted that the process for funding the data project over the past year underscores the need to identify more streamlined and less confusing ways for CMS to fund TTAG activities.</p> <p>Concerning the data symposium, Mr. Crouch reported that the Data Subcommittee is conducting regular calls to plan the event, which will be held at the National Museum of the American Indian on July 30. The Subcommittee is working on identifying presenters and identifying potential participants from the foundation, association, and legislative (House and Senate staff) sectors. The symposium will focus on the Medicaid by state, Medicaid by area, and Medicare documents.</p> <p>He welcomed any suggestions TTAG members might have concerning either presenters or participants. Mr. James Roberts, Policy Analyst, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, suggested that Dr. Theresa Cullen, Chief Information Officer, IHS, be invited, and Mr. Crouch agreed to do so. Ms. Davidson directed TTAG members to send any comments or suggestions to Mr. Crouch via email.</p>	<p>Data Subcommittee members will complete the identification of potential data symposium presenters and participants.</p> <p>The Data Subcommittee will invite Dr. Cullen to participate in the data symposium.</p> <p>TTAG members will provide comments and suggestions concerning the symposium to Mr. Crouch.</p>
<p>Subcommittee Reports: Across State Borders</p>	<p>Mr. Anslem Roanhorse, Executive Director, Navajo Nation Division of Health, reported that the Across State Borders (ASB) Subcommittee held its most recent conference call on May 16. The call discussion focused on the selection of sites for the ASB research project being conducted by Kauffman and Associates, Inc. The site visits at the Chief Gall youth residential treatment center (YRTC) and the Circle of Nations School are proceeding according to schedule. Since the TTAG meeting, the Chemawa school has been replaced by the New Sunrise YRTC in Laguna, N.M. The Chemawa School was unwilling to participate due to ongoing participation in other studies. After some discussion, the Subcommittee decided to move forward with the New Sunrise facility site visit as it provides opportunities related to its use of state funds.</p> <p>Mr. Roanhorse indicated that the Subcommittee agreed to request additional funding for further work in this area and forwarded a request for the needed funds to the Budget Subcommittee.</p>	
<p>Subcommittee Reports: ARRA Protections Workgroup</p>	<p>Ms. Marx stated that Subcommittee members are drafting a rewrite of the 2001 State Medicaid Director letter. Mr. Roberts indicated that the Subcommittee had discussed several topics members would like to see included in the new letter with Ms. Mann. Ms. Kris Locke,</p>	

	<p>TTAG Technical Advisor, added that they anticipate meeting in early July in order to accommodate members' schedules.</p>	
<p>Subcommittee Reports: Budget/Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Mr. Roberts asked the Subcommittee chairs to submit their requests (budget with justification) for end-of-year funding for specific project as soon as possible. The subcommittee hopes to send its request for funding to OEABS by the end of June.</p> <p>High priority projects identified so far relate to outreach efforts, the data project, and updating the TTAG Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Mr. Roberts indicated that the Budget Subcommittee should reconvene to work on the strategic plan and anticipated that it would cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000 to update it. He hoped that CMS would be able to make resources available to support this work.</p>	<p>Subcommittee chairs will submit proposals for end-of-year funding to Mr. Roberts.</p> <p>The Budget Subcommittee will send the TTAG end-of-year funding request to CMS in early July.</p> <p>The Budget Subcommittee will reconvene to revise the Strategic Plan.</p>
<p>Other Business</p>	<p>Tribal Consultation</p> <p>Mr. Jason Dollarhide, Chair, National Congress of American Indians and Second Chief, Peoria Tribe, asked whether consultation would be discussed during the call. As the Consultation Subcommittee has not yet met, Ms. Davidson asked Ms. Baer to set up the initial conference call. Ms. Baer indicated that she anticipated the call would take place in early July.</p> <p>Mr. Roberts reported that he would share several documents on the first tribal draft of the consultation policy with the Subcommittee members. HHS is currently revisiting its tribal consultation policy. He indicated that the Subcommittee would be ready to address any changes in the Departmental policy and to work with CMS on its consultation policy.</p> <p>Subcommittee members agreed to meet informally while at the MMPC meeting in Denver, Colo., in preparation for the first conference call.</p> <p>Medicaid Premiums and Cost Sharing Regulation CMS-2244-FC</p> <p>Ms. Marx reported that CMS published an interim rule concerning the provisions implementing ARRA Section 5006(a). Comments on this are due on July 27. She asked members to submit their comments officially by the deadline.</p> <p>Ms. Marx asked if any of the TTAG members had looked at the definition of Indians in the cost-sharing provisions. Ms. Barbero indicated that she felt the definition was very good.</p> <p>Brochures</p> <p>CMS sent a brochure on the new health care law to all Medicare households. TAG has also sent it out to its network of organizations with the request to forward to all appropriate parties.</p> <p>CMS also sent out a brochure explaining the \$250 rebate checks being sent to those Part D beneficiaries that either have fallen into or will fall into the "donut hole" in 2010. Ms. Marx was not sure how extensively this would affect AI/NA beneficiaries as some tribes elected to pay the Part D premiums/drug costs for members.</p>	<p>Ms. Baer will arrange the initial Consultation Subcommittee conference call for early July.</p> <p>Mr. Roberts will circulate relevant documents to Consultation Subcommittee members.</p> <p>Subcommittee members will meet informally at the MMPC meeting.</p> <p>TTAG members will submit comments on the ARRA Section 5006 (a) implementation provisions by July 27.</p>

	<p>Mr. Norrgard noted that some tribes did elect to pay the Part D premium for their members that use their pharmacies. Some plans make a distinction between patient out-of-pocket expenses and those paid for with federal funds. Only those that do not use federal funds would receive checks. He anticipated that the number receiving checks would be very small. Ms. Marx noted that one of the provisions in PPACA requires that drugs provided at I/T/Us will be counted as incurred costs against the donut hole.</p> <p>Ms. Barbero asked if beneficiaries reaching the donut hole in 2011 would also receive rebate checks. Ms. Marx replied that the rebate is only for 2010. Beneficiaries will experience a 50 percent discount on drugs in 2011.</p>	
Next TTAG Call	There will be no TTAG call in July because of the face-to-face meeting at the end of the month.	
Adjourn	With no other business to be discussed, the call adjourned.	

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Attachment A:

Agenda

Tribal Technical Advisory Group

To the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

National Indian Health Board 926 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003 (202) 307-4070 (202) 307-4071 Fax

TTAG AGENDA

Conference Call

Wednesday, June 9, 2010 2:30 – 4:00 PM (Eastern)

Call in Number: 1-877-267-1577 Participant Code: 322943#

- 2:30 Welcome** – Valerie Davidson, Chair
Roll Call - Tyra Baer, NIHB
- 2:35 Report from Chair** –Valerie Davidson
- 2:40 Report from Secretary** - Carolyn Finster
- Minutes from April 29, 2010 TTAG Face to face &
 - Minutes from April 30, 2010 HITECH Roundtable
- 2:45 Report from CMS** - Kitty Marx, Director TAG
- a. **CMS/IHS Trainings**
 - b. **Indian Health Handbook progress:** update
 - *Attached document:* proposed list of documents that will be included in the compilation section
 - c. **CHIP Video Update:** Gale Marshall
 - d. **Agenda Items for July TTAG Face to Face:**
 - Marilyn Tavenner, CMS Acting Administrator, Invited
 - Donna Cohen Ross CMS/OEABSBS Medicaid & CHIP Outreach, Invited
 - Follow up from HITECH Roundtable
 - Affordable Care Act
 - Data Symposium
- 3:10 Subcommittee activities/schedules**
- a. **Outreach and Education** - Kathy Hughes
 - b. **Data & Data Symposium Update** - Jim Crouch
 - c. **LTC** – David Reede
 - d. **Across State Borders** - Anslem Roanhorse
 - e. **CMS/TTAG ARRA Protections Workgroup-** Kitty Marx
 - f. **Budget/Strategic Plan** – Jim Roberts
- 3:30 Other Business**
- **Medicaid Premiums & Cost Sharing Reg. CMS-2244-FC**
 - **Comments on ARRA 5006(a) due July 27, 2010**
 - *Attached document:* Cindy Mann Letter
 - Fed. Reg. Medicaid Program; Premiums and Cost Sharing; Final Rule:
<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-12954.pdf>
 - **Medicare and the New Health Care Law-** CMS Brochure:
<http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11467.pdf>
 - **\$250.00 Rebate Checks-** CMS Brochure:
<http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11464.pdf?Language=English>
- 4:00 Adjourn**

NOTE: Future TTAG Meetings and Conference Calls

July 28-29, 2010: TTAG Face to Face Meeting (At NMAL, Washington DC) July 30, 2010: DATA Symposium;

Nov. 9-10, 2010: TTAG Face to Face Meeting (At NMAI, Washington DC) **NOTE:** NASMD Conf. Nov. 7-10, 2010
Remaining 2010 TTAG Conference calls: July 14 (cancelled), August 11, September 8, October 13, and December 10.

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Attachment B:

Proposed Document Compilation (Handbook)

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Memoranda of Agreement between IHS and CMS

- 1975 HCFA – IHS – OCR Memorandum of Agreement
- 1985 HCFA – IHS – OCR Memorandum of Agreement
- 1996 HCFA – IHS Memorandum of Agreement

Letters

FROM CMS:

- CMS State Medicaid Director Letter 12/17/1997 – Managed Care under BIPA
- CMS Memo 12/23/1998 – Policy Guidance Regarding Indian Health Care Reimbursement Issues (includes one facility one rate)
- CMS State Official Letter 2/24/1998 – SCHIP and Tribal Consultation
- CMS State Health Official Letter 10/6/1999 – SCHIP & Cost Sharing for Indian Children
- CMS State Medicaid Director Letter 1/18/2001 – Medicaid out-stationed workers
- CMS State Medicaid Director Letter 7/17/2001 – Consultation
- CMS State Medicaid Director Letter 7/19/2001 – Out-stationed workers
- CMS State Medicaid Director Letter 10/18/2005 – Tribal certification of expenditures
- CMS Dear Tribal Leader Letter 6/2/2006 – Part D Benefit
- CMS State Medicaid Director Letter 6/9/2006 – Tribal certification of expenditures
- CMS Memo to FIs and MACs 2/4/2008 – Notice to provide information for Medicare Like Rate implementation
- CMS State Medicaid Director Letter 7/31/2008 – “Never Events”
- CMS Memo to States 10/3/2008 - Enforcement of Section 506 (Medicare Like Rates)
- State Survey Agency Director Letter and FAQ 10/17/2008 – Accreditation and impact on Survey and Certification
- State Health Official – CHIP Reauthorization # 1 Letter 4/17/2009
- Dear Tribal Leader Letter – Recovery Act and CHIP Reauthorization Calls and Consultation Notification – 5/29/2009
- **NOTE:** All SHO and SMD guidance letters for ARRA, CHIPRA & ACA will be included

FROM CMS AND IHS JOINTLY:

- Joint CMS & IHS Letter 12/6/2002 – OMB approved Rate

FROM IHS:

- IHS Dear Tribal Leader Letter 1/10/2000 – IHS Eligibility
- IHS Dear Tribal Leader Letter 3/6/2001 – Implementation of Direct Billing Program
- IHS Dear Tribal Leader Letter 5/13/2003 – HIPPA
- IHS Memo to Area Director 6/10/2004 – IHS authorities under ISDEAA
- IHS Dear Tribal Leader/Urban Program Director Letter 9/16/2004 – Part D
- IHS Dear Tribal Leader Letter 2/10/2005 – Title VI of ISDEAA
- IHS Dear Tribal Leader Letter 4/29/2005 – Part D
- IHS Dear Tribal Leader/Urban Program Director Letter 7/19/2007 – Medicare Like Rates

Attachment C:

2009 Draft Script, *Covering Our Kids, Ensuring Our Future*

Covering Our Kids, Ensuring Our Future

A video to help AIAN communities get better health care

Project Overview

This document presents a First Draft Script (1D) for the development of a roughly five-to-seven minute short video or DVD designed to increase awareness of recent changes in Medicaid and CHIP services in AI/AN communities. This project is being developed by CMS and Two Feathers Media.

Documents and other Sources

Various documents contain additional background information on the project's goals, tasks, and management. The script will be developed using these sources:

- CMS Web site and internal literature
- CMS TTAG Web site and literature
- NIHB Documentation and literature
- Various conference calls, with detailed notes
- Interviews with qualified individuals, particularly health care professionals
- Interviews with families and family members

Problem to be Solved

For American Indians and Alaska Natives, ideal enrollment in Medicare and Medicaid should include a much higher percentage of the population than it actually does. Many individuals historically view the programs with distrust, or as being too complicated to enroll. But in 2009, recent grants, provisions and changes in the eligibility guidelines have made it easier than ever to get crucial services. In short, things have changed, and this video will try to underscore that message.

Objectives

This video is primarily aimed at community laypersons, informing them about basic new provisions and changes in CHIPRA policies, without getting too specific or too mired in policy details. The objective is to interest the general viewer to learn more, to inspire them to inquire at their local clinic about new services and new eligibility guidelines. A secondary, shorter, but more detailed video aimed at local leaders and health care providers may be useful.

Overview

The video will have a polished but documentary-like approach, highlighting real people and real families as they enroll and receive various services, such as dental care for children and other services. The messages will emphasize salient points such as:

- Due to changes in recent provisions, it is now easier than ever to enroll in Medicaid and CHIPRA (Tribal documentation now accepted for citizenship, applications from other programs are now being accepted for enrollment, etc.) and receive various benefits and services.

- Similarly, fewer obstructions (trust property is protected and not counted as a resource, etc.) make it easier than ever before to enroll and receive services.
- More services have recently become available (dental services under CHIPRA, no co-pays for referrals, etc.)
- In all cases, the underlying message is “Please talk to your benefits coordinator to learn more.” The overall intent of the piece is simply to motivate families to get more information and enroll.

The mini-documentary (tentatively titled *Covering Our Kids, Ensuring Our Future*) will be played in clinic waiting rooms, community centers, local cable access channels, and so on. It will be captured in High Definition Video in locations across the US.

To learn more about this project, please contact:

Lindsey A. Cometa, (410) 786-1569; email: lindsey.cometa@cms.hhs.gov

Gale Marshall, Two Feathers Media (828) 421-5553; email: galemarshall@mac.com

First Draft – CMS CHIPRA DVD/Web Video

Working Title “Covering Our Kids, Ensuring Our Future”

Video		Audio
1.	<p>Start with title up and location superimposed onscreen, but with very little fanfare.</p> <p>Fade in quickly, as we follow a family documentary-style into a clinic.</p>	<p><i>Natural sounds in BG – Traffic, cars starting, people talking, etc.</i></p> <p><i>No music.</i></p>
2.	<p>We see the family checking in, getting to know them in quick close-ups one by one:</p> <p>Mom, perhaps a dad, two kids, etc.</p>	<p><i>Mom’s Interview VO:</i></p> <p>“If we didn’t have the clinic here, I’m not sure what we would do. Not just my family, but the entire community.”</p>
3.	<p><i>New Scenario:</i></p> <p>A dental clinic. A young girl squirms in the chair, mouth open, her dental hygenist leaning in to clean her teeth. Mom stands nearby.</p>	<p><i>Mom’s Interview VO:</i></p> <p>“Why did I wait so long? I was told that dental care was much harder to get. But things seem different now, it was much easier than I thought to sign up.”</p>
4.	<p>Cut into the interview proper. The mom (or perhaps dad) talks, with her name identified in a lower third. She’s a real mom in a real community.</p>	<p><i>Mom’s Interview:</i></p> <p>“These changes are great. Our tribal identification documents were accepted for paperwork. The hassle factor was much less than I thought.”</p>
5.	<p>Back to the examination. Things go well.</p>	<p><i>Mom’s Interview VO:</i></p> <p>“I was a little skeptical. I didn’t even know if we were eligible. But the reality is that it feels like we’re getting the services we need.”</p>

Deleted: ¶

Video		Audio
6.	<p><i>New Scenario:</i></p> <p>We're introduced to another family, sitting around a dinner table. This one involves a grandma and grandpa.</p>	<p><i>Older Man's Interview VO:</i></p> <p>"I wasn't sure what I needed to enroll in the services being offered. I thought it would be much more complicated than it really was."</p>
7.	<p>They talk about the day, laughing and smiling with their children and grandchildren.</p>	<p><i>Older Man's Interview VO:</i></p> <p>"In the past the forms were so long and so frustrating. But now they seem so much easier. They told me all I needed to be eligible was a document saying I was a member of the tribe. And that was it. My trust property is protected.</p>
8.	<p>Grandpa takes a private moment to gaze proudly at his family.</p>	<p><i>Older Man's Interview VO:</i></p> <p>"The new services are ... wonderful. Not even a co-pay. Things have definitely changed."</p>
9.	<p>An on-screen spokesperson speaks to the camera [or perhaps just a simple VO over community imagery]:</p> <p>A town goes about its business: Streets are busy. People shop in grocery stores. Cars come and go in clinic parking lots. The waiting rooms are full.</p>	<p><i>Narrator:</i></p> <p>[Mr. Jones] is correct. There are a host of changes that recently happened in Medicare/Medicaid and CHIP eligibility that will make it much easier for you and your family to receive quality health care. This in turn will help you to get better coverage for your family <u>and</u> your community.</p>
10.	<p>A mother reads to her son. A young man helps an elderly person</p>	<p><i>Narrator VO:</i></p>

Video		Audio
	negotiate the steps to her home.	With the 2009 Recovery Act, significant changes improved services and made things easier for you to get enrolled, all with the goal of making your health care better and more accessible. Right now is an excellent time to go to your clinic to find out more – ask your health care staff.
11.	<p>Various CHIP documents fill the screen. Highlight the term 'CHIP,' with <i>Children's Health Insurance Program</i> spelled out below in motion graphics.</p> <p>A bulleted list fades in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Improved programs</i> ○ <i>Additional programs</i> ○ <i>More access</i> ○ <i>Easier Enrollment</i> 	<p><i>Narrator VO:</i></p> <p>“Under the new changes in the Children’s Health Insurance Program, or CHIP, communities are able to strengthen their existing programs, and even provide coverage to additional low-income and uninsured children and pregnant women.</p>
12.	<p>Various Medicaid documents fill the screen. 'Medicare' is highlighted, with the definition 'Health care for the needy;' A <i>federally and state-funded program</i> is spelled out below in motion graphics.</p> <p>The bulleted list stays:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Improved programs</i> ○ <i>Additional programs</i> ○ <i>More access</i> ○ <i>Easier Enrollment</i> 	<p><i>Narrator VO:</i></p> <p>“For Medicaid, which provides help to low-income citizens, availability is as easy as presenting your Tribal enrollment or Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood documents. Access to these crucial programs has never been easier.</p>

Video		Audio
13.	Doctors and nurses smile. Clinic staff look up from their work and acknowledge us with professionalism and warmth.	<p><i>Narrator VO:</i></p> <p>Under the new provisions enacted in the spring and summer of 2009, these services and programs are easier than ever to join and to use. Through these changes, families and communities will be strengthened and made more healthy.</p>
14.	<p><i>Back to documentary-style footage:</i></p> <p>Another family gets care. Doctors smile, kids fidget, moms are relieved.</p>	<p><i>Mom's Interview VO:</i></p> <p>"I was thinking there would be a mountain of paperwork and loads of requirements and forms and such. But it was much easier than I thought. Now my children are getting the best care they've ever had.</p>
15.	On-screen spokesperson speaks to the camera [or a VO over community imagery]:	<p><i>Narrator:</i></p> <p>"The good news is that the President recently signed legislation that strengthens existing programs, making the care of your children and your family better than ever before.</p> <p>"Other changes include the ability to choose Indian primary care givers, new dental benefits, and measures protecting you from paying out-of-pocket premiums. Even trust property does not make you</p>

Video		Audio
		<p>ineligible.</p> <p>“For more information and assistance, of course, please see your medical service providers.”</p>
16.	<p>A tribal leader stands in a lonely landscape.</p> <p>He addresses the camera, interview-style.</p>	<p><i>Tribal Leader Interview:</i></p> <p>“I too was skeptical that these new provisions would make much difference. But I’ve learned that they do make things better. I’ve seen children get care, expectant mothers get care. I’ve been telling my folks to go down to the clinic and get enrolled. It’s been good for our entire community.”</p>
17.	<p>A rapid succession of community faces and places: old men, a proud mother, dirty-faced kids, a smiling grandma...</p>	<p><i>Tribal Leader Interview VO:</i></p> <p>“I can look out and see the difference. Kids are getting better care. Families are getting better care. All they have to do is go down to the clinic and talk to the folks about getting enrolled.”</p>
18.	<p>Our narrator comes back to wrap things up and present the call to action.</p>	<p><i>Narrator:</i></p> <p>”Talk to your benefits coordinator. Talk to your local leaders. They want you to have the best care available. But you have to be the one to take action. There is no better time to take care of yourself or be healthy. It’s a new day, we have new opportunities. Your community, your family, and your health needs you.</p>

Video		Audio
		“Thank you for watching. Now, what are you waiting for?”
18.	FADE OUT. <i>Credits, CMS, CHIP logos roll.</i>	<i>Contemporary music up.</i>

--END--

Attachment D:

CMCS Informational Bulletin – May 27, 2010

DRAFT

Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification

CMCS Informational Bulletin

DATE: May 27, 2010

FROM: Cindy Mann
Director
Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification (CMCS)

SUBJECT: Medicaid Premiums and Cost Sharing – Revised Final Regulation on Display in the Federal Register

This informational bulletin is to notify you that today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) put on display at the Federal Register a final rule (with a 30-day comment period for certain provisions) revising regulations addressing State options with respect to Medicaid premiums and cost sharing. This regulation implements the provisions of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, as amended by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the Recovery Act). The regulation is available for viewing at http://www.federalregister.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2010-12954_PI.pdf.

Background

As you know, the DRA established a new section 1916A of the Social Security Act that offered a new option for establishing premiums and cost sharing in State Medicaid programs for certain beneficiaries. This regulation addresses the DRA changes and section 5006(a) of the Recovery Act, which amended sections 1916 and 1916A of the Social Security Act to exempt Indians from premiums and cost sharing under certain circumstances.

This revised final rule follows multiple comment periods and will become effective on July 1, 2010. The rule revises the final rule that was published on November 25, 2008 but was not made effective, and reflects public comments received during two subsequent comment periods. Please note that a 30-day comment period is provided for the portion of the revised final rule that applies to the provisions related to cost-sharing protections for Indians. Under the Recovery Act, those changes took effect on July 1, 2009.

Key Provisions

This final rule continues most of the provisions that were in the original rule published on November 25, 2008. It also includes several changes to the previously published rule, in part based on public comments received. Key provisions include: