

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service Tribal Technical Advisory Group



TTAG Objective

To provide advice and input to CMS on policy and program issues impacting American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) served by CMS programs

TTAG Composition

TTAG is comprised of a representative from:

- Each of the 12 IHS Areas
- National Indian Health Board
- National Congress of American Indians; and
- Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Group.

California Representatives

Primary Tribal Representative

Mark LeBeau, Chief Executive Officer
California Rural Indian Health Board

Alternate Tribal Representative

Inder Wadhwa, Chief Executive Officer
Northern Valley Indian Health

Federal Technical Representative

Julie Schulte, PRC/BO Consultant
California Area Indian Health Service

Congressional Budget Proposal

Staffing:

- Workforce issues: IHS, CMS DTA, staff supporting Indian health across federal government.
- Rollback of IHS Staff layoffs.
- Staff layoffs/terminations at other supporting departments.
- Voluntary Separation Incentive.

Congressional Budget Proposal

Medicaid Reforms

- Significant reductions expected in Medicaid.
- Funding impact on Tribal Programs.

Possible Options being considered:

- States solely responsible for Medicaid through block grants.
- Medicaid per-capita allocations.
- Work requirements.
- Redefining eligibility for Medicaid.

Congressional Budget Proposal

Funding Freeze:

- Impact on CMS and its programs.

Status Update

Two important Policy Changes:

- IHS/Tribal exemption from the 4 walls clinic benefit regulations.
- Approval of 1115 demonstrations authorizing Medicaid coverage of Traditional health care practices.

Status Update

CMS Key Staff Turnover:

- Kitty Marx, Director, Division of Tribal Affairs retiring.
- Last day March 28th

Questions