DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Indian Health Service
Rockville MD 20852

JUN 10 2016

Dear Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am pleased to announce and invite you to attend the 13th Annual Direct Service Tribes (DST) National Meeting and 6th Annual Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board (GPTCHB) Health Summit. This two-day event is scheduled for August 31 – September 1, 2016, at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn in Rapid City, South Dakota. The meeting will feature a variety of plenary, listening, and breakout sessions to encourage your input and facilitate feedback on behalf of Tribes receiving health care services directly from the Indian Health Service (IHS).

The 2016 Conference theme is "*Empowering Indian Health for Future Generations*," and we have partnered with the GPTCHB and the Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC) to showcase health care delivery best practices throughout Indian Country. We will highlight Tribes in partnership with the IHS and discuss collective strategies to address key issues impacting Direct Service Tribes. Urban Indian Organization Leaders, Tribal Leaders, administrators, health directors, Federal staff, and other interested parties are encouraged to attend and can register online at the Web site that follows:

http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ecldig2f25891e27&llr=8qnkebuab.

I look forward to your participation at the National Meeting. For additional details, including meeting updates, please visit http://www.ihs.gov/dstnm/.

In conjunction with this event, the IHS will also be hosting a Tribal Consultation and Urban Indian Organization Confer session on the state of the Great Plains Area IHS. The session will be held at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn on Tuesday, August 30, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Michelle EagleHawk, Deputy Director, Office of Direct Service and Contracting Tribes, IHS, by telephone at (301) 443-1104, or by e-mail at michelle.eaglehawk@ihs.gov.

Sincerely,

/Mary Smith/

Mary Smith
Principal Deputy Director