



JUL 12 2018

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to provide you with my decisions on the fiscal year (FY) 2019 funding distribution for the Indian Health Service (IHS) Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI). The IHS is delighted that the SDPI has been authorized through FY 2019 at the current funding level of \$150 million per year. With your partnership and support, SDPI programs will be able to continue providing important diabetes treatment and prevention services in Tribal communities.

By letter dated April 13, 2018, I initiated a Tribal Consultation on the SDPI FY 2019 funding distribution, as recommended by the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee (TLDC). I want to thank all of the Tribal Leaders who submitted input through IHS Area consultation meetings, letters, and e-mails to consultation@ihs.gov. The TLDC met on May 21-22, 2018, at which time they reviewed the Consultation responses and then formulated their recommendations, which were presented when I met with them on May 21.

In accordance with the TLDC's recommendations, I have decided to keep the SDPI funding distribution the same in FY 2019 as it has been since FY 2016. While the SDPI FY 2019 Data Infrastructure Improvement set-aside will also remain the same, I am looking forward to upcoming discussions with the TLDC about how these funds can best be used to support SDPI grantees and diabetes data going forward. In addition, I will ask that each-Area Director schedule a meeting with Tribal Leaders to discuss their respective Area's proposed budget for its share of the SDPI FY 2019 Data Infrastructure Improvement funds.

If you have any SDPI-related questions, please contact Ann Bullock, M.D., Director, IHS Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention, by telephone at (844) 447-3387. For questions pertaining to SDPI grant issues, please contact Mr. Robert Tarwater, Director, IHS Division of Grants Management, by telephone at (301) 443-5204.

Thank you for your partnership with the IHS in the important work of diabetes treatment and prevention in the American Indian/Alaska Native communities that we serve.

Sincerely,

/Michael D. Weahkee/

RADM Michael D. Weahkee, MBA, MHSA
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Acting Director