



Department of Health Care Services
MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 13, 2018

TO: Tribal Chairpersons, Designees of Indian Health Programs, and Urban Indian Organizations

FROM: Original Signed By Sandra "Sam" Willburn, Chief,
Primary, Rural, and Indian Health Division

SUBJECT: Expedited Notice of Proposed Change to the Medi-Cal Program

The purpose of this memo is to provide information regarding a proposed change to the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) Medi-Cal Program that will be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). DHCS is forwarding this information for your review and comment.

DHCS is required to seek advice from designees of Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations on Medi-Cal matters having a direct effect on Indians, Indian Health Programs or Urban Indian Organizations per the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). DHCS must solicit the advice of designees prior to submission to CMS of any State Plan Amendment, waiver requests or modifications, or proposals for demonstration projects in the Medi-Cal program.

Please see the enclosed summary for a detailed description of this DHCS proposal.

TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION FOR EXPEDITED NOTICE

DHCS will also host a teleconference to offer an opportunity to discuss and provide immediate feedback regarding this proposal. **The teleconference will be held Monday, April 23, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to noon.** To participate in this teleconference dial toll-free, 1-866-761-4923. When asked for a participant passcode please enter "7677430". Please note this SPA is scheduled for submission by Monday, April 30, 2018.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may also submit written comments or questions concerning this SPA within 5 days from the receipt of notice. Comments may be sent by email to HHP@dhcs.ca.gov or by fax to 916-449-5091.



**Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
Tribal and Designees of Indian Health Programs Notice**

PURPOSE:

DHCS recently announced that it has modified the implementation schedule for the Health Homes Program (HHP) for coverage in 10 of the 11 counties in the Group 1 implementation. San Francisco County will remain in Group 1 and will begin the HHP implementation on July 1, 2018. The remaining 10 counties will begin their implementations on July 1, 2019.

BACKGROUND

Section 2703 of the Affordable Care Act allows states to implement a health home program, which is designed to coordinate the full range of physical, behavioral health, and community-based long term services and supports for members with chronic conditions. Assembly Bill 361(Chapter 642, Statutes of 2013) authorizes DHCS to submit a state plan amendment (SPA). Federal funds pay for 90 percent of the program service costs for the first two years. A private foundation plans to pay the other 10 percent. The limit for the 10 percent is \$50 million over the two years. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services approved SPA 16-007 on December 19, 2017, to add HHP services for eleven counties to the Medi-Cal program.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES

DHCS is changing the HHP implementation date for ten counties from July 1, 2018 to July 1, 2019. The affected counties are: Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Shasta, Solano, Sonoma, and Yolo.

IMPACT TO TRIBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

Indian health providers have the option to become HHP providers within the local community as a community-based care management entity. Medi-Cal managed care health plans will select and certify local community-based providers to provide HHP services. HHP care coordination services are entirely optional for members. The schedule change for 10 counties may delay potential revenue to Indian health providers for one year.

IMPACT TO FQHCs

The schedule change for 10 counties may delay potential revenue to FQHCs in these counties for one year.

IMPACT TO INDIAN MEDI-CAL BENEFICIARIES

The HHP provides enhanced care coordination services to better meet the needs of people with multiple chronic illnesses. Eligible members may include American Indians with chronic conditions. The schedule change for 10 counties will delay HHP service availability for one year.



TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION AND RESPONSE DATE

Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may submit written comments or questions concerning SPA 18-0018 within 5 days from the receipt of this letter. Comments may be sent by email to HHP@dhcs.ca.gov or by fax to 916-449-5091. DHCS will also host a teleconference to offer an opportunity to discuss and provide immediate feedback regarding this proposal. The teleconference will be held from Monday, April 23, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to noon. To participate in this teleconference dial toll-free, 1-866-761-4923. When asked for a participant passcode please enter "7677430". Please note this SPA is scheduled for submission by Monday, April 30, 2018.