

Janice K. Brewer, Governor
Thomas J. Betlach, Director

801 East Jefferson, Phoenix, AZ 85034
PO Box 25520, Phoenix, AZ 85002
Phone: 602-417-4000
www.azahcccs.gov



Our first care is your health care
ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

March 18, 2010

Theresa Cullen, M.D., M.S.
RADM, U.S. Public Health Service
Chief Information Officer and Director
Office of Information Technology
Indian Health Service
12300 TwinBrook Parkway
Suite #300
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Dr Cullen,

Thank you for your recent letter requesting information about the Medicaid portion of the Health Information Technology (HIT) incentive program from the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System. AHCCCS received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in January to initiate planning on how the agency will meet the goals of the program.

As you know, much of the details of the incentive program are still under consideration by CMS, but we plan on posting any new developments to the HIT webpage on the AHCCCS website. It is our plan to use the web to post information related to HIT including agency's comments regarding meaningful use, federal and state health information technology resources, points of contact and any public information opportunities that become available. All of the incentive information is listed under the Health Information Technology tab at www.azahcccs.gov.

The agency will be using the next several months to develop its proposed methods and strategies for achieving meaningful use for Medicaid providers and hospitals, based on the proposed rules. Our goal is to have our state Medicaid Health Information Technology Plan submitted to CMS by the summer. As we begin this process, we will keep the Indian Health Service facilities and tribal health programs operated under P.L. 93-638 apprised of AHCCCS activities regarding HIT and involve those facilities that may be eligible for Medicaid incentive payments.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have additional questions in the future. The agency point of contact is Lorie Mayer, AHCCCS HIT Coordinator. Lorie's contact information is provided below. We look forward to working with the Indian Health Service in this process.

AHCCCS HIT Coordinator is Lorie Mayer, HIT Coordinator, AHCCCS Office of the Director, 801 E. Jefferson St., MD 4100, Phoenix, AZ 85034, Phone: (602) 417-4420, email: lorie.mayer@azahcccs.gov

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Betlach
Director