

AHCCCS
Tribal Consultation Meeting
September 27, 2012

Pascua Yaqui Tribe (Host), Tucson, Arizona

SUMMARY

Tribal Representatives	<p>Ak Chin Indian Community: Dr. Gail Atchison Colorado River Indian Tribes: Sylvia Homer, David Barbara Gila River Indian Community: Priscilla Foote, James Tree, Cheryl Cuyler, Pascua Yaqui Tribe: Reuben Howard, Alva Obregon, Patsy Triana, Linda Guerra. Elizabeth Guerra, Irene Sanchez, Cruzita Armenta, Francisco Munoz, Barbara Raper San Carlos Apache Tribe: Gail Sims Salt River Pima-Maricopa: John Godfrey Tohono O’odham Nation: Chester Antone White Mountain Apache Tribe: Evelyn Emory, Althea Valasquez</p>
Healthcare Organizations	<p>Arizona Department of Health Services: Michael Allison, Lydia Hubbard-Pourier, Jewela Rice Cenpatico: Sheina Yellowhair CPSA: Julia Chavez Intertribal Council of Arizona: Alida Montiel</p>
Tribal Healthcare Organizations	<p>Indian Health Services – Phoenix Area Office: Carol Chicherello Indian Health Services – Navajo Nation Area Office: Jenny Notah Indian Health Services – Tucson Area Office: Adam Archuleta, Navajo Nation Department of Health Services: Albert Long, Roselyn Begay Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation: Dawn Reich, Melverta Barlow Winslow Indian Health Care Center: Brenda Thompson</p>
AHCCCS Staff	<p>Thomas Betlach, Monica Coury, Rebecca Fields, Bonnie Talakte, Stephanie Big Crow, Melina Solomon</p>

AGENDA:

Welcome and Introductions	<p>AHCCCS Director, Thomas Betlach, provided welcoming remarks and introduced Pascua Yaqui Tribal Councilman Francisco Munoz who provided the opening prayer. Round table introductions were made.</p>
Overview of San Carlos HC Program	<p>Reuben Howard, Executive Director of the Health Services Division gave an overview of the Pascua Yaqui Health Care Program.</p>
AHCCCS Update: Director Thomas Betlach	<p>AHCCCS Director Thomas Betlach welcomed meeting participants and thanked the Pascua Yaqui Tribe for hosting the meeting. Mr. Betlach gave a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation highlighting the following :</p> <p>The PowerPoint presentation can be viewed as an attachment under <i>AHCCCS Update</i>.</p>

<p>CMS Waiver Survey: Monica Coury</p>	<p>Monica Coury presented the Waiver Evaluation Survey which is required reporting by IHS and tribally operated 638 facilities. Arizona must conduct independent evaluations of the uncompensated care payments provided to IHS and 638 facilities. The evaluation must test the following specific hypotheses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the effect on service utilization? ○ Are the affected facilities able to maintain and/or increase their current staffing levels? <p>The waiver Evaluation Survey consists of eight (8) questions. Tribes will be notified of a submission date.</p> <p>The Evaluation survey can be viewed as an attachment under <i>Waiver Evaluation Survey</i>.</p>
<p>Reimbursement SPA Update: Rebecca Fields</p>	<p>Rebecca Fields gave justification for State Plan Amendment 12-0003B: Changing Reimbursement to HIS and 638 Facilities.</p> <p>SPA 12-0003B is an effort to address inequities in reimbursement for HIS/638 providers in Arizona. Many Arizona facilities offer higher levels of care than other HIS/638 facilities across the country. Often, All Inclusive Rates (AIR) does not cover the cost of providing that care. In other cases the AIR clearly overpays for the service being provided. This SPA seeks to permit the State to reimburse HIS/638 facilities on a fee schedule rate rather than the AIR for selected services including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wound care technologies • Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) • Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) • Pharmacy • Durable Medical Equipment (DME) • Dialysis • Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) • Level III Behavioral Health Residential services • Case Management • Home Health Agency • Licensed Professional Services
<p>All Inclusive Rates: Rebecca Fields</p>	<p>Rebecca Fields indicated that AHCCCS has not completed the AIR re-cycle, there are still 190,000 claims to process. Unfortunately AHCCCS was not able to complete the re-cycle by the end of the month. The re-cycle should be completed in the next few weeks.</p>
<p>Tribal Health Care Management Update: Rebecca Fields</p>	<p>Rebecca Fields gave a PowerPoint update of the Tribal health Care Management Plan. Highlights of the presentation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UM/CM Care Coordination: current facilities in-patient census • Tribal outreach overview • Referred services • Common issues <p>This PowerPoint can be viewed as an attachment under <i>Tribal Health Care Management Plan Update</i>.</p>
<p>Waiver Update: Director Thomas Betlach and Monica Coury</p>	<p>The Executive Summary to DRAFT Waiver Amendment Childless Adult Continuation was presented by Director Betlach and Monica Coury.</p> <p>Summary: AHCCCS currently covers adults without deprived children (“Childless Adults”) through its 1115 Research and Demonstration Waiver. This special waiver authority was needed because Childless Adults are not otherwise eligible for Medicaid coverage. On September 18, 2012, AHCCCS posted a draft waiver amendment to its website that would allow the State to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Extend its current authority to provide Medicaid coverage to Childless Adults for the entire period of its Waiver (through September 30, 2016) and,

	<p>2) To obtain the enhanced federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for childless Adults beginning January 1, 2014.</p> <p>The Waiver amendment is open for public comment for 30 days; the comment period closes October 19, 2012. AHCCCS will review all public comments as they are received. Once the comment period closes, AHCCCS will formally submit the waiver amendment request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).</p>
<p>State Medicaid Advisory Committee (SMAC) Nominations: Bonnie Talakte</p>	<p>Bonnie Talakte indicated that there is a vacancy on the State Medicaid Advisory Committee (SMAC) that should be filled by a tribal member. The SMAC is an advisory board to Director Betlach on policy and administrative issues of concern to the committee members' constituency. Committee members serve a two year term. Meetings are held on a quarterly basis. Bonnie distributed nomination forms and asked meeting participants to return completed nomination forms to her office at AHCCCS.</p>
<p>State Licensure Requirement for Non-Tribally Operated Facilities (conference call): Gloria Nagle, CMS</p>	<p>A lengthy conference call was held with Gloria Nagle, CMS Associate Regional Administrator for the Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations, to discuss the CMS state licensure requirement for non-tribally operated facilities. Among the issues discussed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal sovereignty • Difficulty of the State to impose licensure requirements on Tribes <p>Several tribal representatives requested that a face-to-face meeting with tribal representatives be held to further discuss the issues. Ms. Nagle indicated she would contact AHCCCS with a meeting date.</p>
<p>Wrap-Up/Adjourn</p>	<p>The meeting ended at 2:30 p.m. Next Tribal Consultation has not been scheduled:</p>