

Tribal Technical Advisory Group

To the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

c/o National Indian Health Board 910 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003 (202) 507-1070 (202) 507-1071 fax

February 28, 2018

Kitty Marx, Director,
Division of Tribal Affairs, CMS
7500 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21224

Re: CMS Annual Tribal Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Program Survey

Dear Ms. Marx,

On behalf of the CMS Tribal Technical Advisory Group (TTAG) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), I write to you in response to your request for TTAG's approval and support of your CMS Annual Tribal LTSS Program Survey.

The Tribal LTSS program survey is needed to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the LTSS needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN). TTAG feels the collection of this information is critically important to CMS's ability to better understand the unique circumstances of providing LTSS services to AI/AN communities. In addition, the data will help CMS with program development and technical assistance for Tribal LTSS programs. TTAG is in complete support of the Annual LTSS Program Survey.

TTAG expects Tribal LTSS programs to change frequently as additional services are developed and changes are made to improve the delivery of LTSS services. TTAG feels that it is important to annually capture the current status and to understand the rate of change. Therefore, TTAG concurs that the LTSS information should be collected on an annual basis. TTAG does not feel that this will create a burden on the tribes.

TTAG believes that this survey will not only help identify AI/AN LTSS programs, but will also encourage collaboration and the sharing of best practices between programs. It will be a beneficial addition to the continued effort of the TTAG to better understand and help improve LTSS in our Tribal Communities.

Sincerely,



W. Ron Allen, Tribal Chairman and CEO, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Chairman, Tribal Technical Advisory Group