

## STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY** 

1100 E. William Street, Suite 101 Carson City, Nevada 89701 (775) 684-3600

MICHAEL J. WILLDEN Director

LAURIE SQUARTSOFF Administrator

April 1, 2013

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Chairwoman Wanda Batchelor, President of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California 919 Highway 395 South Gardnerville, NV 89410

Dear Chairpersons:

In accordance with established consultation guidelines, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) is notifying Nevada tribes of the following proposed change in policy.

DHCFP is proposing to review the feasibility of increasing the encounter limit for Indian Health Service (IHS) and/or tribal clinics (provider type 47) from three to five encounters per day, per recipient.

DHCFP is also proposing to add Marriage and Family Therapists, Clinical Professional Counselors, and Clinical Social Workers to our State Plan, attachment 4.19-B. This would allow IHS and tribal clinics to be reimbursed the daily encounter rate for these professional services.

Both of these proposals are in support of Congressional finding acknowledged in the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (Public Laws 94-437 and 111-148).

The State of Nevada is eligible for 100 percent reimbursement from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for medically necessary services provided to American Indians or Alaskan Natives through the IHS and/or tribal clinics. There is an anticipated increase in revenue for IHS and/or tribal clinics.

If you would like a consultation regarding this new policy, please contact Jon Kirwan at (775) 684-3706 who will schedule a meeting. We would appreciate a reply whether or not you would like this consultation, however if we do not hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter we will consider that an indication that no consultation is requested.

Sincerely,

Administrator

Cc: Elizabeth Aiello, Deputy Administrator Coleen Lawrence, Chief, Program Services

Jon Kirwan, Tribal Liaison, Program Services