



August 31, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to inform you about a recent reorganization of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) that I mentioned in my presentation at the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee meeting yesterday.

HRSA established the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA) to better align its efforts with those of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs. HRSA IEA serves as the principal agency lead on intergovernmental and external affairs, regional operations, and tribal partnerships.

In response to feedback we have received from many Tribal Leaders, the functions and staff of HRSA's Tribal Health Affairs will operate as a standalone office in HRSA IEA. This team will be responsible for managing the newly created HRSA Tribal Advisory Council, participating in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Tribal Consultations, and collaborating with the Indian Health Service and other federal and community stakeholders to address tribal issues. This transition elevates the critical role of tribal affairs within HRSA, and leverages HRSA's regional infrastructure, staff, and external engagement to meet unique tribal health needs.

HRSA IEA is led by Natasha Coulouris, MPH, Associate Administrator. The Senior Tribal Health Affairs Advisor is CAPT Carmen "Skip" Clelland, PharmD, MPA, MPH, who is a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, and has extensive tribal expertise. Skip advises both Natasha and me on tribal issues.

I appreciate your support of this reorganization and all our efforts over the years to continuously improve HRSA's longstanding commitment to assist Indian Country and provide quality health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Sincerely,

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Diana Espinosa
Acting Administrator