



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON DC 20420

June 16, 2017

Dear Tribal Leader:

On September 28, 2016, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilitated tribal consultation in Washington, D.C., with a comment period through November 30, 2016, on VA's community care consolidation effort. VA received many comments from tribes, and as a result, VA is renewing existing reimbursement agreements through June 30, 2019. As reflected in the renewal amendment language, VA and Tribal Health Programs (THPs) are agreeing to work together to ensure VA's community care program allows for continuation and growth of the unique relationship that THPs have with VA and the Veterans they serve.

I would like to invite tribal leaders (or their representative designees) along with THPs' leadership to a roundtable discussion on July 12, 2017, from noon to 3:00 PM at Heard Museum, 2301 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004, to discuss how VA and THPs can work together to update the reimbursement agreements in advance of the June 30, 2019 expiration date. VA suggests the following topics as points of discussion:

- Do THPs have any suggestions on how VA can move from the all-inclusive rate payment methodology to more recent industry standard payment methodology (e.g., value based rate structure)?
- Do THPs have quality related standards in place that can be shared with VA and utilized as the basis for developing a value based rate structure?
- Do THPs have any suggestions related to care coordination between VA and THPs?
- Do THPs have any established care coordination procedures that may be utilized as basis for enhancing care coordination between VA and THPs?

If you or a representative plans to attend the roundtable discussion, please RSVP to [tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov](mailto:tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov).

For additional information regarding this effort please contact Majed Ibrahim at [majed.ibrahim@va.gov](mailto:majed.ibrahim@va.gov).

I look forward to meeting with you and I appreciate your support as we move forward together to enhance and improve the experience for our Veterans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Baligh Yehia, md".

Baligh Yehia, M.D., M.P.P., M.Sc  
Deputy Under Secretary for Health  
for Community Care