

Washington, D.C. 20201

March 8, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader:

I write to invite you to the 23rd U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Virtual Annual Tribal Budget Consultation (ATBC) on April 6 -7, 2021. This year's ATBC will once again be held virtually using the ZoomGov platform due to the ongoing pandemic, with written testimony provided to HHS by e-mail and technical assistance given virtually.

The ATBC will provide a forum for tribes to collectively share their views and priorities with HHS officials on national health and human services funding priorities and make recommendations for the Department's FY 2023 budget request. The consultation is intended to provide a venue for a two-way conversation between tribal leaders and HHS officials on budget priorities and program issues that will lead to recommendations for action.

The Department understands the importance of hearing from tribes on national and regional issues, as well as tribal-specific concerns. As in previous years, the HHS will host 1-hour planning sessions for the consultation starting on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 1:00 PM ET. During these sessions, agenda topics and the structure for the 2-day consultation will be discussed and finalized. Please register to attend a session at the following link: <u>Planning</u> <u>Session Registration</u>. Below is a schedule of the planning calls:

- Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 1:00 PM ET
- Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 1:00 PM ET
- Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 1:00 PM ET
- Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 1:00 PM ET

You can register for the 2021 Annual Budget Consultation by signing up at the following link: <u>Register Here</u>. If you would like to request a one-on-one, please e-mail: <u>consultation@hhs.gov</u>. As we do every year, HHS will accept *Written Testimony* for the official record from Tribes. Testimony should be submitted by *Wednesday, April 7, 2021*. Testimony can be emailed to <u>consultation@hhs.gov</u>. The consultation record will remain open for 30 days after the virtual session wherein additional testimony will also be accepted.

Thank you for your continued support of the consultation process. We look forward to your participation and ongoing partnership. Please contact Devin Delrow, Associate Director of Tribal Affairs, at (202) 205 – 0226 or at consultation@hhs.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

/Marvin B. Figueroa/

Marvin B. Figueroa Director Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs