Tribal and Designees of Indian Health Programs Meeting
Summary & Questions

Meeting Summary:
The DHCS hosted a Tribal and Designees of Indian Health Programs Representatives Follow-Up meeting on April 1, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. via WebEx. The meeting materials were distributed before the meeting and are now posted on the DHCS website.

Attendees included representatives from the following Tribes, Tribal Health Programs (THPs), and Urban Indian Health Organizations:

- American Indian Health and Services
- Bridgeport Indian Colony
- Chapa-De Indian Health Program
- Feather River Tribal Health, Inc.
- Greenville Rancheria
- Indian Health Council, Inc.
- Karuk Tribe
- Mathieson Memorial Health Clinic
- Northern Valley Indian Health
- Pinoleville Pomo Nation
- Pit River Health Service, Inc.
- Redding Rancheria
- Rolling Hills Clinic
- Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians

- Sonoma County Indian Health Project, Inc.
- Southern Indian Health Council
- Tule River Indian Health Center
- Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center
- Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation

Indian Health Organizations:
- California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB)
- California Consortium for Urban Indian Health (CCUIH)
- Indian Health Services-California Area Office (IHS-CAO)

Items Reviewed:
- Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwinding (Slides 3-4)
- Update on Tribal Engagement Plan (Slides 5-7)
- Update on COVID-19 Vaccination Rates (Slides 8-19)
- CalAIM News and Updates (Slides 20-21)

For details on the items discussed during the meeting please refer to the presentation slides indicated above and other meeting materials available on the DHCS website.

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Questions and Responses

Update on Tribal Engagement Plan

1. **Question:** Can CRIHB and potentially CCUIH participate in the American Indian Health Policy Panel (AIHPP) meetings as members of the audience to provide public comment, technical assistance, and feedback when issues are being discussed?

    DHCS Response: Once the new AIHPP is appointed, DHCS will work with the AIHPP to update existing bylaws which include requirements for AIHPP meetings. Historically all regular meetings of the AIHPP are open to the public.

2. **Question:** Will the agendas for the AIHPP meetings be sent to interested parties to allow input from representatives?

    DHCS Response: Existing AIHPP bylaws establish that meeting agendas are to be determined by the full membership of the panel and shared with the AIHPP no less than 10 days prior to the meeting. DHCS will work with the appointed AIHPP membership to update existing bylaws as needed.

Update on COVID-19 Vaccination Rates

3. **Question:** Were there any lessons learned or best practices that came out of the COVID-19 vaccination rates improvement projects?

    DHCS Response: Yes, the Department gained valuable knowledge from the process. For example, a number of Managed Care Plans (MCPs) worked closely with community-based organizations (CBOs) to improve vaccination rates. These collaborations were wide ranging and included partnerships with a variety of groups, such as individual clinics, Indian health organizations, and school districts. For additional information, please see DHCS' COVID-19 Vaccines webpage.

California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) News and Updates

4. **Question:** Will THPs be affected by the CalAIM regional capitation rates with shared savings and risks?

    DHCS Response: The final structure of regional rates and shared risk/savings has not been finalized at this time. However, it is not expected that they will impact THPs.

5. **Question:** Many Indian health programs still have questions regarding the implications of CalAIM's operational requirements. Specifically they would like to know:

    - What are the implications for MCPs serving Tribal members?

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- Will there be required notification and training by Managed Care Organizations for any new processes related to documentation or billing so that THPs will not be denied payment, such as for behavioral health?
- How will the CalAIM Foster Care Model of Care affect THPs? Will THPs be included in the planning and implementation of this model?

DHCS Response: Thank you for submitting the follow-up questions. DHCS will work to include these topics and provide additional information regarding your questions at future meetings.

6. **Question:** How will CalAIM affect the National Committee Quality Assurance (NCQA) accreditation that is required of MCPs and their subcontractors in July 2023? Will THPs be required to obtain NCQA accreditation?

   DHCS Response: NCQA requirements would only apply to the prime MCPs and their Plan Partners. THPs would not be required to obtain this accreditation.

7. **Question:** Will DHCS be holding a special meeting on CalAIM where the Department could go through the program and explain the implications for THPs now that we see it in its totality?

   DHCS Response: The DHCS [CalAIM website](#) contains extensive information about the program. If after reviewing the materials available there you still have questions, please send them to TribalAffairs@dhcs.ca.gov. Based on the questions received, the Department will determine if a separate meeting is necessary.

Update on Budget Items

8. **Question:** The Governor's 2022-2023 budget has healthcare workforce development funds. Can these funds also be allocated to Tribal and rural communities?

   DHCS Response: These funds are not under the purview of DHCS, they are overseen by the California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI). Inquiries regarding these funds may be made by contacting hwdd.admin@hcai.ca.gov.

Next Steps:
- The next Tribal and Indian Health Program Representatives meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2022. Registration information is posted on the [DHCS' Indian Health Program](#) website.