



Montana Medicaid Tribal Consultation

June 11, 2025, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

June 12, 2024, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cogswell Building, Conference Rooms C205, C207, and C209

1401 East Lockey Avenue, Broadway Entrance

Helena, Montana

Meeting Support Contact: Carla Rime (406) 444-2584 or text (850) 377-3613

Agenda – Day One – Wednesday, June 11

11 a.m. **Registration** (please sign in each day)
Lunch (provided by DPHHS)

12 p.m. **Prayer**
Welcome, Introductions, and Purpose

12:30 p.m. **Tribal Health Improvement Program (T-HIP)**

The Department will continue the discussion around step two of the Tribal Health Improvement Program Redesign.

Little Shell Tribe T-HIP Presentation and Open Discussion-Terra Branson*

As indicated in formal comments submitted during the state plan amendment comment period, questions for discussion include:

- How many eligible Medicaid recipients reside in each county?
- Could a T-HIP program extend to one county within the Purchased and Referred Care (PRC) area or would all PRC counties be required to be added?
- How would coordination between two tribal health entities be determined?
- How will conflicts between entities be resolved?
- Will Indian Health Service have to be involved in any T-HIP PRC area discussions?

3 p.m. **Break**

3:15 p.m. **Tribal Health Improvement Program (T-HIP) Continued**

4:30 p.m. **Public Comment**

4:45 p.m. **Preview of Day Two Agenda Topics**

Agenda – Day Two – Thursday, June 12

- 8 a.m. Registration (please sign in each day)
- 8:30 a.m. Prayer
- 9 a.m. Finalize T-HIP Discussion and Next Steps
- 10 a.m. Fort Peck Tribe Community Health Aid Program (CHAP) Presentation and Open Discussion-Tanya Firemoon** and Christina Friedt***
- 11 a.m. Break
- 11:15 a.m. Final Rule 42 CFR 440.90- Clinic Four Walls Redeterminations
- The Department will present the information that was contained in the final rule for 42 CFR 440.90. Discuss the history of the four walls discussion and how this final rule impacts IHS and Tribes in Montana.
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch (provided by DPHHS)
- 1:15 p.m. Tribal Residential Treatment Rate
- The Department will present and discuss the cost report that is used to gather costs from tribal residential treatment centers. Review the discussion from November 2024 on the plans to set an interim rate for new TRTC's with the intent to settle the cost in two years. Present the authority that will be submitted to CMS for the state plan authority.
- 2:15 p.m. Legislative Updates
 Behavioral Health System for Future Generations (BHSFG)
- 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. Federal Funding Updates
- 4 p.m. Public Comment
 Other Topics from Tribal Health Leaders
- 4:30 p.m. Closing Comments and Wrap-Up
 Dinner to go (provided by DPHHS)

***Terra Branson-Thomas** leverages a decade of experience working in federal Indian policy, government relations, and self-governance to advance sovereignty and economic diversification on behalf of tribal nations. Terra is a wealth of knowledge regarding tribal governments, non-profit organization management, federal grant writing and administration, strategic planning, and program implementation. Her professional experiences include national tribal non-profit management, federal compacting and negotiations, legislative development and grassroots organizing.

Terra is a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Native American Studies from Dartmouth College and a Masters of Public Policy from Georgetown University.

****Tanya Firemoon (*Nakoda*)**

NPAIHB – Tribal community Health Provider Program & Fort Peck Tribe CHAP Contractor

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Tanya began her Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) journey with the Tribal Community Health Provider Program (TCHPP) in 2016 and transitioned to an independent contractor in 2022. She managed the CHAP learning collaborative as well as the Elder Mentor Extensive for Community Health Outcomes (ECHO), an interactive online learning platform that provides educational support. Supported community outreach activities through various advisory workgroups and site visits, assisted students with their training requirements, and launched the NW Elders, Knowledge Holders, and Culture Keepers virtual gatherings.

She is currently focused on delivering an operation manual for the Portland Area CHAP Certification Board (PACCB). She facilitates the alignment among the Academic Review Committees (ARC), process mapping foundational documents and functions, and provides technical support. Her role as a steward ensures that community voices and tribal imprints are integrated throughout the CHAP infrastructure, which she supports by fostering conversation. Additionally, she is collaborating with her community, the Fort Peck Tribes, who are piloting the Behavioral Health Aide (BHA) component of CHAP. She mentors and supports the CHAP team, aiding in a smooth transition and contributing to the Tribe's overall goal of developing their own providers.

*****Christina Friedt Peters** is the Managing Director of CKF Consulting and a Contractor/Partner for The Raven Collective. As a consultant, Christina takes an Indigenous and systems-based approach to her work in healthcare and emphasizes collaboration to co-create lasting, community-led solutions. From 2015 to 2025 she was the Tribal Community Health Provider (TCHP) Senior Program Director for the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB). The TCHP Program oversees and integrates the Dental Health Aide, Community Health Aide, and Behavioral Health Aide Programs. As the senior program director, she and her team supported tribes in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho as they explored opportunities to improve the system of primary health care, strengthen tribal self-determination, and support tribal self-governance through the implementation of the Community Health Aide Program. She previously served as the Health Policy Director for the Children's Alliance. Christina holds a degree in Economics from the University of Washington and a Master of Jurisprudence from the University of Washington School of Law. An avid hiker and traveler, she lives in Seattle with her partner, their four children, two dogs, and a cat.