



MAR 20 2001

Indian Health Service
Rockville MD 20857

Dear Tribal Leader:

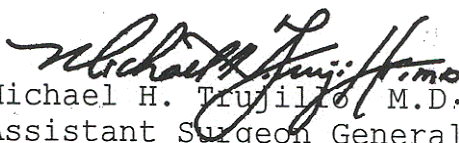
We are pleased to announce the availability of \$1 million in funding for new and expanded podiatry programs for fiscal year 2001.

The increase of \$1 million to hire podiatrists is authorized by the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2001, Public Law 106-291. Although we recognize that this increase will not meet all of the need for new and expanded podiatry programs in Indian country, we are encouraged that this increase will benefit some Indian communities. The \$1 million award will make it possible to allocate approximately \$165,000 to six sites to hire a full-time podiatrist with appropriate infrastructure. Sites will be geographically dispersed. It is anticipated that two health centers, two hospitals, and two surgical hospitals will be represented in the six sites. Smaller service populations may share a podiatry program by submitting combined applications with proposals.

The application plan is enclosed. Completed applications must be received by May 7, 2001. Site selection and notification will be completed by June 1, 2001. Podiatry program planning information will be mailed to all sites submitting an application.

If you need more information, please call Dr. Eugene Dannels Chief Clinical Consultant for Podiatry, Phoenix Indian Medical Center, on (602) 263-1200, extension 1490, or write to 4212 North 16th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85016.

Sincerely yours,


Michael H. Trujillo, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.
Assistant Surgeon General
Director

Enclosure