

Indian Health Service Rockville MD 20852

JUL 2 6 2004

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am inviting you to attend the Healthier Indian Communities Through Partnerships and Prevention Summit, September 22-24, in Washington, D.C. I am also inviting you to a pre-health summit reception on September 21, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Great Hall of the Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. Please see the enclosed summit flyer and draft agenda for information on the time and place of the events and registration for the summit.

The goals of the summit are to provide American Indian Alaska Native (AI/AN) Tribes, Tribal health staff, community health leaders, health program coordinators, and community members with the opportunity to create and expand partnerships, to share best and promising practices on community and clinical health promotion/disease prevention programs, and to reduce the health disparities experienced by AI/AN people compared to the general U.S. population. The summit will bring together Federal agencies, private-sector corporations, foundations, and universities to enhance collaboration and form new partnerships to improve the health status of AI/AN people.

The summit is scheduled to coincide with the opening of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). During this historical occasion, the First Americans Festival of the NMAI will celebrate the history and contributions of more than 500 Native Nations across America.

I look forward to your participation in this important summit.

Sincerely yours,

Charles W. Grim, D.D.S., M.H.S.A.

Charles W. Gum, DDS

Assistant Surgeon General

Director

Enclosures