



FEB 6 2012

Indian Health Service  
Rockville MD 20852

Dear California Area Tribal Leader:

I am writing to share some good news with you regarding our efforts to purchase land and build two Youth Regional Treatment Centers (YRTCs) in California, which will mark the first-ever Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities built in the California Area Indian Health Service (CAIHS).

Amendments to the Indian Health Care Improvement Act in 1992 require the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), acting through the IHS, to construct, renovate, or as necessary, purchase, and appropriately staff and operate two YRTCs in California. In fiscal year 2011, the House Committee on Appropriations approved the Agency's request to spend up to \$2.7 million of unobligated funds to purchase both sites on which to build the YRTCs.

In 2009, the CAIHS, in coordination with the southern California Tribal Governments, worked with the Riverside County Government and local community residents to select an appropriate site for the southern California YRTC. On October 31, 2011, the CAIHS purchased Taylor Ranch, a 20-acre site in Riverside County, California. The CAIHS is planning a Tribal event to dedicate the land at Taylor Ranch.

With respect to the northern YRTC, Deganawidah-Quetzalcoatl University (DQU), formerly a Tribal college, agreed to revert 12 acres in Yolo County near the city of Davis, California to the Federal Government to establish the northern California YRTC. The DQU requested the *General Services Administration (GSA)* to revert the 12 acres to the Federal Government, which allows the CAIHS to purchase the land. With broad support from California's Tribal Governments, the CAIHS selected the 12-acre undeveloped site.

Finally, the Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2012 identifies \$2 million for the Southern California YRTC project. This funding will enable work to begin on the design phase of the project. Thank you for your continued leadership and support in working with IHS on these very important projects, which will improve the quality of and access to care for American Indian and Alaska Native youth in the California Area.

Sincerely,

/Yvette Roubideaux/

Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director