

IHS/CAO TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
August 22nd, 2007
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Members in attendance:	Tribe Represented	Region Represented
Mr. Peter Masten, Jr.	Hoopa Valley Tribe	Northern
Mr. John D. Green,	Elk Valley Rancheria,	Northern
Ms. Diane Holliday,	Blue Lake Rancheria	Northern
Ms. Rachel Joseph,	Lone Pine Reservation	East Central
Ms. Jacquie Van Huss	North Fork Rancheria	East Central
Ms. Diana Chihuahua,	Torres Martinez Res.,	Southern
Ms. Barbara Bird,	National Indian Health Board, Inc.	

IHS staff in attendance:

Ms. Margo Kerrigan,	Area Director
Mr. J. Paul Redeagle,	Deputy Area Director
Dr. Stephen Riggio,	Area Dental Officer
Dr. David Sprenger,	Chief Medical Officer (CMO)
Mr. Dennis Heffington,	ISDA Program Manager
Mr. Ed Fluette,	Associate Director, OEHE
Mr. Chris Watson,	Associate Director OPH

The California Area Tribal Advisory Committee (CATAC) meeting began on Wednesday, August 22, 2007 at the United Indian Health Services Program Clinic, in Arcata, California. In addition to the attendees listed above, this meeting was open to and attended by additional tribal and program leaders, Indian Health Service (IHS) staff, and guests.

Ms. Margo Kerrigan, California Area IHS Director, welcomed everyone, facilitated group introductions, and reviewed the planned agenda.

During discussion CATAC members expressed that more CATAC meetings are needed to keep up with current issues such as planning for YRTC sites both northern and southern, evaluation of the last Annual Tribal Leader's Meeting in Pala, and the need for additional leadership in the California Area. Ms. Rachel Joseph expressed the need for leadership in support of Area budget formulation activities, need for Area staff to accompany her to national meetings, and someone to train when she is not the lead person in the future. It was decided that these would be discussed under the afternoon "Emerging Issues" agenda item.

Discussion ensued regarding the Youth Regional Treatment Center(s) discussion in Pala during the Annual Tribal Leader's meeting. Members of the CATAC thought that they might have been more helpful if a "pre" meeting had been held to help them prepare, advise, and be more helpful. "The tribes just want it (California YRTCs) done".

Youth Regional Treatment Center - Mr. Richard Wermers, P.E., Director of Health Facilities Engineering, provided handouts and provided a status report on continuing YRTC efforts in the California Area.

Mr. Wermers presentation reviewed the services area for each proposed Youth Regional Treatment Center (YRTC), northern and southern. The northern area, detailed on map handouts, as the California north of Kern County, identified four proposed sites, ranked respectively as Nice, Bangor, Four Junes, and Highway 70.

After discussing the details of each proposed parcel, the CATAC commented that even though the Nice property ranked slightly higher in the initial evaluation process, the Bangor property, because of it's more secluded location should be considered the first priority. The potential problems with the Nice property included the neighbors surrounding the property on all sides, the closeness of a major highway, and the expected reticence of citizens of the planned and necessary public meetings. It was decided that the IHS staff would do preliminary steps regarding the Bangor property simultaneously with the Nice property. This process would result in the ability to not start from scratch if the Nice property proved unworkable.

Members of the CATAC requested that they and the tribes in the Clearlake area be notified of the time and location of the public meetings for the Nice property so they could attend and assist in overcoming public objections if necessary.

In reviewing the southern proposed parcels, the site located in Hemet was deemed the first priority, also because of the additional seclusion that would be more conducive to YRTC treatment and IHS staff will begin with that parcel for the south. Ms. Diana Chihuahua would discuss this with her health program. Details were provided describing additional parcels of land in Anza, Fresno, and Bakersfield California. These parcels have been visited and preliminarily evaluated.

Facilities Appropriation Advisory Board - Mr. Peter Masten, provided comments regarding leadership needed on FAAB topics. Mr. Masten reported that the Facility Construction Priority System does not benefit the CAO and urged efforts to change it or make separate funding available for those programs and areas that would benefit. Mr. Masten relayed that the small ambulatory program should be getting priority for areas like California. Allies are needed on the FAAB.

Reauthorization of PL 94-437 - Ms. Rachel Joseph provided a summary of the current status of the re-authorization efforts of the *Indian Health Care Improvement Act*. The latest plan is to take a stand alone bill for the reauthorization to the "floor" by mid October.

Ms. Joseph also expressed her efforts in the budget formulation conference calls and meetings. Since Ms. Joseph has been the only CAO tribal representative for this issue, she expressed the need for IHS staff to assist her during meetings and the need to have someone else as the alternate California Area representative.

Director's Initiatives HPDP - Ms. Beverly Calderon, Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Coordinator, discussed the IHS Director's three initiatives - Behavioral Health, Chronic Disease Management, and Health Promotion/Disease Prevention and reviewed and provided a comprehensive handout discussing the challenges to positively impact the health and wellness of Indian people. In the CAIHS these three initiatives work to provide a coordinated and systematic approach that positively impact community wellness through clinical services and prevention initiatives at the local and regional levels.

Direct Care Eligibility - Mr. Paul Redeagle, Deputy Area Director, provided a presentation detailing the eligibility criteria for eligible Indian patients. This was a result of many CAO programs limiting or denying services for which they receive funding to segments of the eligible population in their service areas.

Mr. Redeagle reviewed section 809 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act, 42 CFR 36 and 25 USC 1680 regarding the Contract Health Service Delivery Area, and the proper documentation required to show individual eligibility, and the January 10, 2000 Dear Tribal Leaders' letter from Dr. Trujillo outlining the

IHS policy on serving any eligible Indians at IHS funded programs.

Funding is provided to tribal health programs to serve all eligible Indians including eligible unaffiliated Indians, and if any are denied care they have a right to a written statement as to why.

The discussion culminated in the need for a statement for all health programs reflecting the need to do what is "right" in serving eligible Indians, reflecting the lack of sufficient funds necessary to serve everyone the highest level of services, and how resources must be used, however inadequate, to equally serve consortium member tribes, other federally recognized tribes, and the eligible unaffiliated Indians.

NEXT CALIFORNIA AREA TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING -- The next CATAC meeting was scheduled for October 24th, however the site has not been finalized. This meeting is expected to be used to review the status for the Nice and Bangor potential YRTC sites. As soon as the site for the meeting has been finalized, a notice will go out to all CATAC members. The subsequent meeting was scheduled for December 4th to review the status of potential YRTC site selection in Southern California. Preliminarily, the most promising site for the south appears to be in Hemet, California. Ms. Diana Chihuahua volunteered to work on at meeting site location. As soon as this information is available, it will be provided.

AGENDA
California Area Tribal Advisory Committee
August 22nd, 2007

Wednesday, August 22nd, 2007

08:30 AM	Welcome	Margo Kerrigan
09:00 AM	YRTC Update	Richard Wermers
11:00 AM	Director's Initiatives HPDP	Beverly Calderon
12:00-01:00 PM	Lunch	
01:00 PM	Work Group Reports	
	Reauthorization of PL 94-437	Rachel Joseph
	Facilities Appropriation Advisory Board	Peter Masten
02:00 PM	Direct Care Eligibility	Paul Redeagle
	Emerging Issues	Open Forum
05:00 PM	Recess	