



JUN 19 2013

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to provide you with an update on the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI). The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (Public Law (P.L.) 112-240) extended SDPI program funding through fiscal year (FY) 2014.

As you know, SDPI funding currently supports over 360 Community-directed grants and sub-grants, 68 Diabetes Prevention and Healthy Heart Initiative grants, and various administrative costs, which include data and infrastructure. The 2011 SDPI Report to Congress described the remarkable progress we are making in diabetes prevention and treatment in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

In April of this year, the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee (TLDC) recommended that the national funding distribution for the SDPI remain the same for this additional year (FY 2014). I appreciate the Committee's input and consideration regarding the extension of this very important funding and concur with their recommendation. Because this is a single year reauthorization, the Indian Health Service (IHS) will use a continuation application process for grant funding renewals for FY 2014. These actions will ensure that the SDPI grants are continued in an administratively efficient and effective manner. If SDPI is reauthorized beyond FY 2014, I will ask the TLDC to assist with consultation moving forward.

Also, I want to let you know that IHS worked hard to find ways within current SDPI funding levels to address the \$3 million sequestration cut to SDPI funding in FY 2013. Therefore, I am pleased to announce that SDPI grant amounts will not be reduced due to sequestration in FY 2013.

Please direct your questions or SDPI-specific comments to Ann Bullock, M.D., Acting Director, IHS Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention (DDTP) at (505) 248-4182. For SDPI application procedures or grant-related concerns, please contact Ms. Lorraine Valdez, Deputy Director, DDTP, at (505) 248-4182 or Ms. Tammy Bagley, Acting Director, Division of Grants Management, at (301) 443-5204.

Thank you for your support of the SDPI and your ongoing guidance as we work together to address diabetes prevention and treatment in our communities.

Sincerely,

/Yvette Roubideaux/

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