



HEALTH CARE
AUTHORITY

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Kari Armijo, Cabinet Secretary
Dana Flannery, Medicaid Director

July 9, 2025

RE: Tribal Notification Letter 25-17: Managed Care Policy Manual

Dear Tribal Leadership, IHS, Tribal Facility or other interested parties,

Consultation with New Mexico's Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their healthcare providers is an important component of the government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico. In accordance with the New Mexico Health Care Authority (HCA) Tribal Consultation requirements, this letter is to inform you that HCA, through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting written comments until **5:00 p.m., Mountain Time (MT) on August 8, 2025**, regarding proposed revisions to the following Managed Care Policy Manual sections:

1) Sections 4, 6 through 10, 12, 14, 17, 18 20, 22 and 24

Of the 13 sections that have changes, only Section 9 has changes specific to Native American members. Please see below.

2) Section 9 Self-directed Community Benefit

9.10 SDCB Covered Services

Removal of Native American healing therapies and Native American Healers definition specific to Self-directed Community Benefits (SDCB). On October 16, 2024, CMS approved an amendment to New Mexico's 1115 Demonstration Waiver providing expenditure authority for coverage of traditional health care practices effective October 16, 2024, through December 31, 2029. Therefore, these Medicaid Covered Benefits are no longer limited to SDCB members and shall not be included in SDCB budgets.

Tribal Impact: HCA anticipates positive service impacts for individuals, tribes, and service providers as Native American rights and MCO requirements for Native American healing is available as a Medicaid Covered Benefit, no longer specific to SDCB services and included in SDCB budgets as of 12/31/25.

Estimated Total Financial Impact: No financial impact is anticipated for Native American tribes.

Tribal Consultation Comments

Tribes and their healthcare providers may view the proposed Managed Care Policy Manual revisions on the Health Care Authority's webpage at: <https://www.hca.nm.gov/providers/written-tribal-notification-letters/>. *Letter 25-17*.

Important Dates

- **Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m., MT on August 8, 2025.** Please send your comments and questions to the MAD Native American Liaison, Theresa Belanger, at (505) 670-8067 or by email to theresa.belanger@hca.nm.gov.
- Comments and responses will be compiled and made available upon request by **September 5, 2025**. After considering the comments received and making changes deemed necessary, the final version of the Managed Care Policy Manual will be available and effective **September 5, 2025**, on the HCA website: <https://www.hca.nm.gov/providers/managed-care-policy-manual/>.

Sincerely,



Dana Flannery, Director
Medical Assistance Division