



Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention (CDC)  
Atlanta GA 30333

JUL 17 2009

Dear Tribal Leader:

On behalf of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), I invite you to participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Biannual Tribal Consultation Session to be hosted by the Alaska Native Health Board and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium on August 12, 2009, in Anchorage, Alaska.

The Tribal Consultation Session will be held in conjunction with a CDC Technical Assistance Workshop that will be conducted on August 10, 2009, by CDC's Procurement and Grants Office. In addition, the CDC Tribal Consultation Advisory Committee (TCAC) will meet before and after the Consultation Session, on August 11, 2009, and on August 13, 2009. I encourage you to attend as many of these meetings as you can. Please note that this Consultation Session will include sessions that focus on regional tribal health concerns, but all tribal leaders are welcome to participate. The host hotel for all the CDC Tribal Meetings is the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel located at 401 East 6th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska. Please contact them directly for your lodging at 907-276-8700.

The Consultation Session and TCAC meeting provide a forum for tribal leaders to speak openly with CDC leadership and subject matter experts in regard to the priority public health issues impacting American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations and communities. Your input is critically important to CDC as we work throughout the nation to protect health and promote quality of life for all communities through health promotion, prevention of disease, injury and disability, and preparedness for new health threats. CDC is committed to increasing tribal access to CDC programs and services, and to the development and implementation of positive health practices to reduce or eliminate health disparities across all tribal communities.

CDC is also committed to the government-to-government relationship that exists between tribes and the federal government, and recognizes that consultation is an open and free exchange of information and opinions among parties that leads to mutual understanding. To ensure that the agenda reflects issues of importance to your communities, we invite you to participate in a series of weekly conference calls to plan the agenda for this 3<sup>rd</sup> Biannual Consultation Session. Planning conference began on Friday July 10, and occur each Friday (July 17, July 24, July 31, and August 7, 2009). All calls are held at 3:00 p.m. EDT. The toll free conference call number for every call is (877) 314-9621 and the pass code is 339872.

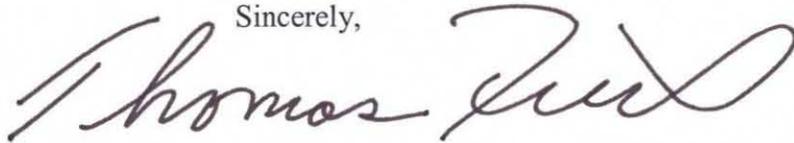
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We encourage you to visit the CDC Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities' webpage to review past TCAC and Biannual Tribal Consultation Session Announcements & Documents - <http://www.cdc.gov/omhd/TCAC/BiannualSessions/BiannualSessions.html>.

I regret that my schedule will not permit me to join you in Alaska; however, I look forward to meeting all of you at the next CDC Biannual Tribal Consultation Session to be held in Atlanta early next year. I have asked Dr. Stephanie Bailey, Chief of CDC's Public Health Practice Office, and Dr. Kathleen Toomey, Director of CDC's Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, to represent me in Anchorage.

If you have any questions about the upcoming Consultation Session, please contact CAPT Pelagie (Mike) Snesrud, Senior Tribal Liaison for Policy and Evaluation at [pws8@cdc.gov](mailto:pws8@cdc.gov) (404-498-2343) or Dr. Ralph Bryan, Senior Tribal Liaison for Science and Public Health at [rrb2@cdc.gov](mailto:rrb2@cdc.gov) (505-248-4132).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Frieden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Frieden".

Thomas R. Frieden, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director, CDC, and  
Administrator, ATSDR