



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Office of Infectious Disease
P.O. Box 47840 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7840

January 6, 2023

SUBJECT: Expanding access to naloxone within American Indian and Alaska Native communities in Washington State

Dear Tribal Leader:

We are seeking your guidance and counsel regarding the utilization of resources we have set aside for naloxone distribution and naloxone distribution technical assistance.

Recognizing the disproportionate impact of fatal overdose on American Indian and Alaska Native communities, our Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution Program is interested in partnering with you on efforts to increase naloxone access for your community members. We have \$500,000 of a state budget proviso for harm reduction supplies to provide naloxone and technical assistance. We anticipate continuing to set aside this funding annually as resources permit.

For this fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, we are prepared to distribute \$500,000 worth of naloxone to tribes, tribal organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations. Additionally, we would like to collaborate with you regarding the best way to provide these resources to tribes and tribal organizations in Fiscal Year 24 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) and beyond.

Staff from our program will attend the American Indian/Alaska Native Opioid Response Workgroup meeting on January 10, 2023, to provide information about how to request naloxone kits from our program during this fiscal year, and to receive feedback on how to provide these resources to you in future years.

Please note that we are offering this resource to tribes, tribal organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations across Washington State. While it is our goal to meet the demand for naloxone as requested, we may need to reduce the amount of naloxone kits provided to each entity if the number of kits requested exceeds the amount of funding available.

Our division will make copies of materials related to this proposal upon your request as they become available. To request a copy of the materials specific to the action, or to provide comments, please contact Emalie Huriaux, Integrated Infectious Disease, Hepatitis C, and Drug User Health Programs Manager, by email at emalie.huriaux@doh.wa.gov or by telephone at 360-236-2315.

Please contact Tamara Fife, our agency's Tribal Relations Director, by telephone at 360-870-8903 or by email at: tamara.fife@doh.wa.gov if you have tribal-affairs related questions.

Please forward this information to any interested party.

Sincerely,



Emalie Hurliaux, MPH

Integrated Infectious Disease, Hepatitis C, and Drug User Health Programs Manager

cc: Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health, Department of Health
Jessica Todorovich, Chief of Staff, Department of Health
Kristin Peterson, Chief of Policy, Planning & Evaluation, Department of Health
Elizabeth Perez, Chief of Public Affairs and Equity, Department of Health
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Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, MD, MPH, Chief Science Officer, Department of Health
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Tamara Fife, Tribal Relations Director, Department of Health
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