



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Prevention and Community Health  
Post Office Box 47830  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7830  
711 Washington Relay Service

January 31, 2024

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders and Tribal Partners –

**SUBJECT: Collaboration – Tribal State Plan for Suicide Prevention Listening Session**

In accordance with chapter [43.376 RCW](#), the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), and [DOH Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), we invite collaboration regarding the need and options of creating a State Suicide Prevention Plan specific to the American Indian and Alaska Native populations of the State of Washington.

As we navigate the urgent task of addressing mental health challenges for communities across Washington, DOH has launched a process to update the existing [Washington State Suicide Prevention Plan](#). As a part of this process, DOH sought input from the Tribal Centric Behavioral Health Advisory Board where there is agreement that further discussions need to take place that include the option of a standalone plan for our tribal communities.

As part of this process, DOH, HCA and the Tribal Centric Behavioral Health Advisory Board invite you and your staff to participate in the next steps toward development of a standalone plan for our tribal communities.

**Listening Session Hosted by Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe**  
**32020 Little Boston Rd NE Kingston, WA 98346**  
**Wednesday, February 21, 2024 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
**or online via [Zoom](#).**

We appreciate your time and consideration. For additional information or to provide comments, please contact Suicide Prevention Program Unit Supervisor Lindsay Martin at [lindsay.martin@doh.wa.gov](mailto:lindsay.martin@doh.wa.gov) or Tribal Public Health and Relations Director Candice Wilson-Quatz’teanuat at [candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov](mailto:candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov) or 360-819-7626.

Respectfully,

Michele Roberts, MPH, MCHES  
Assistant Secretary – Division of Prevention and Community Health

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 and Evaluation - Department of Health  
Elizabeth Perez - Chief of Public Affairs and Equity - Department of Health  
Kristopher Holiday - Chief of Strategic Partnerships - Department of Health  
Candice Wilson-Quatz'teanuat (Lummi) - Executive Director, OTPHR - Department of Health  
Lacy Fehrenbach - Chief of Prevention, Safety and Health - Department of Health  
Allen Christensen - Director, Office of Healthy and Safe Communities - Department of Health  
Lindsay Martin - Suicide Prevention Program Unit Supervisor - Department of Health