

JUL 29 2011

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration is pleased to inform you that pursuant to the Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (25 U.S.C. 2401, *et. seq.*), as amended by the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 (PL 111-211), the interdepartmental Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was recently signed by the Attorney General and the Secretaries of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of the Interior (DOI).

Under 25 U.S.C. 2411(a), the Secretary of HHS, the Secretary of DOI, and the Attorney General are to develop and enter into a MOA to:

1. Determine the scope of the alcohol and substance abuse problems faced by Tribes.
2. Identify the resources and programs of each agency that would be relevant to a coordinated effort to combat alcohol and substance abuse among American Indians and Alaska Natives.
3. Coordinate existing agency programs with those established under the Act.

This MOA establishes a framework for cooperation and collaboration among Federal agencies, in partnership with Tribes, to coordinate resources and programs of HHS' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Indian Health Service, the DOI's Bureaus of Indian Affairs and Indian Education, and the Department of Justice's Offices of Justice Programs and Tribal Justice, to assist Tribes [as defined at 25 U.S.C. 2403(3)], to achieve their goals in the prevention, intervention, and treatment of alcohol and substance abuse.

A copy of the signed MOA and the law that pertains to it are enclosed, as required by 25 U.S.C. 2411(d).

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Please feel free to contact Mr. Dennis O. Romero, Acting Director, Office of Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse, at (240) 276-2495 or dennis.romero@samhsa.hhs.gov, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Pamela S. Hyde, J.D.
Administrator

Enclosures