



Government-to-Government Relations



2004 Tribal Leader Health Summit Status Report

Key Accomplishments

- First-ever Health Care Centennial Accord and Consultation Policy
- Introduction of the Sue Crystal Indian Health Care Act
- Provisions requiring tribal participation in Joint Select Committee on Health Disparities
- Increased AIHC outreach to all state health agencies, including testimony before the State Board of Health
- Worked to ensure continued AI/AN representation on State Board of Health

Priority Activities

Priority	Status	Next Steps
Work with agencies without a Centennial Accord Plan to develop them	Throughout 2003, AIHC provided technical assistance to the Health Care Authority during the development of its first-ever Centennial Accord Plan and consultation policy.	AIHC will request a meeting with the Office of the Insurance Commissioner to encourage it to adopt a consultation policy and Centennial Accord Plan. <i>Challenge:</i> <i>OIC is not required to develop a Centennial Accord Plan.</i>
Review DOH Centennial Accord Plan revisions	DOH staff presented proposed Centennial Accord revisions at the March and September 2003 AIHC meetings. A notice requesting comments was broadcast to all tribes, and the proposed revisions were posted at www.aihc-wa.org .	This is an on-going activity. <i>Challenge:</i> <i>Bringing the Centennial Accord revision process in line with the biennial budget formulation process would increase opportunities for tribal-state initiatives.</i>
Review DSHS Administrative Policy 7.01	DSHS staff presented proposed 7.01 Policy revisions at the March and 2003 AIHC meeting. The	This is an on-going activity.

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	<p>proposed revisions were posted at www.aihc-wa.org.</p> <p>AIHC staff participated in IPAC meetings in which proposed revisions were discussed and posted IPAC meeting notices on its web-based events calendar.</p> <p>AIHC was involved with the development of an agency-wide consultation policy to enhance the 7.01 Policy.</p>	<p><i>Challenges:</i></p> <p><i>Tribes report inconsistent development and support for the 7.01 Policy process at the DSHS regional level.</i></p> <p><i>They also say that there is a lack of knowledge about the 7.01 Policy at the top divisional levels at DSHS headquarters.</i></p> <p><i>There should be improved coordination and communication between AIHC and IPAC regarding proposed 7.01 revisions.</i></p> <p><i>Bringing the 7.01 Plan revision process in line with the biennial budget formulation process would increase opportunities for tribal-state initiatives.</i></p>
<p>Draft and seek enactment of Sue Crystal Indian Health Act to strengthen government-to-government relations on health issues</p>	<p>The bill was introduced by Senator Thibaudeau on January 27, 2004 as SB 6608 and was cosponsored by Senators Rasmussen, Winsley, Prentice, Kohl-Welles.</p> <p>It was referred to the Senate Health and Long-Term Care Committee but was not considered before the Committee's cut-off date.</p> <p>Several revisions to the bill have been proposed by the Governor's Office and DSHS. These proposals were reviewed and approved by AIHC delegates at the March 2004 AIHC meeting.</p>	<p>AIHC needs to secure tribal leader support for the proposed bill changes and determine if they would like any revisions to the bill.</p> <p>AIHC is working with Senator Thibaudeau to perfect the bill language for its reintroduction and to secure a House companion bill.</p> <p><i>Challenges:</i></p> <p><i>AIHC currently does not have funds to conduct lobbying activities in support of the bill.</i></p> <p><i>The bill will need to be introduced very early in the legislative session, and more Republican support will be necessary to advance it.</i></p>
<p>Work with tribes and AWT to include government-to-government training in each health agency's Centennial Accord Plan</p>	<p>Government-to-government training is specifically included in the Health Care Authority's Centennial Accord Plan.</p>	<p>Tribes and AIHC should request that DOH and DSHS include government-to-government training in their Centennial Accord Plans.</p>
<p>Work with tribes and AWT to encourage development of tribal Centennial Accord Plans</p>	<p>This activity has not begun.</p>	<p>AIHC will schedule a meeting with AWT staff attorney to discuss.</p>

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<p>Work with tribes to identify legislative, administrative, and other barriers to the full implementation of Centennial Accord Plans</p>	<p>AIHC recommended that a provision be added to SCR 8419, legislation to create a joint select committee on health disparities, to ensure that tribes can provide input throughout the deliberative process. As a result, SCR 8419 requires the committee to request input from the American Indian Health Commission, as well as from the Commission on African-American Affairs, the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, and the Commission on Hispanic Affairs. Committee representatives will be available for tribal leader input at the 2004 Health Summit.</p> <p>In April 2004, AIHC urged Governor Locke to include tribal participation in the Mental Health Task Force to ensure that the Centennial Accord is honored during deliberations on mental health policy and financing. Ultimately, tribal representation was included as part of the Task Force's official technical advisory committee structure. Task Force representatives will be available for tribal leader input at the 2004 Health Summit.</p>	<p>This is an on-going activity conducted by AIHC staff through regular contact with tribal and officials, as well as through legislative and regulatory monitoring.</p> <p>Bi-monthly AIHC meetings allow concerns and questions to be raised and addressed during the initial stages of the policy development and implementation process. The meetings also create an atmosphere of accountability where delegates may request that agency officials return to the Commission with updates and resolution of issues by a date certain.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Challenge:</i></p> <p><i>There is a lack of knowledge of Centennial Accord requirements by policy officials.</i></p>