

CMS Health Information Exchange and Tribal Affairs Webinar

Engaging Indian Health Partners in HIE/HIT Activities

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Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

Minnesota DHS Mission

- Our Mission:
 - The Minnesota Department of Human Services, working with many others, helps people meet their basic needs so they can live in dignity and achieve their highest potential.



Minnesota DHS Core Value

- One of our core values:
 - We work in partnership with others; we cannot do it alone.
- To deliver the services for which we are responsible we must work in partnership with others.



Tribal Landscape in MN

- Seven Anishinaabe (Chippewa, Ojibwe) reservations
- Four Dakota (Sioux) communities



Tribal Landscape in MN (contd.)

- Anishinaabe (Chippewa, Ojibwe) reservations:

- Bois Forte
- Fond du Lac
- Grand Portage
- Leech Lake
- Mille Lacs
- Red Lake
- White Earth

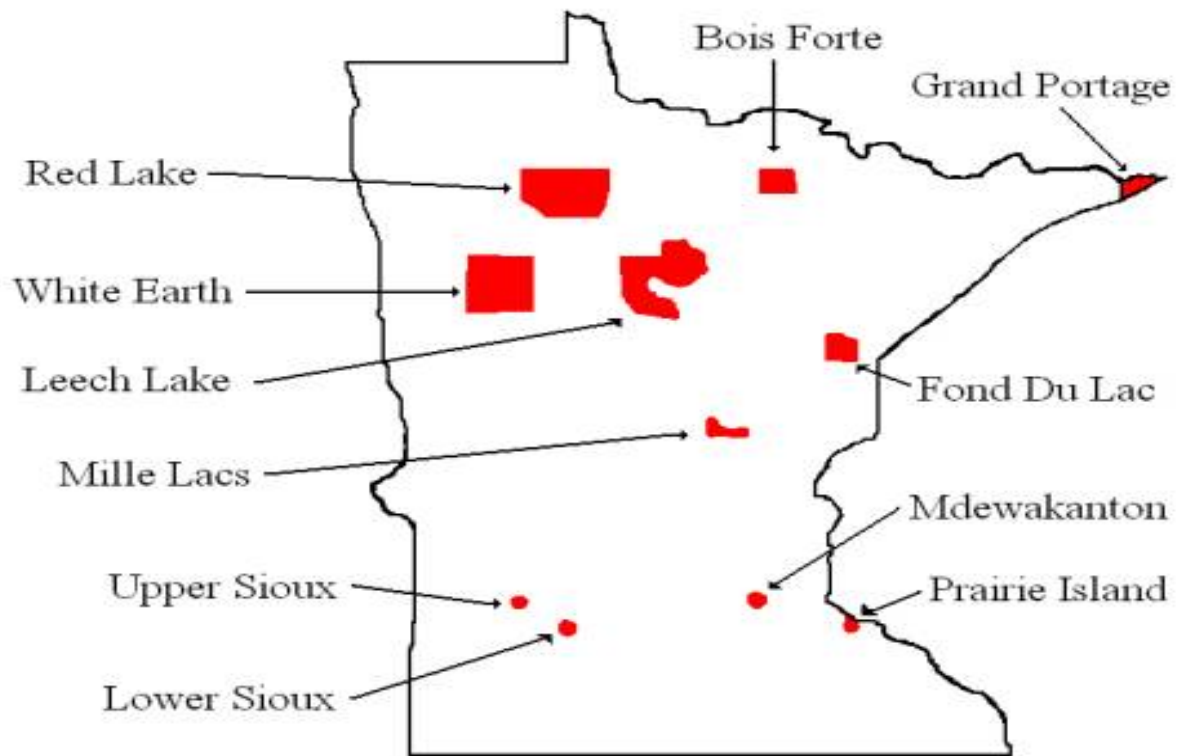


Tribal Landscape in MN (contd.)

- Dakota Communities:
 - Lower Sioux
 - Prairie Island
 - Shakopee Mdewakanton
 - Upper Sioux



Tribal Landscape in MN (contd.)



Involvement in Medicaid Services

- Tribal Provider Credentialing
 - Address difficulty tribes frequently face hiring health care providers in remote areas
 - Policy for tribes to develop certification requirements that better meet the needs of their population
 - Certification standards must be adopted by governing body of the Tribe and forwarded to DHS
 - Standards used for enrolling only providers hired by the Tribe that developed them



Involvement in Medicaid Services (contd.)

- §1915(c) Waivers
 - Tribes extensively broadened their roles in providing, and being reimbursed for, health care services
 - Recently some tribes have begun to administer their own waiver programs, as well as providing waiver services



Involvement in Medicaid Services (contd.)

- Medicaid Eligibility Determination
 - Development from Indian Child Welfare Initiative that provided grants to two tribes to assume responsibility for their children in out-of-home placement
 - Title IV-E eligibility determination provides most of the information necessary to determine Medicaid eligibility
 - Tribal workers complete Medicaid eligibility determination rather than forward application to another agency
 - Currently active in two tribes and for children who are in out-of-home placement



Current Communication Mechanisms

- Quarterly Tribal Health Work Group Meetings
 - Formal communication process between Minnesota DHS and Tribal Health Directors
 - Meeting each quarter since February 1999
 - Meetings take place around the state, at reservations and in Metro locations



Current Communication Mechanisms (contd.)

- Minnesota DHS Tribal Liaison position located in State Medicaid Director's area
 - Work with DHS policy staff to ensure that tribal interests are considered as DHS policies are developed or amended
- Informal consultations via email and letters to tribal Health Directors, and when appropriate, tribal leaders
- Tribal providers included in Provider Notices sent by DHS Provider Relations area



E-Health Stakeholder Forums

- Minnesota e-Health Initiative
 - public-private collaborative to accelerate the adoption and use of health information technology in order to improve health care quality, increase patient safety, reduce health care costs and improve public health
- e-Health Advisory Committee
 - Established in 2004 to support the efforts of the Minnesota e-Health Initiative



E-Health Stakeholder Forums (contd.)

- Minnesota e-Health Advisory Committee Workgroups
 - Four workgroups provide full e-Health Advisory Committee input and recommendations on:
 - Exchange and Meaningful Use
 - Standards and Interoperability
 - Privacy and Security
 - Communications and Outreach



E-Health Stakeholder Forums (contd.)

- Representative of Indian Health Service invited to participate in Exchange and Meaningful Use Workgroup
- Broader State Medicaid HIT Planning discussion with Indian health partners



Summary

- Success of our HIE and HIT goals requires collaboration and communication across stakeholder community



Questions



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