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The Tulalip Tribes are the successors
in interest to the Snohomish,
Snoqualmie and Skykomish tribes
and other tribes and bands signatory
to the Treaty of Point Elliot.

To whom it may concern:

If you are eligible for Tulalip Contract Services, please prepare for upcoming changes. Starting December 1st 2013, Contract Health Service will be on Priority One funding. This means that you will no longer be able to receive a purchase order for copay, deductibles or services offered outside the Karen I. Fryberg Health Clinic unless you are referred out. Please see the attached notification for a complete list of covered and non-covered services.

We are seeing increased use of Contract Health Services, and overall there is an increase in the cost of care as well as a decrease in funding. In addition to reduced funding due to sequestration, there are several factors that have brought us to this point.

- The state discontinued reimbursing for adult dental services and Contract Health picked up the cost
- Many of our members became ineligible for Medicaid Healthcare due to Per Capita increases; therefore the Tulalip Health Clinic was unable to recoup the cost of care
- We've received notification from medical supply vendors stating an increase in prices from 3-5% due to the current economy, this in turn increases supply cost
- The cost of processing laboratory tests and Radiology is higher than in the past

The last time we were limited to Priority One funding was in 2009. To ensure that we can continue to keep our doors open and fund emergency services, we will be on Priority One funding. We predict higher charges from providers in the future. We expect further reduction in grants. All of this has put a huge burden on our Contract Health Services budget.

I know this may cause a hardship for many of our citizens. Be proactive in your health by visiting the Tulalip Health Clinic for preventive care and set aside funds for your copays and deductibles. If you need assistance signing up for Obama Care, also known as the Affordable Care Act, please contact Rose lukes or Brent Case at the Tulalip Health Clinic 360-716-4511 for more information.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Fryberg
Tulalip Tribal Government General Manager