



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

January 21, 2026

Dear Tribal Leader:

**SUBJECT: Tribal Roundtable scheduled for the 1115 Waiver to Reimburse for Traditional Health Care Practices (THCP)**

**Purpose**

The Health Care Authority (HCA) received approval from the legislature to apply for a section 1115 waiver to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services with the intent to provide coverage of traditional health care practices. As required under 42, C.F.R. Sec. 431.408(b), HCA is has partnered with Washington State Tribes and urban Indian communities who have provided valuable input of a draft application for submittal to CMS to provide expenditure authority for coverage of THCP services. While a consultation meeting occurred on 1/9/26, HCA determined it necessary to conduct roundtable session(s) to gain clarity about the costs and options of providing THCP services for non-beneficiary encounters.

**HCA will hold the Tribal roundtable on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 12:00 noon.** We look forward to moving ahead with this important initiative and will follow up with tribes about additional consultation dates during the roundtable discussion.

**Contact**

For information about the Traditional Health Care Practices waiver, please contact Medicaid Transformation Tribal Liaison, Lena Nachand at [lena.nachand@hca.wa.gov](mailto:lena.nachand@hca.wa.gov). Please contact Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator, via email at [aren.sparck@hca.wa.gov](mailto:aren.sparck@hca.wa.gov), if you have tribal affairs-related questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aren Sparck".

Aren Sparck  
Tribal Affairs Administrator

Enclosure

By email

cc: Christine Winn, Deputy Administrator, OTA, HCA  
Lena Nachand, Tribal Liaison, OTA, HCA  
Annette Squetimkin-Anquoe, Health Care Program Manager, OTA, HCA