



**AIHC Legislative Health Days
January 16, 2018
Maximizing Federal Payments for American Indians and Alaska
Natives for Medicaid in Washington State**

- Health care is part of the Federal Trust responsibility to American Indians/Alaska Native and Tribes.
- Chronic underfunding and federal regulation has forced Medicaid to become a critical part of the funding to provide care to AI/AN.
- In the Fee for Services Program, Medicaid payments to Tribal clinics for services to AI/AN are full paid by the Federal government, at 100% FMAP. This is a savings to the state; no state portion is paid for these claims.
- In the Managed Care system, there is currently no process in place for these payments to be paid at 100% FMAP. The State is actually losing funds when this happens. Nearly 50% of AI/AN enrolled in Medicaid are in Managed Care.
- The implementation of managed care in the Medicaid system has degraded the specialty provider network, forcing more AI/ANs in to managed care when they need care outside the Tribal clinic. Creating more losses for the state.
- 100% FMAP can be expanded to specialty provider payments, but the process needs to be established.
- Through legislation, a Tribal reinvestment account of new savings needs to be established. The savings will fund the work to maximize savings and ensure the Federal government remains responsible for these claims.