



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
P.O. Box 45040, Olympia, Washington 98504-5040

March 29, 2010

Dear Tribal Leader:

A Tribal Consultation has been called to discuss tribal access to child welfare services and the performance-based contracting in regards to government-to-government relations. The consultation will be **May 12, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** at the Department of Social and Health Services located at 1115 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA 98504, in the Lookout Conference Room.

In 2009, the Washington State Legislature passed 2SHB 2106, relating to the accountability for performance in providing child welfare services to children and families. The Act is intended to improve child welfare outcomes through a phased implementation of strategic and proven reforms.

The Act requires DSHS to consolidate and convert current contracts for child welfare services to performance-based contracts. It also establishes the Child Welfare Transformation Design Committee to select two demonstration sites for private agencies to provide child welfare services and develop a transition plan for implementing the demonstration project. The Governor will decide whether to expand or terminate the contracts for child welfare services based on measurable results of the demonstration projects. The implementation dates are not clear at this point as 2SSH 6832, which extends the timeframes by six months, is on the Governor's desk for signature.

2SHB 2106 may affect how Tribes access services from Children's Administration. During the past several IPAC Children's subcommittee meetings, discussions have focused on identifying the intent of the Act as it relates to government-to-government relations, as well as how this impacts service access for children and families under Tribal care and authority.

If you have questions you may contact Nancy Dufraine, ICW Manager at 360-902-7578 or [nancy.dufraine@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:nancy.dufraine@dshs.wa.gov), or Colleen F. Cawston, Senior Director of the Office of Indian Policy at 360-902-7816 or [colleen.f.cawston@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:colleen.f.cawston@dshs.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Denise Revels Robinson, Assistant Secretary  
Children's Administration