



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES**

PO Box 45010, Olympia WA 98504-5010

May 5, 2010

Dear Tribal Leader,

The purpose of this letter is to request your guidance regarding the Consultation process through which DSHS, via the Economic Services Administration (ESA), should distribute State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funding to Tribal TANF programs.

Throughout the Roundtable meetings tribal representatives have shared that the development of a standardized funding formula used to determine the MOE amount for all Tribal TANF programs may not be a preferred option. We agree with this opinion. Factors supporting this position include the recognition that Tribal TANF is a tri-government process, and that true Government to Government engagement is through one-to-one negotiations with each tribal government.

Therefore, with respect for our Government to Government relations, I would like to know if you agree with the Roundtable meeting direction to continue with one-to-one negotiation with each tribe. I request that you respond in writing by May 28, 2010.

In closing, I would like to extend my appreciation for your staff and mine who have participated in these meetings. I understand that, at times, they were challenging, however I believe they also allowed us all to learn the various perspectives from the information shared, and have allowed for a more informed decision making process.

If you have any questions please contact Colleen F. Cawston at 360-902-7816 or by e-mail at [colleen.f.cawston@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:colleen.f.cawston@dshs.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Susan N. Dreyfus  
Secretary

cc: Troy Hutson, Assistant Secretary, Economic Services Administration,  
Colleen Cawston, Senior Director, Office of Indian Policy  
Sarah Colleen Sotomish, Administrator, ESA State Tribal Relations Office