



# NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE

## ADMINISTRATION

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October 12, 2015

The Honorable Sylvia Mathews Burwell  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Ave SW  
Washington DC 20201

**Re: Letter in support of Montana's Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver to implement the Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership (HELP) program**

Dear Secretary Burwell:

With over 2500 of our tribal members without health coverage, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe is in full support of expanding Medicaid in Montana. It will not only benefit those on the Northern Cheyenne reservation, but many more throughout the state of Montana.

For a longtime, we have been involved in helping to get the HELP Act passed through the Montana State Legislature and realize what a big hurdle that was to overcome. What lies next, CMS approval, is just as big and most important for implementation.

Attending the recent tribal consultation held by the Department of Health and Human Services was beneficial to us as we learned the details of the pieces of the Demonstration Waiver, including the proposed exemptions and the alternative benefits plan, and the overall impact to Indian people in Montana. Clearly the department has worked hard to prepare a Waiver designed around the language in the approved legislation.

We are in support of the Demonstration Waiver and on behalf of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, I would ask that you strongly consider the Waiver as proposed and make a favorable decision. Montana lives depend on it.

Sincerely,

Llevando Fisher, Sr.  
President

c: L. Jace Killsback, Tribal Health Administrator, Northern Cheyenne Board of Health

LITTLE WOLF AND MORNING STAR - Out of defeat and exile they led us back to Montana and won our Cheyenne homeland that we will keep forever.