



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Post Office Box 47890 | Olympia, Washington 98504-7890
711 Washington Relay Service

November 21, 2024

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders, Partners, and Professionals,

RE: Collaboration – Workgroup on the Risk of High Potency Synthetic Opioids to Children and Youth

In accordance with chapter [43.376 RCW](#), the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), and [DOH Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), we invite collaboration with Tribes and Tribal organizations in the development of policies, agreements, and program implementation that directly affects Tribes and Tribal people, regarding the risk of high-potency synthetic opioids to children and youth.

[Senate Bill 6109 Child Welfare and Dependency – High-Potency Synthetic Opioids \(2024\)](#) requires the Department of Health, in collaboration with WA Department of Children, Youth and Family and the poison information centers, to convene a workgroup on exposure of children to fentanyl that will provide information for child welfare workers, juvenile courts, caregivers, and families regarding the risks of fentanyl exposure for children receiving child welfare or child protective services.

We invite you to actively collaborate as a participant in this workgroup as we develop materials regarding the risk of fentanyl to children and youth. We anticipate this workgroup will meet up to 4 times between now and June 2025. The first meeting will be held:

Friday, December 20, 2024 9am to 10:30 am [Zoom Meeting](#) ID: 813 2048 5238 Passcode: 380576

Please direct your written comments or requests for additional information Katie Eilers, Director of Office of Family and Community Health at katie.eilers@doh.wa.gov or 360-489-5910, or Office of Tribal Public Health and Relations Executive Director Candice Wilson-Quatz'tenant at candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov or 360-819-7626.

Sincerely,

Lacy M. Fehrenbach, MPH, CPH
Chief of Prevention, Safety and Health

Cc: Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH - Secretary of Health - WA-DOH
Candice Wilson Quatz'tenant (Lummi) - Executive Director, OTPHR - WA-DOH
Katie Eilers – Director, Office of Family and Community Health Improvement - WA-DOH
Kristopher Holiday - Chief of Strategic Partnerships - WA-DOH
Elizabeth Perez - Chief of Public Affairs and Equity - WA-DOH
Kristin Peterson - Chief of Policy, Planning and Evaluation - WA-DOH
Michele Roberts – Assistant Secretary Prevention and Community Health- WA-DOH
Travis Sugarman – Director, Office of Behavioral Health - WA-DOH
Jessica Todorovich - Chief of Staff - WA-DOH