



CHEROKEE NATION

P.O. Box 948 • Tahlequah, OK 74465-0948 • (918) 456-0671

Wilma P. Mankiller
Principal Chief

John A. Ketcher
Deputy Chief

March 29, 1994

Ron Goodson, M.S.W.
Centers for Disease Control
4770 Buford Highway
Mail Stop K-57
Atlanta, GA 30341-4727

Dear Mr. Goodson:

We want to let you know how much we appreciated your recent visit to the Cherokee Nation on March 10. Since our meeting, we have met with the Cherokee Nation Medical Director and the Director of Nursing and have shared information about the Native American Initiative with them. We are excited at the prospect of submitting an application for the early detection of breast and cervical cancer program and improving the quality of health care for Native American women.

We were also glad to have the opportunity to discuss our concerns with you in person.

- One concern was the 10% limit for administrative costs. As we now understand, salaries are not included as administrative expenses. Most tribes are accustomed to applying an indirect cost rate to all programs.
- The requirement for matching funds from non-federal sources would be difficult for the Cherokee Nation, and we feel also other tribes, to meet. We request that this requirement be waived.
- We feel the regulations should be flexible enough to allow for the cultural and geographical differences among tribes. This individuality will directly impact how each tribe will meet the needs of their population.
- A final suggestion is that adequate start up time (four to six months) be allowed. To begin implementing any successful program, time has to be allowed for activities such as recruitment, placement, purchasing, training, etc. In rural settings, the recruitment, interview, and selection processes may require additional time.