

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Olivia Shockey, Expansion Division Director, Office of Policy and Program Development, Bureau of Primary Health Care, Health Resources and Services Administration at 301-443-9282 or [oshockey@hrsa.gov](mailto:oshockey@hrsa.gov).

Dated: July 31, 2015.

**James Macrae,**

*Acting Administrator.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Health Resources and Services Administration

#### National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

*Name:* National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services.

*Dates and Time:* September 9, 2015, 8:45 a.m.–5:00 p.m. CDT, September 10, 2015, 8:30 a.m.–5:15 p.m. CDT, September 11, 2015, 8:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m. CDT.

*Place:* Shooting Star Hotel, 777 S Casino Road, Mahanomen, Minnesota 56557, (800) 453-7827.

*Status:* The meeting will be open to the public.

*Purpose:* The National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services provides counsel and recommendations to the Secretary with respect to the delivery, research, development, and administration of health and human services in rural areas.

*Agenda:* The meeting on Wednesday, September 9, will be called to order at 8:45 a.m. by the Chairperson of the Committee, the Honorable Ronnie Musgrove. The Committee will examine the issue of Health Care Delivery System Reform in rural areas and the issue of Rural Child Poverty. The day will conclude with a period of public comment at approximately 4:45 p.m.

The Committee will break into Subcommittees and depart for site visits Thursday morning, September 10, at approximately 8:30 a.m. Subcommittees will visit the Otter Tail County Public Health Department in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and the Sanford Health Detroit Lakes Clinic in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. The day will conclude at the Shooting Star Hotel with a period of public comment at approximately 5:00 p.m.

The Committee will meet to summarize key findings and develop a work plan for the next quarter and the following meeting on Friday morning, September 11, at 8:30 a.m.

*For Further Information Contact:* Steve Hirsch, MSLS, Executive Secretary, National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and

Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, 17W29-C, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone (301) 443-0835, Fax (301) 443-2803.

Persons interested in attending any portion of the meeting should contact Pierre Joseph at the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) via telephone at (301) 945-0897 or by email at [PJoseph@hrsa.gov](mailto:PJoseph@hrsa.gov). The Committee meeting agenda will be posted on the Committee's Web site at <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/rural/>.

**Jackie Painter,**

*Director, Division of the Executive Secretariat.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Office of the Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration

#### Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs

Part A of the HHS Organization Manual Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is being amended at Chapter AP, "Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs (ASPA)," as last amended at 70 FR 61621-22, dated Oct. 25, 2005. Over the past several years, ASPA has been refining its organizational structure to improve its strategic and operational communication capacities to more effectively support the mission and strategic priorities of the Department. A substantive element of this change has been a shift from a purely operational structure focusing on defined services to one that builds a whole-of-ASPA approach that draws on all communication skills across each of three key portfolios—health care, public health, and human services. The proposed organizational realignments will, therefore, update and revise ASPA's structure to reflect this more functional, strategic operational approach. The changes are described below:

I. Under Part A, Chapter AP, Section AP.00 Mission, delete in its entirety and replace with the following:

AP.00 Mission: The ASPA serves as the Secretary's principal counsel on public affairs, leading efforts across the Department to promote transparency, accountability and access to critical public health and human services information to the American people. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs conducts national public

affairs programs, provides centralized leadership and guidance for public affairs activities within HHS' Staff and Operating Divisions and regional offices, manages the Department's digital communications and administers the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts. The Division leads the planning, development and implementation of emergency incident communications strategies and activities for the Department. The ASPA reports directly to the HHS Secretary.

II. Under Part A, Chapter AP, Section AP.10 Organization, delete in its entirety and replace with the following:

AP.10 Organization. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, headed by the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs (ASPA) who reports to the Secretary, supports public affairs efforts for three primary issue areas: Public Health, Human Services, and Health Care. ASPA consists of the following organizations:

- The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Agency Chief FOIA Officer
- The Office of the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
  - Strategic Planning Division
  - Speechwriting Division
- The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Health
- The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Care
- The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services
  - Broadcast Services Division
  - Digital Communications Division
- Executive Officer/Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer
  - Business Operations Division
  - Administrative Operations Division
  - FOIA/Privacy Act Division

III. Under Section AP.20 Functions, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

A. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs (AP)—Provides executive leadership, policy direction, and management strategy for the Department's public affairs programs and activities. Counsels and acts for the Secretary and the Department in carrying out responsibilities under statutes, Presidential directives, and Secretarial orders for informing the general public, specialized audiences, HHS employees, and other Federal employees about the programs, policies, and services of the Department. Establishes and enforces policies and practices which produce an accurate, clear, efficient, and consistent flow of information to the general public and other audiences about departmental programs and activities. Provides