



WYOMING DEPARTMENT of
Family Services

2300 Capitol Avenue
Third Floor Hathaway Bldg
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0490
Tel: 307.777.7564
Fax: 307.777.7747
dfsweb.wyo.gov

October 11, 2013

Northern Arapaho Business Council Members
533 Ethete Rd
Ethete, WY 82520

Via fax (307) 332-7543, regular and certified mail

RE: SC-13-128
REF: NADFS Office Closure

Dear Northern Arapaho Business Council Members:

It has come to my attention that the Northern Arapaho office of the Department of Family Services (NADFS) has indicated they may be closing their doors effective 10/18/13 due to furloughs that may be instituted by the Northern Arapaho tribe. We have been provided contradictory information on the reasons for this decision but are sure it is related to the Federal Shutdown.

The Wyoming Department of Family Services is also working to develop appropriate contingency plans. The Northern Arapaho has both the regulatory authority and sole jurisdiction to address the 170 children who receive services under this program. We would ask for a copy of your plan for these children and we are happy to share our contingency plan with you.

As indicated in a previous e-mail I sent to James Trospen, Director of NADFS, the federal shutdown, at present, has no implications or effects on the funding the State of Wyoming provides to the Northern Arapaho Business Council and NADFS.

Wyoming will continue to provide staff assistance, training and courtesy coverage for the Arapaho children residing off the reservation. Wyoming has no authority to directly provide child protective services on the Wind River Reservation as that is under the control and purview of the tribal child protective agency. Therefore, we are only able to provide ancillary support for those children who have been determined by tribal law enforcement, NADFS or Tribal Children's Court to require protective custody, and who are the subject of a proceeding in the Tribal Children's Court.

We know your plan will be structured to ensure that Arapaho children continue being served and protected by the NADFS workers with no disruptions to their health and safety just as our plan will address the children we serve.

We hope the situation is resolved soon.

Sincerely,

Steve Corsi