



OCT - 4 2007

Executive Director:

During the past Fiscal year, nationally as well as the Area Office, we have taken steps to integrate the Indian Health Service Director's three health initiatives. These initiatives; Behavioral Health, Management of Chronic Disease, and Health Promotion/Disease Prevention, link together and have the potential to achieve positive improvements in the health of Indian people. Working collaboratively to integrate our efforts in support of your staff and community members, we hope to likewise increase integration efforts at the Tribal/Urban level.

The following activities demonstrate our integration efforts this past fiscal year:

- The Best Practices/GPRA conference provided education and networking for providers and healthcare staff last fall.
- *Just Move It - California Challenge*, supported physical activity throughout the year.
- *Taking Care of Your Diabetes* provided education and motivation, last spring.
- The Community Wellness Forum was a partnership that provided education and training on numerous topics around behavioral health, health promotion and chronic disease management, last spring.
- Continued provision of telemedicine psychiatric services in the primary care setting.
- Development of a California Area Director's three initiatives strategic plan, with focus areas demonstrating integration will provide future direction.
- Findings from our survey on the three initiatives provided valuable information and guidance to help shape future activities.

During the next fiscal year, in addition to supporting the above core activities, we will work to expand efforts based on your input and that of your staff. The accompanying certificate of appreciation recognizes the efforts your organization is taking to promote health and prevent onset/complications of chronic disease. As part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services national prevention bus tour, we recognized prevention activities throughout California Indian country. This was the first year the Indian Health Service joined with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to promote healthier living not only among Medicare beneficiaries, but all age groups. We wish to thank you, your staff and community members for valuing the importance of prevention and working to address health and wellness through integration of the three health initiatives.

  
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