

NAVAJO AREA OFFICE IT TRIBAL SHARES LISTENING SESSION

April 14, 2011

Presentations from Dr. Theresa Cullen (ISAC IT Priorities), Lisa DeCora (IT Tribal Shares listening session process) and Raymond Willie (Tribal Shares)

Listening session included participants from the Navajo Area Office, Ft. Defiance Indian Health Board, Gallup Indian Medical Center, Winslow Indian Health Care Center and Navajo Nation Division of Health.

Feedback from the participants:

COMMENTS ABOUT TRIBAL ISSUES/NEEDS

- Provide information on planned recommendations as OIT holds listen sessions with Tribes so Tribes know the outcome.
- There is a need to train Tribal people for IT advancements and future employment with their Tribal programs. Currently, with Meaningful Use and other reporting requirements, it is important to train and support our Tribal programs.

GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT OIT PRODUCTS/SERVICES

- ISDP (through National Institutes of Health <http://isdpi.nih.gov/isdpi/home.action>). Tribes that participate in the NIH program must abide by its secondary use of licenses. A Tribe can take all its OIT HQ shares and still participate in the ISDP to receive your license.
- Does OIT have any recommendations to Tribes about collaborations? Consortiums to have IT systems? Larger Tribes have more choices about what they want and can get it.
- The Information Systems Advisory Committee (ISAC) is a mix of federal and Tribal representatives and work on strategies about what technologies IHS would like to pursue but technology changes fast and as such, the priorities can change.

COMMUNICATION/INFORMATION ON SERVICES/PRICES

- There is confusion with each “pot of money” provided to OIT and break down costs for each service. Tribes request that OIT define which IT services are affiliated with each line item (lines 126, 137, & 1301) and how much each service cost.
- Tribes would like to know what services are available and how much it costs the IHS for a service. An example is the cache license. A Tribe may take all their shares and believe the price of the license is available outside of IHS for a good price but if it's more than the Tribe's share, the Tribe is now in a predicament and cannot call IHS for support. So, it would be helpful for Tribes to know what certain items cost so there can be comparison shopping on the open market.
- It would be helpful to understand the Tribal Shares Adjustment (TSA) formula and how the OIT Tribal shares are calculated.
- The current PSFA Manual is outdated and does not provide a detailed description on what services/products OIT provides to Tribes.
- Would like to know what Tribes are using OIT services.

- Would like to be less dependent on OIT services by selecting the economy packages in order to bring our people home to practice and excel in these technical areas.
- Can a Tribe leave its OIT Tribal shares for OIT expertise? Or something other than what is listed in the current packages?

RPMS

- Keep RPMS available to Tribes.