



Quarterly *highlights*

The California Area IHS reports its accomplishments during the third quarter of FY 2017, in alignment with the agency's priorities:

1. People
2. Quality
3. Partnerships
4. Resources

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Inside...

Quality

Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center, Sacred Oaks Healing Center, and Improving Patient Care - Made Simple ...1

People

IHS Tribal Injury Prevention Co-operative Agreement Part II, and Division of Environmental Health Services2

Partnerships

Immunization Coverage Improvement, California HPV Vaccination Roundtable, Dental Conference, Healthcare Program Director Semi-Annual Meeting, California Providers' Continuing Medical Education, Community Health Representatives Track, Diabetes Day.....2-3

Resources

Division of Environmental Health Services, and New Construction.....4



Quality

The **Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center** in Hemet is open and now accepting applications for admission. The 32 bed co-ed inpatient facility is for youth ages 12-17, with substance abuse and co-occurring disorders. All required application forms are available on the IHS/CAO website at, <https://www.ihs.gov/california/yrtc-project/yrtc-forms-apps/>. Additional intake assistance is available by contacting the Intake/Aftercare Coordinators Sabrina Lepkofker at 951-708-4042 or via email at Sabrina.Lepkofker@ihs.gov or Teresa Phinazee at 951-708-7043 or via email at Teresa.Phinazee@ihs.gov. Please share this information with all interested California tribal and urban parties including tribal members, clinic personnel, family advocates, tribal court staff, and most importantly, community members. The **Sacred Oaks Healing Center** design and construction source selection process continues. Design and construction of the 36,000-38,000 square foot youth residential treatment center in Davis, will be based on the completed Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet. During the design and construction period emphasis is on specific sustainability goals, operational maintainability, community features, site layout, and a culturally appropriate setting. It is estimated the design will be completed in the spring of 2018, with construction commencing in the summer of 2018 and completion taking approximately two years.



The **Improving Patient Care—Made Simple (IPCMS)**, third training was provided via webinar to the three participating tribal healthcare teams (Lake County, Pit River, and Tuolumne Me-Wuk) on April 18, 2017. The topics covered for the teams were:

- Value Based Care vs. Pay for Services
- Review: Basics of Quality Improvement
- How to Prepare for Improvement
- Framework for Leadership for Improvement
- Managing Personalities, Work Styles, and Team Dynamics
- Patient Centered Medical Home – Sharing Successes
- Quality Tools
- IPC Resources
- Preparing Poster Board Presentations for the Fourth and last training webinar

The IPC-MS training is a nine-month California collaboration supported by the CAO/IST in cooperation with the National IPC team committed to partnering with all tribal, urban, and IHS service units in achieving Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) recognition.

People...

Lake County Tribal Health Consortium was awarded an **Indian Health Service Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Part II (TIPCAP)** in June 2017. This IHS Headquarters initiative provides multi-year funding for implementing vital injury prevention projects in their community. This award will help to address fall injury, which is the second leading type of injury requiring hospitalization for California American Indians. In partnership with the CAO Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS) and Nursing the \$24,900 award will support implementation of a fall prevention program based on SAIL (Stay Active and Independent for Life). This fall prevention program is recognized by the Area Agency on Aging in Arizona and incorporates interventions such as exercise designed to improve strength and training, home modifications to improve safety and reduce fall hazards and elder education on medication interaction and side effects that increase the risk for a fall.

The California Area, **Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS)** welcomed Sandra Mastandrea to it's team on June 12th. Sandra brings to DEHS a wealth of field and management experience in environmental health, including 3 years' experience as the Environmental Health Deputy Director IHS/Navajo Area, 9 years' experience as a field environmental health officer IHS/Tucson Area and another 8 years' experience as a county environmental health officer in Montana and Arizona. She has taken over LCDR Sarah Snyder's duties in the Sacramento, which include providing environmental health services to the Tribal Communities and Tribal Health Programs located in north-central California.

A **Wellness Conference**, hosted by the California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) included a presentation on the role of nutrition in substance use recovery by the IHS/CAO Health Promotion Disease Prevention Consultant. The two-day event was held June 21-22 in Oroville, and included over 75 tribal members and clinic staff.

Partnerships...

Immunization Coverage Improvement to ensure California Tribal and Urban Indian healthcare organizations the opportunity to improve immunization practice quality continued. In collaboration with program stakeholders, the IHS/CAO Nurse Consultant and IT staff worked to enhance use of Immunization Data Exchange with California Immunization Registry system (CAIR). With a goal of 90% participation from RPMS using organizations, all associated organizations have registered and are now set for actively exchanging immunization data electronically with the state-based immunization registry.



Updates to the registry include:

- New data base, CAIR 2.0, which is more robust.
- 12 IHS CA based tribal healthcare program sites are exchanging data electronically and 18 are manually entering data into CAIR.
- Expanded opportunity for bi-directional electronic data exchange between Tribal healthcare organizations and CAIR.
- Electronic access to records of immunizations given by outside providers.
- Inform progress toward bi-directional record exchange goal collaboration.

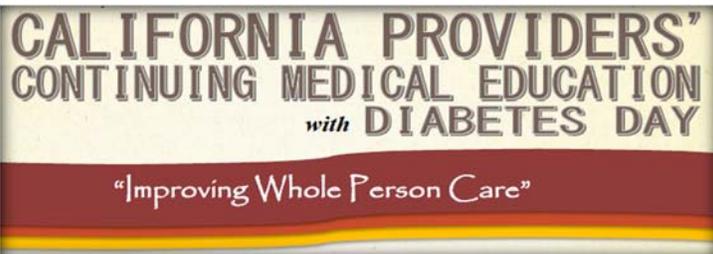
The **California HPV Vaccination Roundtable**, was held on June 6th. The IHS/CAO Nurse Consultant participated this statewide stakeholder meeting convened by the California Dialogue on Cancer (CDOC), administered by CDPH Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, in collaboration with the American Cancer Society (ACS). The purpose of meeting was to identify the function and structure of California HPV Vaccination Roundtable and to facilitate the development of a collaborative plan for increasing HPV vaccination in California.

Annual IHS CA Area & CRIHB Continuing Dental Education

The **Dental Conference**, an IHS/CAO and California Dental Support Center annual partnership event was held May 15-18 in Sacramento. Over 400 dental staff (dentists, dental hygienists, and dental aides), representing over 50 tribal and urban dental clinic sites, attended. The conference provided continuing dental education for courses specifically selected to enhance the skills of tribal and urban Indian healthcare program dental staff.

IHS/CAO **Healthcare Program Directors semi-annual meeting** for Tribal and urban Indian healthcare programs was held May 22 in Sacramento. The meeting held in conjunction with the California Providers' Continuing Medical Education event, included:

- California Indian Health Care Issues Update, by CA Health and Human Services Agency
- Covered CA Update, by Dept. of Healthcare Services
- Youth Regional Treatment Center (YRTC), Intake & Aftercare Process Report
- Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy Overview
- Resources Patient Management System (RPMS) & Electronic Health Record New Capabilities
- Substance Use Disorder Services Reimbursement
- Strengthening Community Engagement Through Need Assessment
- Health Care and Grants Compliance
- Recruitment and Retention



The **California Providers' Continuing Medical Education** event was held May 23-24 in Sacramento. This IHS/CAO and the California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) annual partnership event had over 350 physicians, mid-level practitioners, nurses, and clinic support staff in attendance. A pre-event workshop on May 22 was held to evaluate the role of nurses and behavioral health staff in the provision of quality healthcare.

IHS-sponsored continuing medical education (CEU) met state clinic licensure requirements, and provided:

- 34 physicians earned 447.5 American Medical Association Physician's Recognition
- 40 nurses earned 648.5 contact hours through the IHS Clinical Support Center
- 22 mental health professionals earned 160 continuing education units through the IHS Tele-Behavioral Health Center of Excellence
- 8 dietitians earned 71 continuing professional education units through the IHS Nutrition and Dietetics Training Program
- 4 health information management professionals earned 17 continuing education units through the American Health Information Management Association

The event included a **Community Health Representative (CHR)** track on May 24th with training on:

- Diabetes Foot Exam: Screening for CHR's
- Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP)
- Being the Best CHR Ever!
- Immunization Basics for CHRs.

The **Diabetes Day** meeting, held May 25 in Sacramento followed the California Providers' Continuing Medical Educators event. The one-day meeting included 128 attendees and provided 5.0 CEUs. Topics included:

- Behavioral Side of Diabetes, William Polonsky, PhD, CDE
- Diabetes Updates, Ann Bullock, MD, Dir. DDTP
- Diabetes Retinopathy Screening, Jorge Cuadros, OD, PhD
- Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP) Training Overview, Alexa Hughes, MS (HSAG)
- Native Foodway Model, LCDR Kibbe Conti, MS, RD, CDE
- Future Goals of California, Helen Maldonado, PA-C, CDE; Monica Giotta, MS, RDN, CDE; Jamie Sweet, MSN, PHN

As part of Diabetes Day, a networking dinner sponsored by the Lytton Rancheria was held May 24. It included 37 SDPI grantee, as well as other interested parties. The evening included a screening of sixteen digital stories on community wellness and outreach activities, with a very positive review. Networking opportunities between programs were provided.

Resources...

A routine Nitrous Oxide Exposure Control Assessments has been initiated by the **Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS)** to support Tribal Health Organizations who offer sedation dentistry services . The purpose is to assist tribal health organizations ensure that nitrous oxide is used safely in the workplace. The initiative began in May with DEHS staff polling California Tribal Health Organizations to identify which facilities were currently using nitrous oxide as part of their sedation dentistry services. The next phase of the initiative will be to schedule quantitative exposure assessments of the nitrous oxide delivery and scavenging systems. In addition to the quantitative assessment, DEHS staff will audit nitrous oxide exposure control policies and procedures and provide Tribal Health Organizations the resources needed to address any identified gaps. The DEHS staff will be using state of the art industrial hygiene equipment to perform the assessment, at no cost to Tribal Health Organizations who receive services through our program. While participation is voluntary, all California Tribal Health Organizations are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.



During this quarter, **Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS)** staff investigated 3 foodborne illness **complaints**, a possible exceedance of the MCL for fluoride and an indoor mold complaint. In addition, DEHS staff have

completed 110 surveys of facilities during the last quarter that included 69 retail food establishments, 19 bars, 11 head start/child care centers, 1 health clinic, 1 hotel and 2 swimming pools.

Construction began at the **Northern Valley Indian Health, Willows Health Center Campus** in March. It is estimated the new two story 20,565 square foot administrative office building will be completed in the spring of 2018.



Construction began at the **Feather River Tribal Health, Oroville Health Center** in March. When completed, the new 15,500 square foot Wellness Clinic will be on a 5 acre parcel adjacent to the Health Clinic. The facility will include general medical services, therapy pool/aquatics center, senior nutrition center with kitchen, and conference/meeting space.



Looking Ahead:

IHS/CAO will host a Johns Hopkins University (JHU) Family Spirit Training in Sacramento August 14-18, 2017. The training will be an opportunity for professional and paraprofessional to learn about this evidence-based, home visitation program that is focused on working with moms and infants (prenatal through 3 years of age).



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