"... as always, we are appreciative of the valuable service you provide in your assessing our facility. We benefit greatly from the findings and feedback (and suggestions) you provide, and will continue to address the lists you have provided. ... As always we enjoy your visit, and look forward to seeing you next year, (and hopefully before)."

—IHS Nashville Area Customer

"You have been an inspiration of kindness and service, contributing your time to help serve and protect the health of not only the people but also the environment."

—IHS Navajo Area Customer

"Thanks so much for bringing your positive energy to the Youth Environmental Summit! Your help with everything...was amazing!... I look forward to continuing to work with you on other projects…"

—ANTHC/Alaska Area Customer

"I wanted to thank you for a job well done during your food sanitation presentation here…You were able to make the time pass easily without the normal monotony of "reading" from the slide presentation."

—IHS Albuquerque Area Customer

IHS DEHS Program Directory

www.dehs.ihs.gov

DEHS (National Contact)
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 610
Rockville, MD 20852
Phone: (301) 443-1054

Aberdeen Area/DEHS
115 4th Ave. S.E.
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Ph.: (605) 226-7597

Alaska Area/DEHS
4141 Ambassador Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99508
Ph.: (907) 729-3501

Albuquerque Area/DEHS
5300 Homestead Rd., N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87110
Ph.: (505) 248-4947

Bemidji Area/DEHS
522 Minnesota Ave., N.W.
Bemidji, MN 56601
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Billings Area/OEHE
2900 4th Ave. North
Billings, MT 59101
Ph.: (406) 247-7098

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650 Capitol Mall, Suite 7-100
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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Indian Health Service
Office of Environmental Health and Engineering

Division of Environmental Health Services

Environmental Health Services

Healthy Environments = Healthy People

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The DEHS Mission:
"Through shared decision making and sound public health measures, enhance the health and quality of life of all American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level by eliminating environmentally related disease and injury."

Indian Health Service (IHS)

is the principal federal health care provider and health advocate for Indian people, and its goal is to raise health status to the highest possible level. The IHS provides a comprehensive health service delivery system for approximately 2.0 million American Indians and Alaska Natives who belong to 565 federally recognized tribes in 35 states. More indepth information can be found at www.ihs.gov.

Environmental Health Services (EHS)

American Indians and Alaska Natives face environmental hazards that affect health status.

The EHS Program works with tribal communities to prevent disease and injury by:

- monitoring and investigating disease and injury;
- identifying health hazards in the environment; and
- providing training, technical assistance, and project funding.

The EHS Program includes the specialty areas of Injury Prevention (IP) and Institutional Environmental Health (IEH).

IP specialists work with tribes and other partners to prevent severe injuries and fatalities. Two priorities of this program are to prevent:

- unintentional falls, and
- motor vehicle-related injury and death.

IEH specialists work to protect occupants from chemical, biological, radiological, and ergonomic hazards. Three priorities of this program are:

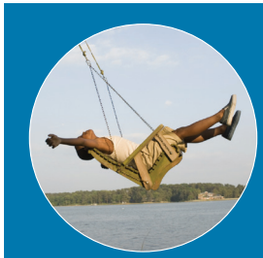
- going back-to-basics IEH;
- updating IEH radiation protection program roles, policy, and practices; and
- keeping radiation exposures As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA).

Through shared decision making and sound public health measures, the IHS EHS Program strives to enhance the health and quality of life for American Indians and Alaska Natives in the following priority areas:

Children's Environment: Prevent illness and injury by reducing risk factors where children live, learn, and play.

Safe Drinking Water: Prevent waterborne illness and ensure safe drinking water supplies.

Food Safety: Prevent foodborne illness and promote food safety and security.

Vectorborne and Communicable Diseases: Prevent diseases transmitted by insects, animals, humans, and the environment.

Healthy Homes: Prevent diseases and injuries in homes caused by unhealthy living conditions.