The word "diverse" gets used a lot in describing differences in the American melting pot, and words that are overused lose their meaning. Yet there is no better word to describe American Indian and Alaska Native culture. Despite similarities and links, each of the more than 560 federally recognized Tribes is unique.

Cultural diversity is what makes living and working in these communities unique. How well you fit in depends a lot on you. If you're open-minded as you learn about the Native people and their heritage, you'll take an important first step toward establishing your Indian health career and enriching the lives of some 2 million American Indians and Alaska Natives. This side of our guide offers you a broad overview of key aspects of Tribal culture; on the other side is a list of all Indian health facilities within each of the 12 geographic IHS Areas.

## **TODAY'S NATIVE COMMUNITIES**

While many American Indian communities live in the Southwest, the sweep of Native cultures in the United States extends across the country, from Oregon to North Carolina, from north to south, from Maine to Florida and from Washington State to California.

Tribal communities are spread across the vast state of Alaska, each featuring its own traditions and beliefs. Indeed, more than half of the 560 federally recognized Tribes live in Alaskan village communities. Each Tribe/community has its own unique name. When referring to the group as a whole, the appropriate term is American Indian for the lower United States and Alaska Native for Alaska.

Moreover, many American Indians and Alaska Natives, young and old, have chosen to adopt mainstream American life. There are American Indian and Alaska Native communities in large cities throughout the United States. Thus, not all American Indian and Alaska Native people are traditional or Tribal or rural. Multiculturalism is a pervasive aspect of life everywhere. Most American Indian and Alaska Native people speak English, but many also speak Spanish, French and other languages in addition to their Native languages.

## CULTURAL IDENTITY AND AWARENESS

For many American Indians and Alaska Natives, awareness of their cultural identity is central to their lives and gives direction and meaning to everything they do. This kind of intense awareness has been lost in many modern societies that tend to think globally. It begins with the family and reaches outward to the Tribal community and beyond to the larger concept of being part of the Native peoples of America.

Individuals most often view themselves as part of the community, which encompasses the family, clan and Tribe. Some members refer to themselves as Cherokee or Navajo or Hopi, unlike people in mainstream America who say they "live" in a certain town or city. A few Tribes have alternate names — for example, among the Navajo, some prefer to call themselves "Dine" instead of "Navajo."

Membership in an extended family is vitally important. The concept of kinship is critical to one's personal identity and sense of social belonging. Within the complex network of familial and clan relationships, the concept of shared responsibility can be very strong. This is especially important for Indian health clinicians to understand.

When referring to the group as a whole, the appropriate term is American Indian for the lower United States and Alaska Native for Alaska.

While many elders have a traditional cultural identity and many young people consider themselves "modern," that is not always the case and should not be presumed. A lot of young people embrace or are newly connected with their cultural roots and are extremely traditional and Tribal in their outlook and identity. There are, of course, individuals who do not physically appear to be Native or may no longer be culturally linked with their heritage.



## **TWO WORLDS**

The best way to learn about a community is to observe and learn how things are done. However, posing direct questions about American Indian and Alaska Native community values and cultures might be considered impolite and intrusive. Instead, get to know the local Tribe over time and wait for members to offer insights into these matters. Often, they will do so through stories or examples. A good way to learn more about the Native culture is to find a Tribal member who is open to serving as a mentor and willing to guide you in the ways of the community.

Many American Indian and Alaska Native people have taught themselves to "walk in two worlds" — observing traditional values when in traditional gatherings, while adapting to contemporary culture when appropriate. Being adaptive is a good way to cope with the parallel worlds within which they live.

In addition, values tend to be local rather than national in character. In other words, core values have an inward-to-outward focus — first on family, then clan, then Tribe. These values may be expressed as "the way we do things," but this simple phrase encompasses a multitude of beliefs and behaviors.

An awareness and appreciation of the past is strong in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. American Indians and Alaska Natives have a history that is unwritten in school textbooks but well remembered.

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Indian Health Service Health Professions Recruitment Indian Health Service

# Cultural Highlights for Indian Health Professionals

A Reference Guide to American Indian and Alaska Native Culture





## **PERSONAL INTERACTION**

In many American Indian and Alaska Native communities, a handshake is as much an accepted form of greeting as it is elsewhere. But even this simple greeting requires a degree of cultural awareness. A strong, heavy grip can send a negative message of aggressiveness. Using a gentler grip shows respect.

The sharing of food is a widely accepted sign of greeting and welcome among Native people. In fact, food sharing is a central feature of most social gatherings and is a great way to meet people and develop relationships. If you are offered food or drink in a family home, always accept graciously.

Introductions are also observed with cultural protocol. Following an initial introduction, there often is a period of silence. Quiet time and observation are a natural part of social interaction, though it can sometimes make a newcomer feel uncomfortable. It is best to resist the urge to fill those short periods of quiet reflection with conversation.

If you become an Indian health clinician, you might notice that patients avoid direct eye contact with you. That's because respect for an elder or someone in an authoritative position, like a clinician, is often shown by gazing downward or even looking away.

## **RESPECT FOR TRADITION**

American Indian and Alaska Native societies have rules of etiquette that have evolved over centuries. These accepted social modes of interpersonal conduct cover virtually every aspect of daily life. They differ for every Tribe and sometimes vary even within Tribes, so visitors need to learn the local customs. Community members realize they have complex social protocols and are usually pleased to help a newcomer adjust.

Gender awareness is important. There are many unwritten rules about social interactions between the sexes. From conversing to touching to making eye contact, the rules for man-to-man social interaction are very different than for man-to-woman social interaction. The rules also change according to marital status.

Social etiquette is particularly important with regard to festivals and ceremonial events. Dances, songs, chants, ceremonial items and actions have enormous significance. It is best to avoid touching any object or entering into any of the ceremonial activities unless invited. For example, you might be offered a blessing with smoke, but you should not step forward or ask for it unless it is offered.

What's more, you should never take photographs or film an event without explicit permission. Also not considered polite are finger pointing and public displays of emotion, whether tears or exuberant joy.

American Indian and Alaska Native societies have rules of etiquette that have evolved over centuries.

Authority comes with age. Elders are community leaders with high social status and are treated with deference. For instance, food is served first to older members of an Indian community. Younger people, including clinicians, should always show respect in their words and actions when interacting with elders.

Uniforms command respect, too. Veterans, for example, are held in high regard. This also applies to the Commissioned Corps of the US Public Health Service (USPHS), one of the three options for a career path in the Indian Health Service.

Respect is also given to people in positions of authority, such as teachers, religious figures and community leaders, most of whom are elders. In addition, physicians and other clinicians are seen as having a position of authority, but there is a drawback: As authority figures, clinicians find that patients sometimes say what they think the clinician wants to hear instead of what needs to be known about specific health matters. This can be a problem that needs to be handled with tact and a keen understanding of cultural nuances.

Often, formal meetings begin and/or close with a prayer or brief ceremonial statement by a Tribal elder. Sometimes the elder is offered a small gift as a token of thanks and respect.

## UNIQUE WAYS OF COMMUNICATING

Listening is just as important as talking during a conversation. Tribal members may say only what is necessary or may provide more-direct comments. Silence is used quite often and does not indicate a lack of understanding or refusal to speak. Rather, the silence is used to process and gather thoughts before speaking. People coming from outside the Tribe should be aware of this and be open to free-ranging rather than linear communication. It's also a good idea to moderate the tone, speed and volume of your voice to match how others in the conversation are speaking. Deferring to elders in the group, allowing them to speak or respond first, is another conversational rule.

Indirect speech is a common way of communicating. Pointed questions and answers that constitute conversation in other cultures are not always acceptable in American Indian and Alaska Native cultures. Thus, one technique often used for conveying information about a personal or community matter is storytelling. Instead of speaking directly about an issue, the speaker weaves an imaginative tale that conveys the information he or she wants to pass on. These stories can be original creations, versions of traditional stories or oral traditions (stories of a Tribe's origin and customs).

Another way to convey a message is to use humor. This technique might be chosen if the speaker wants to suggest something helpful or provide information that might be embarrassing for the recipient to hear if it was said directly or if the subject might be painful to either party. This same kind of correction or nudging toward something helpful can take the form of light-hearted teasing. Visitors interacting with community members should also watch for body language, which is another powerful means of communicating. Body language varies greatly from place to place and person to person, but it is wise to watch for signs of discomfort in nonverbal gestures.

Direct criticism of another person is usually avoided in conversation, as it can be seen as disrespectful or disloyal. Family and Tribal ties can further complicate this sensitive type of communication. If a speaker feels that criticism or disagreement needs to be voiced, a prelude of pleasant, friendly discussion should be offered first.

Similarly, a clinician may need to provide a patient's diagnosis and potential complications in an indirect way without referring specifically to the patient's condition. This allows the patient to acknowledge on his or her own that the diagnosis could affect him or her in the way discussed.

On some reservations, family involvement in the health care setting reaches beyond immediate family. An appointment in such cases includes not only the patient and provider but immediate and extended family. Therefore, it's good practice not to ask the family to leave the room unless requested by the patient.

In addition, the concept of "clock time" or "calendar time" sometimes is vague or irrelevant in Native communities: The larger picture of time as a lifetime continuum can override clock time. This perspective sometimes presents difficulties in scheduling appointments. If a patient agrees to a specific appointment date and time, he or she might do so out of politeness without actually committing to being there. Also, avoid looking at your watch frequently or appearing to be in a hurry during meetings or conversations.

## **RELIGIOUS CONSIDERATIONS AND SPIRITUALITY**

A strong sense of spiritual connectedness colors American Indian and Alaska Native community life. Spirituality includes contemporary mainstream religions, primarily Christianity, and traditional religions dating from before European contact. Often, contemporary and traditional beliefs are practiced hand in hand.

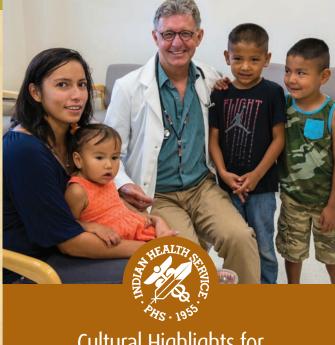
Whether based around a church or a traditional religious practice, spirituality is usually community-oriented rather than observed privately by individuals. Spirituality is integrated into daily life, family life and community events in the form of ceremonies, spiritual meetings and religious practices. It is an essential part of a community's identity. Some American Indians and Alaska Natives perceive the world around them through the lens of spiritual "oneness" with nature.

A strong sense of spiritual connectedness colors American Indian and Alaska Native community life.

In every Tribe and community, there are individuals with religious status and authority, either traditional or contemporary, whose wisdom and counsel are sought for personal guidance and community decisions. Often these are Tribal elders, rather than anyone with a religious title.

Many ceremonial events practiced throughout the year are steeped in spiritual significance, inspired by past generations and Native traditions. One way to show respect is to refrain from touching ceremonial objects. It is often considered sacred or taboo to discuss specific spiritual practices and beliefs with outsiders, and it is impolite for visitors to ask intrusive questions about such practices.

For those who follow a strictly traditional way of life, there can be a mystic element in which dreams and visions are examined and valued. "Lifeways," defined as a manner of life or way of living, as well as other spiritual approaches to living in harmony with nature, guide many American Indians and Alaska Natives.



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## **A LONG HISTORY**

Tribal governments represent sovereign nations and can make and enforce their own laws, particularly with regard to public health and safety. These laws are superseded by federal law and a majority of state laws, however; as a result, jurisdiction over legal matters can become very complicated.

While the relationship between the US government and the American Indian and Alaska Native people has not always been a positive one, it is progressing in the right direction so that all can work together for the greater good of all American people.

## ALASKA AREA

Health services are delivered to nearly 148,000 Alaska Natives through a network of Tribally operated hospitals, health centers and clinics. Tourists travel from around the world to see this majestic landscape, experience Alaska Native cultures and enjoy a full range of outdoor activities that health professionals practicing in the Alaska Area have at their doorstep.

Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage Anikkan Inuit Iluagutaat Sub-Regional Clinic (Unalakleet Health Center), Unalakleet

Annette Island Health Center, Metlakatla Bartlett Regional Hospital, Juneau Dena'ina Health Clinic, Kenai Kanakanak Hospital, Dillingham Ketchikan General Hospital, Ketchikan KIC Tribal Health Center, Ketchikan Maniilag Health Center, Kotzebue Norton Sound Regional Hospital, Nome Saint George Village Clinic, St. George Island Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital, Barrow Sand Point Health Center, Sand Point SEARHC Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital, Sitka Tanana Health Center, Tanana Yakutat Community Health Center, Yakutat Yukon Flats Health Center, Fort Yukon Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Hospital, Bethel

### ALBUOUEROUE AREA

The Albuquerque Area provides health services to American Indians in a number of distinctly different Tribal groups, including the renowned pueblo communities with their ancient cultures and colorful ceremonial events. Travelers from around the globe seek out the famous high-desert community of Santa Fe. The Area offers a full range of outdoor activities from desert trekking to mountain skiing.

Denver Indian Health and Family Services, Denver Southern Ute Health Center, Ignacio Ute Mountain Ute Health Center, Towaoc

Acoma-Canoncito-Laguna (ACL) Hospital, San Fidel Alamo Health Center, Magdalena Albuquerque Indian Hospital, Albuquerque Canoncito Health Center, Canoncito Dulce Health Center, Dulce Isleta Pueblo Healthcare Center, Albuquerque Jemez Health Center, Jemez Pueblo Laguna Health Center, New Laguna Mescalero Indian Hospital, Mescalero Picuris Health Location, Taos Pueblo Pine Hill Health Center, Pine Hill Santa Clara Health Center, Espanola Santa Fe Indian Hospital, Santa Fe Santo Domingo Health Center, Santo Domingo Taos-Picuris Health Center, Taos Pueblo Zia Pueblo Health Station, Zia Pueblo Zuni Comprehensive Community Health Center, Zuni

## **BEMIDJI AREA**

The 34 federally recognized Tribes of this northern-tier region are served mainly through Tribally operated health centers and health stations and five Urban Indian programs. The "sportsman's paradise" of the Great Lakes offers some of the best boating, fishing and water sports in the nation, while the unspoiled forests of this Area make for great hiking, camping and hunting.

### **MICHIGAN**

Ellen Marshall Memorial Center, Brimley Grand Traverse Band Family Health Clinic, Peshawbestown Hannahville Health Clinic, Wilson Hessel Community Health Center, Hessel Keweenaw Bay Health Center, Baraga

Lambert Tribal Health Center, St. Jonace Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Health Services, Manistee Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians

Health Clinic, Petoskey Manistique Tribal Health Center, Manistique Marguette Tribal Community Health Center, Marguette MBPI Health and Human Services, Dorr Newberry Tribal Community Health Center, Newberry NHRP Health Department Fulton and Grand Rapids Nimkee Memorial Health Center Mt Pleasant Pokagon Band Department of Health Services, Dowagiag Sault Ste Marie Tribal Health Center Sault Ste Marie

### ΜΙΝΝΕSΟΤΔ

Cass Lake Hospital, Cass Lake Center for American Indian Resources Duluth Grand Portage Health Clinic, Grand Portage Min-No-Ava-Win Health Center, Cloquet Ne-Ia-Shing Health Clinic, Onamia Nett Lake Clinic, Nett Lake Ponemah Health Center Ponemah Red Lake Comprehensive Health, Red Lake Red Lake Hospital, Red Lake White Earth Health Center, White Earth

Watersmeet Medical Clinic, Watersmeet

### WISCONSIN

Bad River Dental Clinic, Odanah Ho-Chunk Health Care Center, Black River Falls Ho-Chunk House of Wellness Clinic Baraboo Lac Courte Oreilles Health Center, Hayward Menominee Health Clinic Keshena Oneida Community Health Center, Oneida Peter Christensen Health Center, Lac du Flambeau Forest County Potawatomi Health and Wellness Center, Crandon Sokaogon Chippewa Health Clinic, Crandon St. Croix Tribal Health Clinic, Webster Stockbridge-Munsee Health Center, Bowle

## **BILLINGS AREA**

The Plains Tribes living on reservations and in surrounding urban communities are served through a mix of IHS. Triba and Urban Indian health facilities. This "big sky" Area is home to some of the world's greatest natural wonders. including Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks and the Rocky Mountains. It would be hard to find better skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling and other winter sports, and there is just as much to do during warmer weather in this Area's beautiful natural environment.

### MONTANA

Blackfeet Community Hospital, Browning Chief Redstone Health Clinic, Wolf Point Crow/Northern Chevenne Hospital, Crow Agency Eagle Child Health Center, Havs Flathead Tribal Health and Human Services, St. Ionatius Fort Belknap Hospital, Harlem Heart Butte Health Station. Heart Butte Lame Deer Health Center Lame Deer Lodge Grass Health Clinic, Lodge Grass Polson Health Center Polson Prvor Health Station, Prvor Rocky Boy Tribal (Chippewa-Cree) Health Center, Box Elder Ronan Health Clinic, Ronan St. Jonatius Health Center, St. Jonatius Verne E. Gibbs Health Center, Poplar Wolf Point Health Center, Wolf Point

Arapahoe Health Center, Arapahoe Fort Washakie Health Center, Fort Washakie

## CALIFORNIA AREA

This Tribally operated health system provides comprehensive care services to the largest population of American Indians and Alaska Natives in the country through contracts under which the Tribes operate their own facilities, programs and services. The Area is as varied as the state of California, from deep redwood forests to panoramic desert landscapes, and offers outdoor activities of every kind involving sun, sand, sea, mountain and desert.

### CALIFORNIA

Chapa-De Indian Health Program, Auburn Center Valley Indian Health Clinic, Clovis Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center, Hen Feather River Tribal Health, Oroville Feather River Tribal Health, Yuba City Grass Valley Clinic, Grass Valley Greenville Rancheria Tribal Health Program, Red Bluff Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley, San Jose Jackson Medical Clinic, Jackson K'ima:w Medical Center, Hoopa Lake County Tribal Health Consortium, Inc., Lakepor Lassen Indian Health Center, Susanville Mariposa Medical Clinic, Mariposa Native American Health Center, Inc., Oakland Northern Valley Indian Health Clinic, Chico Northern Valley Indian Health Clinic, Red Bluff Northern Valley Indian Health Clinic, Willows Northern Valley Indian Health Clinic, Woodland Pit River Health Service, Inc., Burney Redding Rancheria Indian Health Clinic, Redding Round Valley Indian Health Center, Inc., Covelo Sacramento Native American Health Center, Inc., Sacramento San Andreas Medical Clinic, San Andreas San Diego American Indian Health Center, San Diego Santa Ynez Tribal Health Clinic, Santa Ynez Shingle Springs Tribal Health Clinic, Shingle Springs Sonoma County Indian Health, Santa Rosa Sonora Medical Clinic, Sonora Southern Indian Health Council, Inc., Alpine Table Mountain Medical Clinic Friant Toivabe Indian Health Project, Inc., Bishop Tule River Indian Health Center, Inc., Porterville United American Indian Involvement, Inc., Los Angeles United Indian Health Service, Inc., Arcata Warner Mountain Indian Health Clinic, Fort Bidwell

## GREAT PLAINS AREA

Hospitals, health centers, health stations and satellite clinics provide services to reservations in this region. The Great Plains' awe-inspiring natural attractions and landmarks include Badlands National Park, the Black Hills and Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Health professionals in the Great Plains Area have access to world-class parkland and wilderness famous for fishing, hunting, hiking, rock climbing, horseback riding, ice skating and skiing.

### IOWA

Meskwaki Health Center, Tama

### NEBRASKA

Carl T. Curtis Health Education Center, Macy Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center, Omaha Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition, Omaha Santee Sioux Health Center, Niobrara Winnebago Hospital, Winnebago

### **NORTH DAKOTA**

Elbowoods Memorial Health Center, Newtown Fort Totten Health Center, Fort Totten Fort Yates Hospital, Fort Yates Quentin N. Burdick Memorial Health Care Facility, Belcourt Spirit Lake Health Center, Fort Totten Trenton Community Health Clinic, Trenton

### **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Eagle Butte Hospital, Eagle Butte Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribal Health Center, Flandreau Fort Thompson Health Center, Fort Thompson Kyle Health Center, Kyle Lower Brule Health Center Lower Brule McLaughlin Health Center, McLaughlin Pine Ridge Hospital Pine Ridge Rapid City Indian Hospital, Rapid City Rosebud Hospital, Rosebud Wanner Health Center Wanner Wanblee Health Center, Wanblee Woodrow Wilson Keeble Memorial Health Care Center, Sisseton

PORTLAN

CALIFORNI



## NASHVILLE AREA

Geographically, the Nashville Area is the largest of the continental Indian Health Service Areas. A great many Tribal cultures and Tribally run clinics are included in this broad sweep of territory from the Canadian border in Maine to the tip of Florida and westward to Texas. In their free time, health professionals in the Area enjoy boating and fishing on the Great Lakes, skiing in New England, camping and rock climbing in the Great Smoky Mountains and off-road exploring in Louisiana.

### ΔΙΔΒΔΜΔ

Poarch Creek Health Clinic, Atmore

CONNECTICUT Mashantucket Pequot Health Center, Ledyard Mohegan Health Administration, Uncasville

Big Cypress Clinic, Clewiston Brighton Health Clinic, Okeechobee Hollywood Health Center, Hollywood Immokalee Health Clinic Immokalee Miccosukee Health Clinic, Miami

ΙΙΙςιανα Coushatta Health Station, Elton Iena Band Trout Tunica Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Health Program, Marksville

MAINE Houlton Health Center, Houlton Indian Township (Peter Dana Point) Health Center, Princeton Mimac Service Unit, Presque Isle Penobscot Health Center, Indian Island Pleasant Point Health Center, Perry

MASSACHUSETTS Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit, Mashpee

# Choctaw Health Center, Choctaw

**NFW YORK** Cattaraugus Indian Reservation Health Center, Irving Lionel R. John Health Center, Salamanca Oneida Healthcare Center Oneida St. Regis Mohawk Health Service, Akwesasne

**NORTH CAROLINA** Cherokee Indian Hospital, Cherokee

**RHODE ISLAND** Narragansett Indian Health Center, Charlestown

**SOUTH CAROLINA** Catawba Service Unit, Rock Hill

**TEXAS** Alabama-Coushatta Health Center, Livingston

## NAVAJO AREA

Covering more than 25,000 square miles across portions of the states known as the "Four Corners" (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah), the Navajo Nation is the largest reservation-based Indian Tribe. The geography of this spectacular region is mostly high desert; it encompasses the landmarks of Monument Valley, Canyon De Chelly and the Grand Canyon. Clinicians serving the Navajo don't have to travel far to enjoy all the outdoor pursuits this scenic area offers, including camping, hiking, hunting, skiing and kavaking.

Chinle Hospital, Chinle Fort Defiance Indian Hospital, Fort Defiance Four Corners Regional Health Center, Red Mesa Inscription House Health Center, Shonto Kaventa Health Center, Kaventa Pinon Health Center, Pinon Tsaile Health Center, Tsaile Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation, Tuba City Winslow Indian Health Care Center, Winslow

### NEW MEXICO

Crownpoint Healthcare Facility, Crownpoint Dzilth-Na-O-Dith-Hle Health Center, Bloomfield Gallup Indian Medical Center, Gallup Northern Navajo Medical Center, Shiprock Pueblo Pintado Health Center, Crownpoint Tohatchi Health Care Center, Tohatchi

## OKLAHOMA CITY AREA

Serving some 40 Tribes and Tribal organizations, the Oklahor Area rural and Urban Indian hospitals, clinics and health centers are spread throughout an environment of lakes, small mountain ranges and prairie vistas. Health professionals live and practice in rural settings, small college towns and large cities. This diverse Area offers good school systems, cultural facilities and a vast array of outdoor recreational opportunities for hunting and fishing, boating and water sports, hiking, golf and horseback riding.

## KANSAS

Haskell Health Center, Lawrence Hunter Health Center, Wichita Kickapoo Nation Health Center, Horton Potawatomi Nation Health & Wellness Center, Mayetta

### **OKLAHOMA**

Anadarko Health Center Anadarko Ardmore Health Clinic Ardmore Atoka Choctaw Nation Health Clinic, Atoka **Bearskin Health Center Wyandotte** Black Hawk Health Center, Stroug Carnegie Health Center, Carnegie Cherokee Nation Amo Salina Health Center, Salina Cherokee Nation Redbird Smith Health Center, Sallisaw Cherokee Nation Sam Hider Community Clinic, Jay Cherokee Nation Three Rivers Health Center, Muskogee Cherokee Nation Vinita Health Center, Vinita Cherokee Nation W.W. Hastings Hospital, Tahlequah Cherokee Nation Will Rogers Health Center, Nowata Cherokee Nation Willma P. Mankiller Health Center, Stilwell Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, Ada Choctaw Nation Indian Hospital, Talihina Citizen Potawatomi Health Center, Shawnee Claremore Hospital, Claremore Clinton Indian Health Center, Clinton Creek Nation Community Hospital, Okemah El Reno Indian Health Clinic, El Reno Eufaula Health Center, Eufaula Hugo Health Center, Hugo Idabel Health Center, Idabel

Indian Health Care Resource Health Center, Tulsa John Anderson Health Center, Broken Bow Kanza Health Center Newkirk Kickapoo Health Center McLoud Koweta Indian Health Facility, Coweta Lawton Hospital, Lawton Little Axe Health Center, Norman McAlester Health Center McAlester Miami Health Center, Miami Okemah Health Clinic Okemah Oklahoma City Indian Clinic Oklahoma City Okmulaee Health Center, Okmulaee Pawhuska Indian Health Center, Pawhuska Pawnee Health Center, Pawnee Poteau Health Clinic, Poteau Purcell Indian Health Clinic, Purcell Rubin White Health Clinic, Poteau Sapulpa Health Center, Sapulpa Stigler Choctaw Health Clinic, Stigler Tishomingo Indian Health Clinic, Tishomingo Watonga Health Center, Watonga Wewoka Indian Health Center, Wewoka White Eagle Health Center, Ponca City

TFXAS

Eagle Pass Health Clinic, Eagle Pass

## **PHOENIX AREA**

This Area's terrain ranges from desert and mesa to alpine meadows and rugged national parkland. Clinicians practicing here have access to the glories of the Colorado River, Grand Canvon and Salt River Canvon, not to mention the bright lights of Las Vegas and Reno. Outdoor activities run the gamut from whitewater rafting and fishing to camping, backpacking and skiing.

Bylas Health Center, Bylas Cibecue Health Center, Cibecue **CRIT** Tribe Health Center, Parker Fort McDowell Health Center, Fountain Hills Fort Mohave Indian Health Center, Mohave Valley Hopi Health Care Center (Keams Canyon), Polacca Hu-Hu-Kam Memorial Hospital, Sacaton Komatke Health Center, Laveen Native American Community Health Center, Phoenix Parker Indian Hospital Parker Peach Springs Health Center, Peach Springs Phoenix Indian Medical Center Phoenix Salt River Health Center, Scottsdale San Carlos Hospital, San Carlos Supai Clinic Supai Wassaia Memorial Health Center, Fort McDowell Whiteriver Hospital, Whiteriver

Chemehuevi Clinic, Havasu Lake Fort Yuma Health Center, Winterhaven

Ely Health Station, Ely Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Health Clinic, Fallon Fort McDermitt Health Station McDermitt Las Vegas Paiute Health Station, Las Vegas Newe Medical Clinic, Elv Owyhee Community Health Facility, Owyhee Pyramid Lake Tribal Health Center, Nixon Reno Sparks Shoshone Paiute Health Center Reno Walker River Health Center Schurz Washoe Tribal Health Center, Gardnerville Yerington Tribal Health Center, Yerington

Fort Duchesne Health Center, Fort Duchesne

## PORTLAND AREA

Some 150,000 American Indians receive health care through Tribal health facilities, Urban Indian organizations and Indian Health Service facilities throughout the forested terrain of the Pacific Northwest. From rugged seacoasts to snow-capped mountains, the region is famous for its abundant recreational opportunities, most Indian reservations are located among these prime spots. Health professionals can enjoy their free time camping, hiking and hunting in unspoiled forests, skiing some of the best slopes in the country or just relaxing beside a pristine mountain lake or coastal shore.

Benewah Medical Center, Plummer Kamiah Health Center, Kamiah Kootenai Health Station, Bonners Ferry Nimiipuu Health Center Nez Perce, Lapwai Not-Tsoo Gah-Nee Indian Health Center, Pocatello

### OREGON

Chemawa Health Center, Salem Coquille Community Health Center, Coos Bay Cow Creek Health and Wellness Center, Roseburg Grand Ronde Health and Wellness Center, Grand Ronde NARA Health Clinic, Portland Klamath Tribal Health Clinic, Chiloguin Wada Tika Health Center, Burns Warm Springs Health and Wellness, Warm Springs Yellowhawk Tribal Health Clinic, Pendleton

## WASHINGTON

Chehalis Community Clinic, Oakville Chief Klia Wellness Center, Forks Colville Indian Health Center Nespelem, Nespelem Cowlitz Tribal Health Clinic, Longview Inchelium Health Center, Inchelium Jamestown S'Klallam Family Health Center, Sequim Lummi Indian Health Center (Bellingham), Bellingham Muckleshoot Tribal Clinic, Auburn Sophie Trettevick Indian Health Center, Neah Bay Nisqually Health Clinic, Olympia Nooksack Tribal Health Clinic, Everson Omak Indian Health Clinic, Omak Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe Health Facility, Kingston Quinault Nation Tribal Health Facility, Queets Roger Saux Health Center, Taholah Seattle Indian Health Board Health Center, Seattle Shoalwater Bay Tribal Clinic, Tokeland Skokomish Tribe Health Center, Skokomish Sophie Trettevick Indian Health Center-Makah, Neah Bay David C Wyncoop Memorial Clinic, Wellpinit Squaxin Island Health Clinic, Shelton Stilaguamish Health Clinic, Arlington The Suguamish Tribe Wellness Center, Suguamish Swinomish Tribal Health Center, La Conner Takopid Health Center, Tacoma Tolt Community Clinic, Snogualmie Tolt Community Clinic, Carnation Tulalip Health Center, Marvsville

## **TUCSON AREA**

Dramatic scenery characterizes the Tucson Area, where elevations range from 1,400 feet in the Santa Rosa Valley to nearly 8,000 feet on Baboquivari Peak. Popular recreational activities include camping and backpacking in nearby deserts and national forests and skiing on the famous slopes of the White Mountains and Mount Lemmon. The city of Tucson abounds in cultural opportunities, as well as recreational options, including golf, tennis and horseback riding.

### **ARIZONA**

Pascua Yaqui Health Center, Tucson San Simon Health Center, Sells San Xavier Health Center, Tucson Santa Rosa Health Center, Santa Rosa Sells Hospital, Sells