



JAN 11 2013

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to update you on our consultation regarding the Indian Health Service (IHS) Office of Information Technology (OIT) programs, services, functions, and activities (PSFAs) and the Draft OIT Tribal Shares Improvement Plan developed by the Information Systems Advisory Committee (ISAC).

As I mentioned in my July 13, 2012 letter, the plan covers almost every aspect of OIT operations and calls for extensive collaboration by Tribal, Federal, and Urban Indian health program staff. Successful implementation should result in a much more transparent OIT program and budget, increased Tribal communication and collaboration with the OIT, and improved information technology services for all of Indian Country.

The time and effort you and your staff have devoted to this subject over the past several years reflect your commitment to cost-effective information resources management that contributes to successful health programs. The information and feedback you have shared in meetings, listening sessions, and through your replies to my recent letter leads me to approve the plan as drafted and ask that you and your staff continue to be actively involved as the ISAC proceeds with implementation.

The OIT will support the ISAC and coordinate with the Office of Tribal Self-Governance, the Office of Direct Services and Contracting Tribes, and the Area Directors to significantly expand Tribal involvement to work with us on implementation. The approved plan and related documents are available at www.ihs.gov/tribalshares. Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Howard Hays, MD, Acting Director, OIT, at howard.hays@ihs.gov.

Again, thank you for your continued interest and ongoing support in improving OIT services and IHS information technology.

Sincerely,

/Yvette Roubideaux/

Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., M.P.H.
Director