

# Indian Health Service

## All Tribes and Urban Organizations Call

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RADM MICHAEL D. WEAHKEE  
ACTING DIRECTOR



# Welcome

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- Rear Admiral Michael D. Weahkee  
Acting Director, Indian Health Service



# HHS Updates

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- Senate Finance Committee hearing for HHS Secretary nominee
- Regulatory reform activities
  - Executive Order 13771 - *Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs*
  - Executive Order 13777 - *Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda*
  - IHS regulatory reform officer: RADM Kelly Taylor, Acting IHS Chief of Staff



# IHS Priorities

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- People
- Partnerships
- Quality
- Resources



# People

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- Acting Nashville Area Director, Dr. Bruce Finke
- Title 38 pay tables
  - Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists
  - Certified Nurse Midwives
  - Nurse Practitioners – New in 2018
- Portland Area dentist featured on PBS Newshour
  - Dr. Frank Mendoza, Warm Springs IHS
  - Use of silver nitrate to treat cavities without drilling
- Senior Executive Service vacancies on USAJOBS.gov
  - Director, Office of Finance and Accounting, closes 1/15/18
  - Director, Great Plains Area, closes 01/30/2018
  - Director, Navajo Area, closes 01/30/2018



# Partnerships

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- HHS Secretary Tribal Advisory Committee January 17-18
- IHS Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee January 24-25
- Indian Health Care Improvement Fund Workgroup January 30-31
- IHS Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee February 13-14
- Fiscal Year 2020 National Budget Work Session February 15-16



# Partnerships

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- Contract Support Cost policy
  - Temporarily rescinded: § 6-3.2E(3) – *Alternative Methods for Calculating Indirect Costs Associated with Recurring Service Unit Shares*
    - Known as “97/3 Split” or “97/3 Method”
    - in certain circumstances, this option yields a result that is inconsistent with statutory authority
  - Tribal Consultation – prior to making a final decision on how to amend the CSC policy



# Quality

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- Telespecialty launch in Great Plains Area
  - Offers medical specialists close to home
  - Improves access to more services
  - Saves time and money





# Resources

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- Continuing Resolution – January 19, 2018
  - Includes another quarter of funding for Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI)
- Negotiations continue on FY 2018 Budget
- FY 2019 President's Budget Request will be released in a few weeks



