



# THE IHS PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER



*A journal for health professionals working with American Indians and Alaska Natives*

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## Screening for HIV, Chlamydia, and Hepatitis C: Improvement and Lessons Learned from 2010 to Present

*Jessica Leston, MPH, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board; Brigg Reilley, MPH, Indian Health Service*

### Introduction

Implementation of national screening recommendations are important to achieve early detection and treatment of chlamydia (CT), HIV and Hepatitis C. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) have issued recommendations for routine, non-risk based HIV screening in adolescents and adults ages 13 to 64 (CDC) or 15 to 64 (USPSTF) as a standard of care.<sup>1,2</sup> Chlamydia screening for sexually active females between the ages of 16 and 25 has been a Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measure since 2000 with similar CDC and USPSTF recommendations.<sup>3,4</sup> In 2012 and 2013, respectively, the CDC and USPSTF began recommending a one-time screening for the hepatitis C virus (HCV) for all adults born between 1945 and 1965, in addition to screening persons at high risk for infection.<sup>5,6</sup> Although these recommendations have been in place for a number of years, screening across the United States remains relatively low and variable (chlamydia screening average 44% and HIV screening average 45%).<sup>7,8</sup> According to a national study conducted in 2003, Americans only receive recommended preventative care 54.9% of the time, indicating a disconnect between evidence-based care, implementation, and routine use.<sup>9,10</sup> Simply put, there is a substantial gap between the healthcare we should receive and the healthcare we do receive.

Since 2010, Indian Health Service (IHS) has been targeting specific STI and HIV screening measures to ensure

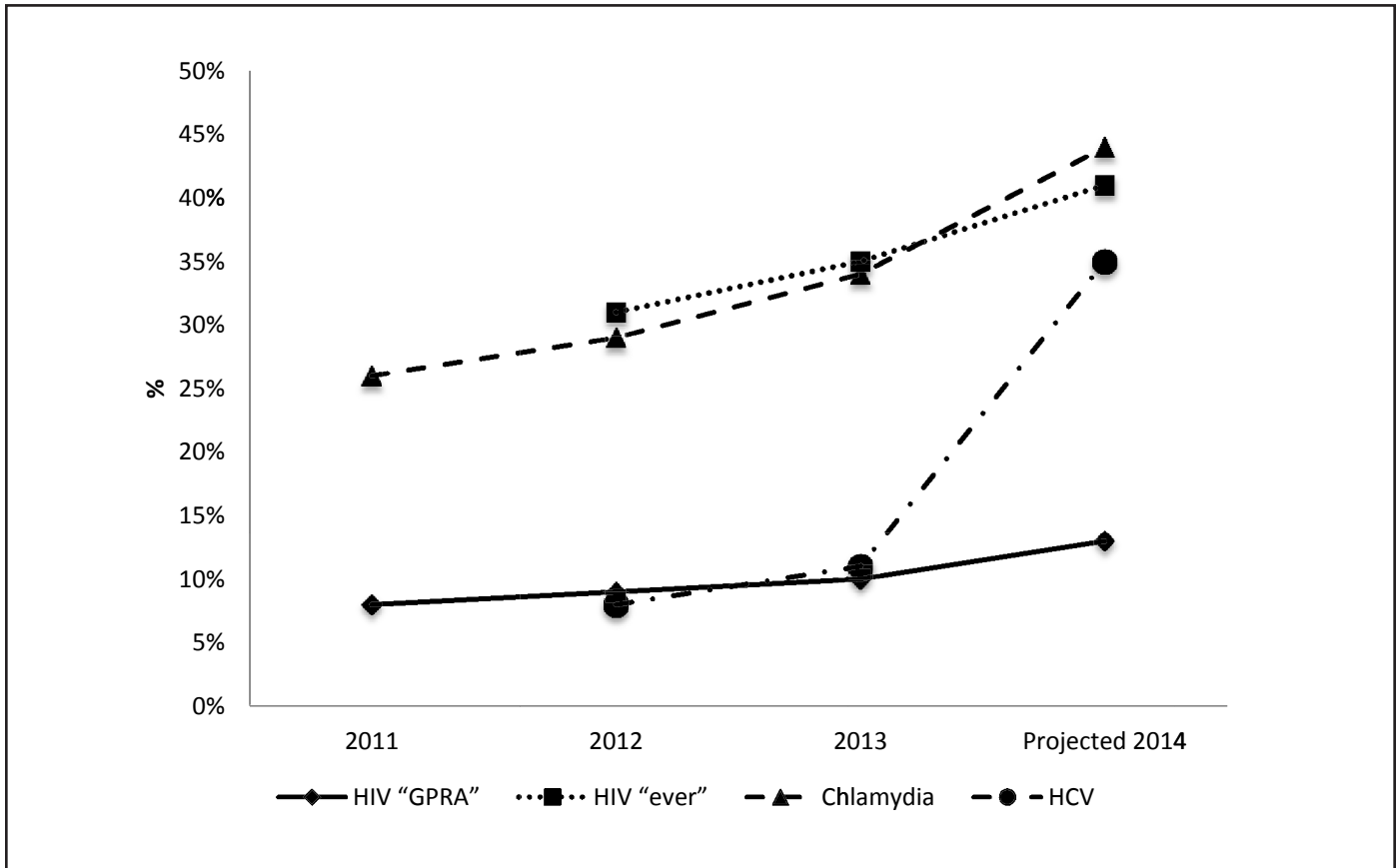
the best health of American Indian and Alaska Native people. As defined by the IHS Clinical Reporting System Clinical Performance Measure Logic Manual (June 2011)<sup>11</sup>, specific measures followed by IHS include:

- HIV screening ‘GPRA’ year (government performance and results act) which tracks the annual

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**Graph 1. Screening in IHS from 2011/12 thru 2014 (projected) HIV, Chlamydia and HCV**



HIV screening score for eligible patients age 13 – 64, July 1 – June 31.

- HIV screening ‘ever’ tracks the HIV screening score for eligible patients age 13 – 64, cumulative score over time.
- CT screening tracks the CT screening score for eligible women age 15-26, annual score.
- HCV screening tracks the HCV screening score for people born between 1945 and 1965, cumulative score over time.

Since GPRA year 2011 to now, there have been increases in screening across all measures within IHS. Increases are variable by IHS Area and Service Unit, but overall good change is happening. (Graph 1.) From 2011/2012 to the projected 2014 numbers, IHS has seen a 5% increase in HIV screening ‘GPRA’ year, a 10% increase in HIV screening ‘ever,’ a 18% increase in CT screening and a 27% increase in HCV Screening.

Much of this change is happening because of targeted projects to improve HIV/STI/HCV screening. Areas in which

improvement have been focused include: engaging the community and healthcare facility leadership; developing and sustaining a successful and healthy workforce; developing policy and procedures and optimizing clinical information systems. Although each site must assess local administrative, staffing, clinical, and data strengths and weaknesses that influence screening, there are a variety of processes that may positively affect targeted screening measures.

***Engage Community and Healthcare Facility Leadership***

- Community engagement efforts such as presentations on the screening recommendations at local events
- Dissemination of printed materials
- Educational events and materials emphasized the rationale and importance of national recommendations

***Develop and Maintain a Successful and Healthy Workforce***

- Including screening as a weekly agenda item in medical meetings
- Providing training to nurses on offering screening
- Embedding screening training with other clinical topics

- Familiarizing clinicians on how screening had been streamlined in the electronic health record

#### **Develop Policy and Procedures**

- Updating local policy and procedure to integrate screening into primary care visits, usually by adopting and adapting existing policies from peer IHS programs. These policies aligned with national screening recommendations, and generally delegated screening away from the provider, to the nursing level
- Policies and procedures raised awareness of the screening recommendations as a standard of care, assigned clear responsibility for which member of the medical team would offer the screening to patients, and helped buttress the process against high clinical staff turnover

#### **Optimize Clinical Information Systems**

- Install reminders and adapt locally
- Develop data feedback for care teams or clinicians

As the responsible agencies providing health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives, IHS, Tribal and Urban primary care clinics have the opportunity to increase screening for preventative sexual health measures and improving delivery-of-care equity. Our primary care physicians have the greatest access to the population, thus have the greatest opportunity to address the sexual health needs of their patients.

If you would like more information on how the National IHS HIV/AIDS Program can help your facility in successful implementation of these important measures, please contact Jessica Leston, [jleston@npaih.org](mailto:jleston@npaih.org) or Brigg Reilley, [brigg.reilley@ihs.gov](mailto:brigg.reilley@ihs.gov).

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Services Task Force. Retrieved from <http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspshivi.htm>.

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**Americans only receive recommended preventative care 54.9% of the time, indicating a disconnect between evidence-based care, implementation, and routine use. Simply put, there is a substantial gap between the healthcare we should receive and the healthcare we do receive.**

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# Native Youth are Tech Savvy!

We know Native youth are Tech Savvy! To reach young people across Indian Country, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board manages We R Native, a multimedia health resource for Native teens and young adults. The service was designed using behavior change theory and extensive formative research with AI/AN across the U.S. to promote positive youth development and healthy decision-making among AI/AN youth 13-21 years old. The service includes an interactive website ([www.weRnative.org](http://www.weRnative.org)) - with over 89,500 page views), a weekly text messaging service (Text NATIVE to 24587 - with over 2,000 subscribers nationwide), a Facebook page (with over 6,550 “likes”), a YouTube channel (with over 13,250 video views), and print marketing materials.

## Sexual Health Topics Covered by We R Native:

- Puberty
- Anatomy
- Sexual Identity
- Relationships and Dating
- Virginity
- Birth Control
- Pregnancy
- STDs
- Reduce your Risks
- Abuse, Violence and Sexual Assault

## Are teens interested in Sex?

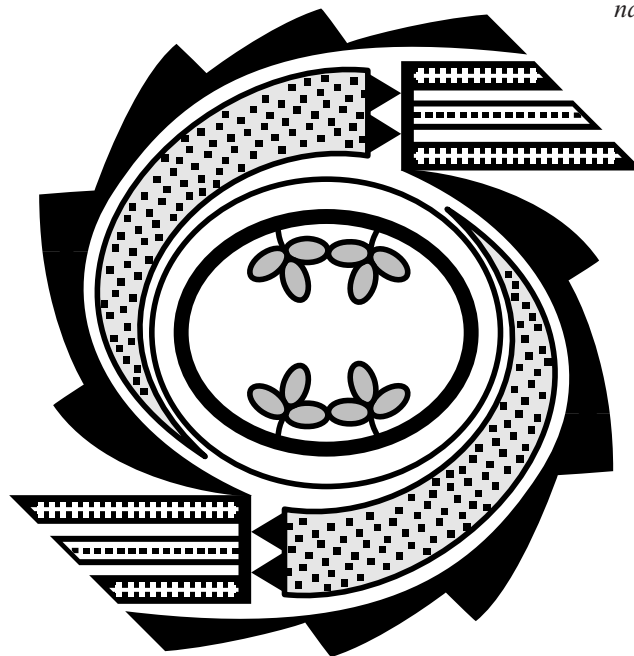
Apparently so! Our sexual health pages are the most visited health topics on the site:

- Sexual Health page views = 12,444
- Physical Health page views = 7,456
- Mental Health page views = 4,881
- We R Native page views = 89,633

We believe Native youth will Change our World! But many need the tools, resources, and inspiration to do so. We R Native was designed to do just that - provide accurate health information, highlight positive things youth are doing in their communities, and encourage young people to get actively involved in their own health and wellbeing. Special Features Include: Monthly contests, community service grants (\$475), an “Ask Auntie” Q&A service, discussion boards, and medically accurate information reviewed by experts in public health, mental health, community engagement, and activism. We hope We R Native will spark positive community engagement across Indian Country, and will inspire young people to address the issues that affect them most.

Promote We R Native! We have shirts, stickers, fliers, tip cards and posters to help you promote We R Native with young people in your community. Order free promotional kits online at: [www.wernative.org/GearHome.aspx](http://www.wernative.org/GearHome.aspx)

Help Make Us Better! We know we are still missing many important topics on the [www.weRnative.org](http://www.weRnative.org) website! Please let us know if you see something missing or content that needs correcting. We would be happy to add new pages, photos, or videos if you have content that you’d be willing to share. Funding was provided by the President’s National HIV/AIDS Strategy and the Indian Health Service.



# Sexually Transmitted Disease Resources on the Internet

Sharon Adler MD, MPH, CA STD/HIV Prevention Training Center, Oakland, California

Obtaining accurate and current information online about health related issues can be a daunting process. In February 2009 the Primary Care Provider newsletter published an article on Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Resources on the Internet to direct providers to reliable online STD resources. That Primary Care Provider article summarized some STD internet resources referenced in a 2004 *Clinical Infectious Disease Journal*\* (CID) article and added internet resources available through the National Network of STD/HIV Prevention Training Centers (NNPTC). Since 2009 the availability of online resources and online training options has expanded. This current article updates the 2009 Primary Care Provider document.

The primary source for STD training and technical

assistance in the country is the CDC-funded NNPTCs. These regional training centers work in partnership with state health departments and universities to increase the knowledge and skills of health professionals in the areas of sexual and reproductive health. The website for the NNPTC is <http://nnptc.org/>. Since 2001, the NNPTCs have participated on a workgroup with staff from the IHS National STD Program and other organizations conducting STD, HIV, and/or reproductive health training in Indian Country. To find out more about this workgroup or STD training and training assistance opportunities, contact Sharon Adler MD, MPH, Clinical Faculty, California STD/HIV Prevention Training Center, [Sharon.adler@ucsf.ca.gov](mailto:Sharon.adler@ucsf.ca.gov).

\*Tietz A, Davies SC, Moran JS. Guide to sexually transmitted disease resources on the Internet. *Clin Inf Dis J.* 2004;38: 1304-10.

**Table 1: Websites for Patients**

TITLE	SOURCE/SPONSOR	TARGET GROUP	URL	COMMENTS
An Introduction to STDs	National Institutes of Health (NIH)	General Public	<a href="http://www.niaid.nih.gov/topics/std/Pages/default.aspx">www.niaid.nih.gov/topics/std/Pages/default.aspx</a>	Accurate, up-to-date; many links
Facts & Answers about STDs	American Social Health Assoc. (ASHA)	General public	<a href="http://www.ashastd.org/">www.ashastd.org/</a>	Extensive patient-oriented information
Info for Teens	PPFA	Teens	<a href="http://www.plannedparenthood.org/info-for-teens/">www.plannedparenthood.org/info-for-teens/</a>	Sexuality/STD info, Ask the experts and chat option
Iwannaknow	ASHA	Teens	<a href="http://www.iwannaknow.org/index.html">www.iwannaknow.org/index.html</a>	Extensive teen-oriented information
STD Basics	Body Health Resources Corporation	General public	<a href="http://www.thebody.com/safesex/stdbasics.html">www.thebody.com/safesex/stdbasics.html</a>	HIV/AIDS site; good clinical photographs; extensive links
STD Facts & Information	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	General public	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/std/">www.cdc.gov/std/</a>	Accurate, up-to-date info; fact sheets and reports; extensive links
STDs	New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene	General public,	<a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/linv/std-homepage.shtml">www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/linv/std-homepage.shtml</a>	STD Fact sheets English and Spanish
STDs	Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA)	Family	<a href="http://www.plannedparenthood.org/health-topics/stds-hiv-safer-sex-101.htm">www.plannedparenthood.org/health-topics/stds-hiv-safer-sex-101.htm</a>	General info; also in Spanish
Youth Resource	Advocates for Youth	LGBT Youth	<a href="http://www.youthresource.com/">www.youthresource.com/</a>	Resource site created by and for LGBT youth; sexual health info, resources, links

**Table 2: Websites for Clinicians**

TITLE	SOURCE/SPONSOR	URL	COMMENTS
AIDS Prevention Research	Center for AIDS Prevention Studies	<a href="http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/">www.caps.ucsf.edu/</a>	HIV Prevention research, fact sheets, funding information and more
Contraceptive Technology and Reproductive Health Series	Family Health International	<a href="http://www.fhi360.org/resource/contraceptive-technology-and-reproductive-health-series">www.fhi360.org/resource/contraceptive-technology-and-reproductive-health-series</a>	On-line course; teaching materials
Examination of Vaginal Wet Mounts	Seattle STD/HIV PTC	<a href="http://nnptc.org/resources/examination-of-wet-preps/">nnptc.org/resources/examination-of-wet-preps/</a>	Video demonstrating how to perform wet mount microscopy
HIV Treatment, Prevention and Policy	University of California, SF	<a href="http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/">hivinsite.ucsf.edu/</a>	Comprehensive up-to-date information on HIV treatment, prevention and policy
HIV Web Study	Northwest AIDS Education Training Center/University of Washington	<a href="http://depts.washington.edu/hivaid/s/">http://depts.washington.edu/hivaid/s/</a>	Case based modules and interactive tutorials with Free CME
NNPTC training resources	NNPTC	<a href="http://nnptc.org/">http://nnptc.org/</a>	Variety of CME resources, clinical practice references, teaching tools and curricula
On-line STD Case Series	NNPTC	<a href="http://www.stdcases.org">www.stdcases.org</a>	Web-based case series for practicing clinicians. Includes a guided, interactive process to evaluate, diagnose and recommend treatment.
San Francisco City Clinic Provider Information	San Francisco City Clinic	<a href="http://www.sfcityclinic.org/providers/">www.sfcityclinic.org/providers/</a>	Host of materials for providers including: treatment protocols, links, fact sheets and more.
Sexual Health eLearning Module	Denver STD/HIV PTC and National LGBT Health Education Training Center	<a href="http://www.denverptc.org/STICK.htm">www.denverptc.org/STICK.htm</a>	Sexual Health module for health care providers
STD Current Management Videos	California STD/HIV PTC	<a href="http://www.stdhivtraining.org/clinical_videos.html">www.stdhivtraining.org/clinical_videos.html</a>	Short clinical management videos, various STD, HIV Prevention topics
STD 101 In-a-Box	CDC	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/std/training/std101/">www.cdc.gov/std/training/std101/</a>	Ready-to-use STD presentations for clinical staff. Password protected.
STD Guidelines	CDC	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/">www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/</a>	Comprehensive, evidence-based guidelines; downloadable
STD Prevention Online	Denver Public Health, Internet and STD Center of Excellence	<a href="http://www.stdpreventiononline.org">www.stdpreventiononline.org</a>	Up to date information on STDs including articles, web cast interviews of experts in the field and current press releases
STD Training Materials	CDC	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/std/training/">www.cdc.gov/std/training/</a>	STD prevention courses, continuing education, other training resources
STD Updates	Alabama, North Carolina PTC	<a href="http://www.cecentral.com/node/932">www.cecentral.com/node/932</a>	Webcast of STD Update courses with free CME
Surveillance & Statistics	CDC	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats/default.htm">www.cdc.gov/std/stats/default.htm</a>	Comprehensive, accurate, current data

**Table 3: Downloadable Clinical Practice Resources**

TITLE	SOURCE/SPONSOR	URL	COMMENTS
Guidelines for the Use of Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Type 2 Serologies	California STD/HIV PTC	<a href="http://www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=35&amp;ret=clinical_resources">www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=35&amp;ret=clinical_resources</a>	Full document and summary of guidelines for HSV serologies.
Practitioner's Handbook for the Management of STDs	Seattle STD/HIV PTC	<a href="http://www.stdhandbook.org">www.stdhandbook.org</a>	Online customizable handbook designed for primary health care, family medicine, and emergency medicine practitioners.
Primary and Secondary Syphilis Algorithms	California STD/HIV PTC	<a href="http://www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=37&amp;ret=clinical_resources">www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=37&amp;ret=clinical_resources</a> <a href="http://www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=41&amp;ret=clinical_resources">www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=41&amp;ret=clinical_resources</a>	Diagnostic and treatment algorithms with photos to assist in evaluating patients for primary and secondary syphilis.
Sexual History Taking	California STD/HIV PTC	<a href="http://www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=3&amp;ret=clinical_resources">www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=3&amp;ret=clinical_resources</a>	STD/HIV risk assessment tool

**Table 4: AI/AN-specific Resources**

TITLE	SOURCE/SPONSOR	URL	COMMENTS
Community Readiness in Native Communities Toolkit	Commitment to Action for 7th-Generation Awareness & Education: HIV/AIDS Prevention Project	<a href="http://www.happ.colostate.edu/">www.happ.colostate.edu/</a>	Downloadable toolkit, posters, pins, brochures
Current efforts by IHS to prevent HIV/AIDS in Indian Country	IHS HIV/AIDS Program:	<a href="http://www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/HIVAIDS/">www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/HIVAIDS/</a>	Surveillance data, HIV/AIDS program information
Current efforts by IHS to prevent STDs in Indian Country STDs	IHS Division of Epidemiology – STDs:	<a href="http://www.ihs.gov/epi/index.cfm?module=epi_std_main">www.ihs.gov/epi/index.cfm?module=epi_std_main</a>	Surveillance data, Native specific STD screening information and more.
Native specific HIV resources	National Native American AIDS Prevention Center:	<a href="http://www.nnaapc.org/index.htm">www.nnaapc.org/index.htm</a>	HIV fact sheets, Native youth information, HIV prevention toolkits, HIV testing information and more
Native specific STD resources	Project Red Talon at the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board	<a href="http://www.npaihb.org/epicenter/project/project_red_talon/">www.npaihb.org/epicenter/project/project_red_talon/</a>	Native-specific STD brochures, fact sheets, PSAs, Posters, PowerPoint slides, Action Plans


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HEALTH TIPS,  
CONTEST, AND  
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How do I explain being Native to someone who's only heard bad stuff?

How do I start a gay straight alliance club (GSA) at my school?

How do you use a condom?

I am a boy. I like this girl. Should I go talk to her?

What financial aid is available for college students?

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## MEETINGS OF INTEREST

### Advancements in Diabetes Seminars Monthly; WebEx

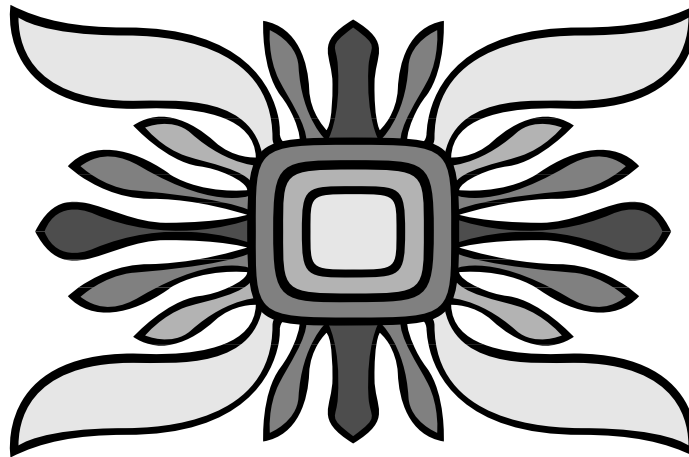
Join us monthly for a series of one-hour WebEx seminars for health care program professionals who work with patients who have diabetes or are at risk for diabetes. Presented by experts in the field, these seminars will discuss what's new, update your knowledge and skills, and describe practical tools you can use to improve the care for people with diabetes. No registration is necessary. The accredited sponsors are the IHS Clinical Support Center and IHS Nutrition and Dietetics Training Program.

For information on upcoming seminars and/or previous seminars, including the recordings and handouts, click on this

link and see Diabetes Seminar Resources: <http://www.diabetes.ihs.gov/index.cfm?module=trainingSeminars>

### Available EHR Courses

EHR is the Indian Health Service's Electronic Health Record software that is based on the Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS) clinical information system. For more information about any of these courses described below, please visit the EHR website at [http://www.ihs.gov/CIO/EHR/index.cfm?module=rpms\\_ehr\\_training](http://www.ihs.gov/CIO/EHR/index.cfm?module=rpms_ehr_training). To see registration information for any of these courses, go to <http://www.ihs.gov/Cio/RPMS/index.cfm?module=Training&option=index>.



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## Electronic Subscription Available

You can subscribe to *The Provider* electronically. Any reader can now request that he or she be notified by e-mail when the latest issue of *The Provider* is available on the Internet. To start your electronic subscription, simply go to *The Provider* website (<http://www.ihs.gov/Provider>). Click on the “subscribe” link; note that the e-mail address from which you are sending this is the e-mail address to which the electronic

notifications will be sent. Do not type anything in the subject or message boxes; simply click on “send.” You will receive an e-mail from LISTSERV.IHS.GOV; open this message and follow the instruction to click on the link indicated. You will receive a second e-mail from LISTSERV.IHS.GOV confirming you are subscribed to *The Provider* listserv.

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## POSITION VACANCIES

*Editor's note: As a service to our readers, The IHS Provider will publish notices of clinical positions available. Indian health program employers should send brief announcements as attachments by e-mail to the.provider@ihs.gov. Please include an e-mail address in the item so that there is a contact for the announcement. If there is more than one position, please combine them into one announcement per location. Submissions will be run for four months and then will be dropped, without notification,, but may be renewed as many times as necessary. Tribal organizations that have taken their tribal "shares" of the CSC budget will need to reimburse CSC for the expense of this service (\$100 for four months). The Indian Health Service assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of the information in such announcements.*

### **Psychiatrist**

#### **Zuni Comprehensive Community Health Center; Zuni, New Mexico**

The Zuni Comprehensive Community Health Center (Indian Health Service) has an opening for a full-time psychiatrist to see adults and children. We do psychotherapy, crisis work, trauma work, as well as work with families, couples, and groups. You will have the opportunity to impact and design mental health for the community as a whole. We are shielded from managed care. You have an opportunity to provide psychotherapy to your patients and families without worrying about insurance approvals. You are not merely hired as a prescriber, but as a biopsychosocial psychiatrist. In this job, you have a chance to feel good about the care you are providing, in a setting that is personally and professionally stimulating, and in a place where your skills are needed and valued. Additional advantages include market pay, no call, and excellent federal benefits.

We are located on the Zuni reservation. The Zuni Pueblo is one of the oldest continuously inhabited Native American villages in the US, estimated to be at least 800-900 years old. The Zuni are located on their ancestral lands and have one of the most intact Native American cultures in the country. Zuni tradition and the Zuni language are a living and vibrant part of daily life in the community. Zuni is nestled amongst beautiful redrock mesas and canyons. It is considered high desert at 6000 - 7000 feet and is located in the northwestern region of New Mexico, along the Arizona border.

For more information or to apply, contact Michelle Sanchez, Zuni Service Unit Behavioral Health; telephone (505) 782-7312; e-mail [michelle.sanchez2@ihs.gov](mailto:michelle.sanchez2@ihs.gov). (3/14)

### **Staff Clinician**

#### **Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Division of Intramural Research Phoenix, Arizona**

The Diabetes Epidemiology and Clinical Research Section (DECERS), Phoenix Epidemiology and Clinical Research Branch (PECRB), National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) conducts research in the epidemiology and prevention of type 2 diabetes, its complications, and related conditions, primarily among American Indians in the southwestern United States. The section is recruiting a staff clinician to take part in clinical research activities. The position is located in Phoenix, Arizona on the campus of the Phoenix Indian Medical Center.

The staff clinician will work in an interdisciplinary, collaborative environment and have the following responsibilities: a) medical director of the DECERS research clinics, supervising nurse practitioners and medical assistants, and overseeing clinic schedules and operations; b) principal or associate investigator of randomized clinical trials in prevention of diabetes or its complications; c) principal or associate investigator of epidemiologic investigations of type 2 diabetes and related conditions; and d) associate investigator in a randomized clinical trial of optimizing weight gain in pregnancy and effects on the mother and child. There are outstanding opportunities to collaborate with experts in epidemiology, clinical research, physiology, genetics, and biostatistics. Ample clinical, laboratory, and computing resources are available.

The position requires licensure to practice medicine in one of the United States or D.C. and board eligibility or certification, preferably in internal medicine, pediatrics, family practice, or preventive medicine. Clinical or epidemiological research training and experience are desirable. Salary and benefits will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Outside candidates and current federal employees (civilian or commissioned corps) are encouraged to apply.

Interested candidates may contact William C. Knowler, MD, DrPH, Chief, DECERS, c/o Ms. Charlene Gishie. To apply, please send a cover letter; CV with publications list; and names and contacts of three references to Ms. Charlene Gishie, National Institutes of Health, 1550 E. Indian School Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85014; e-mail [charlene.gishie@nih.gov](mailto:charlene.gishie@nih.gov). The deadline to submit an application is March 7, 2014.

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NIDDK is a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). All positions are subject to a background investigation. DHHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers. (1/14)

### **Family Practice Physicians (2)**

**Cass Lake IHS Hospital;  
Cass Lake, Minnesota**

Leech Lake Reservation is an open reservation located in Minnesota's Northwoods region. Towering pines fringe many of the lakes found within its boundaries. Wild rice beds, deep forests, and shimmering lakes, two of which are among the largest in the state, abound. There are approximately 1,050 square miles within the reservation, nearly all of which is within the boundaries of the Chippewa National Forest.

When you locate here, you are looking for a quality of life for both your workers and your family. That is why it will be worth your while to find out how much Leech Lake can offer with its natural beauty, friendly communities, good schools, and various civic, cultural, and historical organizations. The area also provides many quality outdoor recreational activities, from fishing and boating in the summer to nordic and alpine skiing in the winter. Though Leech Lake's natural beauty, civic attractions, and recreational activities are things to behold, they pale in comparison to the friendliness of the people of the Leech Lake area.

The population within the reservation boundaries is estimated at 91,800. Nearly fifty-eight percent are between the ages of 16 and 65. The resident American Indian population on the reservation has been estimated at 7,763 by the census. Most of the population is concentrated in eight communities dispersed across the reservation. Adjacent to the reservation, there are three major area economic centers: Bemidji, which is 13 miles to the west of Cass Lake; Grand Rapids, which lays 54 miles to the east of Cass Lake; and Walker, roughly 23 miles to the south of Cass Lake.

The Cass Lake Indian Hospital is owned and operated by the Federal Government as a Public Health Service, Indian Health Service Facility. We have a staff of 120 employees, six of whom are physicians and five nurse practitioners; there is a contracted emergency department service. Additional services include ambulatory clinic, dental, optometry, audiology, laboratory, radiology, physical therapy, and diabetes clinic. Our Facility has 13 beds; we had 223 discharges and 1,398 patient days in FY '05. According to the most recent data, we have 99,503 outpatient visits annually, 5,612 Dental visits, and 2,763 Optometry visits; there are 20,512 registered patients. The Leech Lake Tribe operates mental health, substance abuse, podiatry, and diabetes clinics, as well as seven other clinics staffed by various professionals.

For additional information, contact Antonio Guimaraes, MD, Clinical Director (family medicine at telephone (218) 335-3200; e-mail [antonio.guimaraes@ihs.gov](mailto:antonio.guimaraes@ihs.gov), or Tony

Buckanaga, Physician Recruiter, at telephone (218) 444-0486; e-mail [tony.buckanaga@ihs.gov](mailto:tony.buckanaga@ihs.gov). (1/14)

### **Family Practice Physician**

**Pharmacist**

**Laboratory Supervisor**

**EMT Basic/Intermediate**

**First Responder**

**Environment Health Assistant**

**Master Social Worker**

### **Alamo Navajo School Board, Inc.; Alamo, New Mexico**

Alamo Navajo School Board, Inc., Health Division is seeking health care practitioners to come work with their dedicated staff on the Alamo Navajo Reservation. Our clinic is located 140 miles southwest of Albuquerque and sixty miles west of Socorro. We have a multiservice community health center that include medical, dental, onsite pharmacy and lab, optometry, mental health, emergency medical, aftercare, and community health education services. One focus is on diabetes awareness and prevention of the disease, which affects one in every five people in Alamo. In support of the effort, the Health Division in collaboration with the Board and Administration constructed a community wellness center. The facility has a full-size gymnasium, aerobic and weight room, classrooms, kitchen, game room, day care, and an outdoor fitness path.

Alamo Navajo School Board, Inc., provides a highly negotiable and competitive salary; signing bonus; student loan assistance; housing; and an excellent benefits package that consist of a group health insurance/life insurance at no cost for employees and shared cost for dependents; 403(b) Retirement Plan and 457(b) Deferred Contribution Plan; Relocation reimbursement; 13 major holidays off; personal leave; and community wellness center access. Hiring preference will be given to Navajo and Indian Preference. For more information, please contact Hotona Secatero, Director of Personnel, at (575) 854-2543 extension 1309; or e-mail [hsecatero@ansbi.org](mailto:hsecatero@ansbi.org). (12/13)

### **Clinical Director**

**Family Medicine Physician**

### **Kodiak Area Native Association; Kodiak, Alaska**

The Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA) is searching for an adventurous, highly motivated physician to lead our team that is committed to patient centered care, customer service, quality improvement, and stewardship. KANA is celebrating its 48th year of providing patient and family focused health care and social services to Alaska Natives and other beneficiaries of KANA throughout Kodiak Island. KANA's award winning medical staff is comprised of four physicians who work in conjunction with two midlevel providers, dedicated nurse case managers, and ancillary staff to deliver the highest quality, team-based health care to an active user population of 2,800 patients. Integrated behavioral health

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and pharmacy services within the primary care setting also facilitate an advanced support system to ensure our patients' needs are met.

The spectacular scenic beauty of Kodiak Island offers a backdrop for an abundance of outdoor and family activities, including world-class fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, kayaking, and hiking just minutes from your door. Its sometimes harsh climate is balanced by mild temperatures and unparalleled wilderness splendor that provide Kodiak's residents with a unique lifestyle in a relaxed island paradise.

KANA offers competitive compensation and an excellent employee benefits package, including medical, dental, vision, flexible spending accounts, short term disability insurance, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment insurance, 401k with employer contribution, fitness membership, and paid time off.

If you're interested in hearing more about how you can start your journey to an adventure of a lifetime, please visit our website at [www.kanaweb.org](http://www.kanaweb.org), give Lindsey Howell, Human Resources Manager, a call at (907) 486-9880, or contact our HR Department at [hr@kanaweb.org](mailto:hr@kanaweb.org). Alaska's Emerald Isle awaits you! (12/13)

#### **Clinical Director**

#### **Family Practice Physician (2)**

#### **Physician Assistant**

#### **Family Nurse Practitioner**

#### **Clinical Nurse**

#### **Tohatchi Health Center; Tohatchi, New Mexico**

Tohatchi Health Center is the quality innovation and learning network (QILN) site for Gallup Service Unit. We are located approximately 30 miles north of Gallup, New Mexico, nestled against the Chuska Mountains. Ambulatory services include family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, optometry, dental, pharmacy (including anticoagulation clinic), podiatry, physical therapy, social services, public health nursing, laboratory, limited radiology, and support services. Our facility provides health care Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Our focus is building our medical home and supporting a patient centered health care system with the patients and communities we serve.

For more information, you can contact CDR Pamela Smiley, RN-SCN, Acting Health Systems Administrator at (505) 733-8100 or e-mail at [pamela.smiley@ihs.gov](mailto:pamela.smiley@ihs.gov). (12/13)

#### **Primary Care Providers**

#### **Koosharem Community Health Center; Richfield, Utah**

#### **Kanosh Community Health Center; Kanosh, Utah**

The Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (PITU) has job openings for full-time mid-level practitioners at each location. The tribe operates health clinics in four communities, two of which are newly funded Community Health Centers in Richfield and Kanosh, Utah. Our outreach area encompasses 15 cities in Millard and Sevier Counties with an approximate service

population of 25,311. Our goal is to provide excellent health care and services to those with economic, geographic, cultural, and language barriers. Clinical services include family medicine, prenatal and women's health care, dental, optometry, nutrition and dietetics education, and social service programs.

Richfield is located in west central Utah and lies in a valley surrounded by beautiful red rock mountains. Richfield is part of Panoramaland, and is a popular thoroughfare to several nearby national parks and forests. Kanosh is a small farming town located in Millard County; it was named in honor of the Paiute Indian Chief Kanosh. These areas have long been known for their outdoor recreational opportunities, such as hiking, fishing and hunting, mountain biking, and all-terrain vehicle events.

We offer an excellent benefits package that consists of a competitive annual salary, no cost health/dental/life insurance for the entire family, a 401(k) retirement plan with tribal match, 14½ paid holidays, annual (vacation) and sick leave accruals that roll over year to year, ability to earn compensatory time for time over 40 hours weekly, plus eligibility for NHSC or IHS loan repayment.

Interested candidates should submit a PITU application; CV/resume; and copies of medical license, driver's license, highest level of education achieved, and CIB (if applicable) to Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Attention: Kim Kelsey, 440 N. Paiute Dr., Cedar City, UT 84721. Job posting closes January 17, 2014, although the position will remain open until filled. Visit [www.utahpaiutes.org](http://www.utahpaiutes.org) to download application; call (435) 586-1112, ext. 110; or e-mail [kim.kelsey@ihs.gov](mailto:kim.kelsey@ihs.gov) with questions or for more information. (11/13)

#### **Primary Care (Internal Medicine or Family Practice) Physicians**

#### **Phoenix Indian Medical Center; Phoenix, Arizona**

The Departments of Family and Internal Medicine at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center have openings for board certified/eligible outpatient family and internal medicine physicians. Our adult primary care services are provided by eleven family physicians, six internists, and two midlevel providers. Our physicians work in multidisciplinary health care teams with the active participation of nurse care coordinators, nutritionists, pharmacists, nurses, clerks, and other staff, all of whom work together to provide a medical home for patients with chronic illnesses. We have an advanced access appointment system and have been using the Electronic Health Record for over six years. Full time 8 and 10 hour per day schedule options are available. Competitive federal salaries and benefits are available, and Commissioned Officer applicants are also welcome. Job applications should be made online at [USAJOBS.gov](http://USAJOBS.gov). For more information, please contact Dr. Eric Ossowski, Family Medicine, or Dr. Dorothy Sanderson, Internal Medicine at [dorothy.sanderson@ihs.gov](mailto:dorothy.sanderson@ihs.gov); telephone (602) 263-1537. (10/13)

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**Hospitalist (Family Practice or Internal Medicine) Physicians**

**Phoenix Indian Medical Center; Phoenix, Arizona**

The Phoenix Indian Medical Center (PIMC) is actively seeking board certified/eligible family medicine or internal medicine physicians to staff its inpatient unit. PIMC is an inpatient and outpatient facility located in downtown Phoenix that provides medical care to patients from over 40 tribes. Hospitalists typically round/admit/consult on 8 to 12 patients per shift. Typical admitting diagnoses include diabetic ketoacidosis, hepatic encephalopathy, pneumonia, asthma, pyelonephritis, and cellulitis. Specialty services available to provide consultation on the inpatient service include surgery/wound care, ENT, obstetrics and gynecology, rheumatology, infectious diseases, nephrology, orthopaedics, podiatry, and dermatology. Competitive federal salary and benefits are available, and Commissioned Officers are also welcome to apply. Interested physicians should contact Dr. Dorothy Sanderson at [dorothy.sanderson@ihs.gov](mailto:dorothy.sanderson@ihs.gov), or telephone (602) 263-1537, ext. 1155. (10/13)

**Family Physician with Obstetrical Skills**

**Ethel Lund Medical Center; Juneau, Alaska**

The SEARHC Ethel Lund Medical Center, Juneau, Alaska is searching for a full-time family physician with OB to join a great medical staff of 14 providers at a unique clinic and hospital setting. Have the best of both worlds by joining our practice where we share hospitalist duties and spend our remaining time in an outpatient clinic with great staff and excellent quality of life. We have the opportunity to practice full spectrum family medicine with easy access to consultants when we need them. Maintain all your skills learned in residency and expand them further with support from our tertiary care center, Alaska Native Medical Center.

Clinic is focused on Patient Centered Medical Homes, quality improvement with staff development from IHI, and using the Indian Health Service HER. Frequent CME and opportunities for growth: teaching students & residents and faculty status at University of Washington available to qualified staff. Loan repayment site for Indian Health Service and National Health Service Corps and State of Alaska SHARP program.

Work in Southeast Alaska with access to amazing winter and summer recreational activities. Live in the state capital with access to theater, concerts, annual musical festivals and quick travel to other communities by ferry or plane. Consider joining a well rounded medical staff of 14 providers at a beautiful clinic with excellent benefits. For more information contact, Dr. Cate Buley, Assistant Medical Director, Ethel Lund Medical Center, Juneau, Alaska 1-907-364-4485; email [cbuley@searhc.org](mailto:cbuley@searhc.org). Position open March 2014. Look us up online at [www.searhc.org](http://www.searhc.org) job vacancies. (8/13)

**Family Medicine Physician**

**Internal Medicine Physician**

**Emergency Medicine Physician**

**Sells Service Unit; Sells, Arizona**

The Sells Service Unit (SSU) in southern Arizona is recruiting for board certified/board eligible emergency room physician, family/internal medicine physician, and physician assistants to join our experienced medical staff. The Sells Service Unit is the primary source of health care for approximately 24,000 people of the Tohono O'odham Nation. The service unit consists of a Joint Commission accredited 34-bed hospital in Sells, Arizona and three health centers: San Xavier Health Center, located in Tucson, Arizona, the Santa Rosa Health Center, located in Santa Rosa, Arizona, and the San Simon Health Center located in San Simon, Arizona with a combined caseload of approximately 100,000 outpatient visits annually. Clinical services include family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, prenatal and women's health care, dental, optometry, ophthalmology, podiatry, physical therapy, nutrition and dietetics, social work services, and diabetes self-management education.

Sixty miles east of the Sells Hospital by paved highway lies Tucson, Arizona's second largest metropolitan area, and home to nearly 750,000. Tucson, or "The Old Pueblo," is one of the oldest continuously inhabited sites in North America, steeped in a rich heritage of Indian and Spanish influence. It affords all of southern Arizona's limitless entertainment, recreation, shopping, and cultural opportunities. The area is a favored tourist and retirement center, boasting sunbelt attributes and low humidity, with effortless access to Old Mexico, pine forests, snow sports, and endless sightseeing opportunities . . . all within a setting of natural splendor.

We offer competitive salary, relocation/recruitment/retention allowance, federal employment benefits package, CME leave and allowance, and loan repayment. For more information, please contact Peter Ziegler, MD, SSU Clinical Director at (520) 295-2481 or by e-mail at [peter.ziegler@ihs.gov](mailto:peter.ziegler@ihs.gov). (8/13)

**Mid-Level Practitioner**

**Health Director**

**Quileute Tribe; La Push, Washington**

The Quileute Tribe has a job opening for a full-time mid-level practitioner. Must be a certified physician assistant, licensed in the state of Washington, and must have a valid Washington driver's license. Submit your application, professional license, cover letter, resume and three references by August 16, 2013, although the position will be open until filled.

We are also looking for a health director, who will provide administrative direction, negotiate and administer IHS contracts, develop and administer budgets, write reports, insure HIPPA compliance, comply with ACA, manage EHR, evaluate

staff, and insure third party reimbursements are done. Must have a bachelor's degree related to health administration, and two years of management experience. This position is open until filled.

Telephone (360) 374-4366 or visit our website at [www.quileutenation.org](http://www.quileutenation.org) for a job application and job description. Alternatively, you may contact Roseann Fonzi, Personnel Director, PO Box 279, 71 Main Street, La Push, Washington 98350; telephone (360) 374-4367; fax (360) 374-4368; or e-mail [roseann.fonzi@quileutenation.org](mailto:roseann.fonzi@quileutenation.org). (8/13)

### **Pediatrician**

#### **Gallup Indian Medical Center; Gallup, New Mexico**

The Gallup Indian Medical Center is in northwest New Mexico, on the edge of the Navajo Reservation, about 140 miles west of Albuquerque. The Department of Pediatrics has immediate openings for board-certified/eligible pediatricians. Our current seven (7) pediatricians divide their time between outpatient and inpatient, offering comprehensive medical care to children, birth through age 18 years. We provide well-child and preventive care for children with chronic diseases (including asthma and obesity), provide some walk-in care for acute conditions, admit patients to our Pediatric Inpatient Unit, attend high-risk deliveries, and occasionally stabilize certain ill newborns and children for transfer to higher level of care in cooperation with our Women's Health Unit and Emergency Department. We enjoy the services of a dedicated pediatric nurse case manager to assist in referrals. Children in need of pediatric subspecialty care are referred to centers in Albuquerque or Phoenix. Other services represented include Emergency Medicine, Internal and Family Medicine, OB-GYN (with midwifery), General Surgery, Orthopedics, Podiatry, Diabetes Specialist, Optometry and Ophthalmology,

Dental, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech & Language Therapy, as well as comprehensive laboratory and radiology services on-site. Job applications should be made on-line at USA Jobs. For more information, please contact Dr. John Ratmeyer by e-mail at [john.ratmeyer@ihs.gov](mailto:john.ratmeyer@ihs.gov) or by telephone at 505-722-1000 (page). (4/13)

#### **Family Practice Physician Hopi Health Care Center Polacca, Arizona**

The Hopi Health Care Center currently has openings for family practice physicians and family nurse practitioner or physician assistants. The Hopi Health Care Center is a small rural IHS hospital providing full spectrum family practice medical services including ambulatory care, adult/peds inpatient care and low risk obstetrics, and ER care. We currently staff for 12 full time physicians, and 5 full time FNP/PA positions. Our facility is located in northern Arizona, 90 miles NE of Flagstaff and 70 miles N of Winslow, on the Hopi Indian Reservation. Services are provided to both Hopi and Navajo reservation communities. The reservation is located in the heart of the Southwest and within a 90 mile radius to abundant mountain areas, lakes, forests, and archeological sites. The Hopi Health Care Center is a new facility established in 2000 with a full ambulatory care center environment including a dental clinic, physical therapy, optometry, and behavioral health services. We are a designated NHSC site, and qualify for the IHS Loan Repayment Program.

For more information please contact Jon Stucki, MD at (928) 737-6147 or [jon.stucki@ihs.gov](mailto:jon.stucki@ihs.gov). Additionally, you may contact Darren Vicenti, MD, Clinical Director at (928)737-6141 or [Darren.Vicenti@ihs.gov](mailto:Darren.Vicenti@ihs.gov). CVs can be faxed to (928)737-6001. (4/13)



## **THE IHS PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER**

A journal for health professionals working with American Indians and Alaska Natives



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