

IHS Strategic Plan 2018-2022

Comments received as of October 12, 2017

The following is a summary of comments received on the draft IHS strategic framework.

IHS Mission: To raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level.

- Highest level compared to whom
- Address inequities in funding

IHS Vision: A health system that promotes Tribal ownership and pride.

- Should be broader to reflect all ITU and AI/AN
- Need vision of leadership
- Include quality and well-resourced system
- Add resources

Goal 1: To ensure that comprehensive, culturally acceptable personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian and Alaska Native people.

- Add sustainability
- Add commitment to traditional medicine
- Reference ITU's as "learning institutions"
- Add Increase third party billing
- Like vision, need cultural competence

Objective 1.1 Recruit, develop and retain a dedicated, competent, caring workforce.

- Provide mentorship and leadership training
- Tribes have to compete in system where pay scale is not competitive

Objective 1.2. Build, strengthen and sustain collaborative relationships.

- Work with other agencies to increase funding
- Plan should speak to tribal ownership, whether direct service or self governance

Objective 1.3 Increase access to quality health care services.

- Expand ambulatory programs without access to additional funds
- Ensure tribal people are being treated well and can get service
- Address inequities in the system

Goal 2: To promote excellence and quality through innovation of the Indian Health system into an optimally performing organization.

- Continue to advance the integration of behavioral health
- Foster Urban tribal relationship
- Encourage Tribes to work with Urbans to spend down PRC by referring to UIO's for specialty care

Objective 2.1 Create quality improvement capability at all levels of the organization.

- Work with other agencies to improve quality
- Quality of care is a major issue

Objective 2.2 Provide care to better meet the health care needs of Indian communities.

- Need to improve primary care
- Behavioral health more explicit
- Integration of behavioral health is a priority

Goal 3: Strengthen IHS program management and operations.

- Increase funding
- Increase equipment
- Increase access and billing for care coordination

Objective 3.1 Improve communication within the organization, with Tribes and other stakeholders and with the general public.

- Need access to information

Objective 3.2 Secure and effectively manage the assets and resources.

- Need resources to support and expand facilities
- Increase third party billing
- Additional funds for joint venture

Objective 3.3 Modernize information technology and information systems to support data driven decisions

- Need more information