



Capt. Ann M. Arnett

Acting Director

Portland Area

Indian Health Service

Capt. Ann M. Arnett, a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is the acting director of the Indian Health Service Portland Area. The IHS, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the principal federal health care advocate and provider for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Capt. Arnett has more than 20 years of experience working with federal agencies, tribes, and local governments.

Capt. Arnett was appointed as acting director of the Portland Area in February 2022 and oversees a health care delivery system for more than 100,000 American Indians and Alaska Natives, primarily members of the 43 federally recognized tribes in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. This position includes administrative responsibility for clinical, dental, preventive health, nutrition, behavioral health, environmental health, public health, and facility construction services. Capt. Arnett consults with tribal leaders at local, state, and national levels and keeps the tribes informed of new legislation, policy changes, management actions, and available resources. In addition, Capt. Arnett provides oversight of six federally-operated service units in the Portland Area and maintains a close working relationship with the local tribal health board.

Capt. Arnett started her health care career in 1996 as a case manager in community mental health. In 2001, she became a licensed clinical social worker and started her IHS career as a behavioral health provider at the Western Oregon Service Unit in Salem, Oregon. Over the next nine years, Capt. Arnett also served in the Portland Area as the Chemawa behavioral health clinic director and as area behavioral health consultant. In 2010, she was appointed as chief executive officer at the Western Oregon Service Unit, and in 2013, she transferred to the Portland Area Office to serve as the area executive officer. Additionally, Capt. Arnett was named area deputy director in 2018.

Capt. Arnett has been an officer with the United States Public Health Service since 2007. She holds a bachelors' degree in sociology and a master's degree in social work, both from Portland State University. Capt. Arnett is board certified in clinical social work, certified as an alcohol and drug counselor in Oregon, and holds a national master addictions counselor certification.