



Asha Petoskey **Acting Director** **Billings Area** **Indian Health Service**

Asha Petoskey, an enrolled citizen of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, is the acting director of the Indian Health Service Billings 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.

Petoskey was appointed as acting director of the Billings Area in April 2025 and is responsible for providing leadership in the administration of a comprehensive federal, tribal, and urban Indian health care system for more than 70,000 American Indian and Alaska Native people in Montana and Wyoming. These services are delivered through six IHS-operated service units, four tribally operated health departments, and five urban Indian health programs.

Petoskey joined the IHS in 2012, serving in the Portland Area as the special assistant to the area director. She has held a variety of positions at IHS headquarters, area offices, and with tribes and tribal organizations, supporting American Indians and Alaska Natives throughout the Portland and Bemidji Areas. In 2021, Petoskey served as the Bemidji Area compliance officer, where she was responsible for key compliance activities focusing on independent, internal oversight activities to assess area-wide clinical and administrative risk management, and to identify systemic changes needed to improve the quality of health care services in IHS-operated hospitals and clinics. She also later served as the Bemidji Area acting director in 2024.

More recently, in January 2025 Petoskey was appointed as the acting special assistant to the deputy directors for field operations, where she played a pivotal role in overseeing the return-to-office transition for IHS employees. She demonstrated exceptional leadership and strategic coordination in successfully identifying and securing appropriate workspace for staff across the agency, achieving a remarkable 99% placement rate.

Petoskey holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education from University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and a Master of Public Health from the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine.