

Indian Health Service

Dr. Christopher Jarvis, MHA, MS, FAAFP, is the director of the Office of Clinical and Preventive Services for the Indian Health Service. 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. As the director of OCPS, Dr. Jarvis advises the IHS chief medical officer and provides leadership towards improving and promoting wellness for American Indian and Alaska Native people by serving as the primary source of national advocacy, policy development, budget development and allocation for clinical, preventive and public health programs for IHS, area offices and service units.

Dr. Jarvis recently retired as a colonel in the U.S. Army after more than 25 years as a commissioned medical officer. Dr. Jarvis began his career as a family physician with an emphasis in operational and flight medicine, deploying multiple times to Bosnia, Afghanistan and Iraq. He served in positions of increasing responsibility throughout his career, including as clinic director, department chief, chief medical officer, chief executive officer, senior medical advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and military health system market director.

Dr. Jarvis enjoyed numerous interagency experiences throughout his career. Besides his interagency partnerships in the deployed environment, he has worked with the Department of Health and Human Services, Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, U.S. Public Health Service, and Department of Veterans Affairs, serving as CEO of the Bassett Army Community Hospital in Alaska and as the CEO of the Womack Army Medical Center in North Carolina.

Dr. Jarvis received his bachelor of science in chemistry from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and medical doctorate from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. After completing a residency in family medicine at Womack Army Medical Center, he completed a fellowship in primary care sports medicine from USU. Dr. Jarvis also holds a master of healthcare administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master of science in national security strategy from the National War College. Dr. Jarvis is board certified in family medicine and a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians.