



# **Jennifer Cooper**

Director  
Office of Tribal Self-Governance  
**Indian Health Service**

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Jennifer Cooper, an enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians, is the Director of the Office of Tribal Self-Governance (OTSG) for the Indian Health Service (IHS). The IHS, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the principal federal health care provider and health advocate for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

As the Director of the OTSG, Ms. Cooper oversees all aspects of the administration of the Tribal Self-Governance Program authorized by Title V of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. The OTSG provides policy coordination, technical assistance and support to Tribal governments and the IHS Director in the area of self-governance and tribal/federal government relationships.

Ms. Cooper joined the OTSG in January 2014 as the Deputy Director. Prior to federal service, she served as the Director of Federal Relations and Legislative Director at the National Indian Health Board where she worked closely with Tribal leaders and advocates on various Indian health policy issues including the permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

Ms. Cooper received her Juris Doctor from Cornell Law School, a Master of Public Administration degree from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Native American Studies from Colgate University.