Elizabeth A. Fowler, a member of the Comanche Nation with descendancy from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is the acting director and has the delegable duties as the director of the Indian Health Service, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The IHS is the principal federal health care advocate and provider of health care services for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

In her position, Ms. Fowler administers a nationwide health care delivery program that is responsible for providing preventive, curative, and community health care to approximately 2.6 million American Indians and Alaska Natives in hospitals, clinics, and other settings throughout the United States. Ms. Fowler has served as the executive officer for the IHS Oklahoma City Area since February 2019, overseeing the administrative functions for the area, including human resources, finance, acquisitions, property and supply, the National Supply Service Center, business office, purchased and referred care, health information management, and information technology programs.

She began her career with IHS in 1990 in the IHS headquarters Division of Personnel Management. Ms. Fowler has also served in a variety of different roles at IHS headquarters, including IHS deputy director for management operations, and deputy director for budget formulation within the Division of Financial Management. She has also served as director of the Office of Finance and Accounting, the agency’s chief financial officer, charged with providing oversight and leadership for financial management within the IHS. Ms. Fowler has received numerous awards from the IHS and HHS, including the HHS Secretary’s Award for Distinguished Service, various IHS Director’s Awards, and the Luana Reyes Leadership Award. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from the University of Maryland university system.