



Community Health Aide Program Tribal Advisory Group

Meeting Summary

Virtual Meeting

Friday, February 22, 2019

1-2 PM ET

Roll Call

Present:

Alaska: Dr. Bob Onders

Bemidji: Jennifer McCloud, Tyler LaPlaunt

California: Teresa Sanchez

Oklahoma City: Annette James, Amanda Wyatt

Phoenix: Brook Bender

Portland: Andy Joseph

IHS HQ

RADM Toedt

Dr. Beverly Cotton

Mr. Seylor

CAPT Rudd

Jay Furtick

Mechelle Johnson-Webb

Jeremy Marshall

Anna Johnson

Wilbur Woods

CDR Fallon

Dr. Timothy Lozon

Dr. Chris Halliday

Jennifer Downs

Helen Stafford

CHAP TAG Tribal Caucus

The CHAP TAG, Community Health Aide Program Tribal Advisory Group, called a Tribal Caucus at the beginning of the meeting. During this time, Jennifer McLeod, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Tribal Councilwoman, was selected to be the new CHAP TAG Tribal Chair. Additionally, the TAG used this time draft comments to the Interim Policy. These comments were placed directly in the draft policy and emailed to the larger group.

CHAP Policy Listening Session

Dr. Cotton

Dr. Cotton offered for the CHAP TAG to walk the group through the comments in the document.

CHAP TAG

On behalf of the CHAP TAG, Dr. Onders provided an overview of the comments. The TAG recommended the following:

- Add certain statements from previous versions back into document. If the Indian Health Service, IHS, should decide not to do so, the TAG requested IHS provide a footnote explaining the reason for disagreement.
- Add the Snyder and Transfer Act authorities back into the document.
- Add more specificity in terms of membership for Area Certification Boards, Academic Review Committees, and each Area's National Certification Board.
- Professional associations should not have a role on committees and boards.
- Tribes and Area Health Boards should be involved in certification board decisions for their Area.
- Add more language ensuring the National CHAP would not impact the Alaska CHAP.

- Revise language to authorize DHAT, dental health aide therapist, services in IHS operated programs once the Office of personnel Management approves the process.

Dr. Cotton

- IHS appreciates the revisions to ensure the purpose of the policy is addressed adequately.
- IHS will provide the reasons the Snyder and Transfer Acts were removed from the draft. The IHCIA authorizes the National CHAP outside of Alaska and further details will be provided as well as a careful review of the authorities.
- National and area certification boards perform a fundamental and inherent federal function of certification required by the IHCIA. The policy has been revised to align with these requirements in the IHCIA.
- IHS allowed flexibility in the policy draft regarding membership on area certification boards to allow maximum flexibility to meet the needs of each IHS Area. IHS will review and comment on the TAG's recommendation.
- The IHS Office of Human Resources (OHR) is in the process of reviewing the draft of the DHAT position description (PD). Once OHR has fully reviewed the PD, OHR will meet with the Department of Health and Human Services to discuss classification via a job series through the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Dr. Cotton explained IHS cannot forecast a timetable for OPM's approval. However, IHS will be prepared to quickly begin utilization of the PD following OPM's approval.
- The CHAP TAG may expect that IHS will revise any edits to the "Definitions" section that provide policy directions. This section is intended for reference only as it relates to the policy and not intended for policy direction or statements. IHS will review for inclusion in appropriate sections.

CHAP TAG

The CHAP TAG requested IHS express support of or disagreement with TAG comments by adding written comments directly to the edited draft submitted by the CHAP TAG today.

Dr. Cotton

Dr. Cotton thanked the CHAP TAG for their work, comments, and advice. She committed to provide a written response to the CHAP TAG in one week.

Next Steps

- Dr. Cotton will provide a response to the CHAP TAG by Friday, March 1, 2019.
- The CHAP TAG will have another virtual meeting at 1pm eastern on Friday, March 15, 2019.