



Community Health Aide Program Tribal Advisory Group Meeting (CHAP TAG) Summary

**In-Person and Virtual Meeting
April 3, 2019 at 9:00 am eastern**

Roll Call

Present:

Alaska

Crystal Stordahl

Dr. Bob Onders

Bemidji

Jennifer McLeod

Tyler LaPlaunt

Oklahoma

Amanda Wyatt

Other:

Christina Peters (Portland)

Mae Gilene Begay (Navajo)

Jeremy Wilbur (Swinomish Senator)

IHS

RADM Toedt

Dr. Beverly Cotton

Chris Mandregan

Angel Dotomain

Mechelle Johnson-Webb

Jay Furtick

Wilbur Woodis

CDR Fallon

Dr. Tamara James

Dr. Timothy Lozon

Dr. Chris Halliday

Jennifer Downs



CHAP Policy Discussion

IHS met with the CHAP TAG to discuss outstanding disagreements to the draft CHAP circular. The meeting focused on two major points of disagreement: 1) federal certification and 2) IHS not explicitly using language that IHCIA only authorizes DHA Therapists (DHATs) in states that authorize their use. For the DHAT issue, CHAP TAG members would like to work with Congress to change the legislation and would prefer for IHS to not make mention of it. IHS does not plan to remove this language to ensure that all IHS officials who review ISDEAA proposals to include CHAPs/DHATs follow federal law. For federal certification, the CHAP TAG continues to recommend that IHS would recognize state and tribal licensing decisions. IHS stressed that the national certification board and area certification boards will be federal boards with substantial tribal presence and in some instances, maybe even tribal management. If recognizing state and tribal licensing decisions, IHS is concerned it would be waiving the federal certification boards. However, certification will not be deemed final without the signature of the respective Area Director. IHS revised language at the CHAP TAG's recommendation to include tribal consultation on membership and to more clearly outline the process that IHS is not making appointments unilaterally.

Next Steps

The draft CHAP circular will be sent out for 30 days of broad consultation with a goal to issue the DTLL in May 2019. The DTLL will outline the CHAP TAG recommendations and where IHS had changes. The CHAP TAG requested IHS mirror the way it consulted on the Contract Support Costs policy and footnote the CHAP TAG's recommendations in areas where IHS does not accept the TAG's recommendation(s).