



Environmental Health Services

● Healthy Environments = Healthy People ●

DEHS Directors' Meeting: 02/02/17

Meeting recording and attachments available: <https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/p50hiqch3fc/>

Next meeting April 06, 2017 1:00-2:30PM ET

Alaska:	Denman Ondelacy	Nashville:	Kit Grosch
ANTHC:	<i>Not on call</i>	Navajo:	<i>Not on call</i>
Albuquerque:	Jeff Dickson	Oklahoma:	Danny Walters
Bemidji:	Tim Duffy	Phoenix:	<i>Not on call</i>
Billings:	Darcy Merchant	Portland:	Shawn Blackshear
California:	Carolyn Garcia	Tucson:	<i>Not on call</i>
Great Plains:	Chris Allen		
Environmental Health Support Center:	Angela Hodge		
Rockville:	David McMahon, Nancy Bill, Charles Woodlee, Mike Reed, Stephen Piontkowski		

1. Welcome (David McMahon)

- a. 2016 DEHS Photo Contest Winner: The winning photo of Terrold Menzie in September 2016 conducting a playground safety assessment in the Pierre District, Great Plains Area, was taken by Joe Sarisky, Environmental Health Specialist, Pierre District
- b. DEHS Changes
 - i. CDR Mike Reed reported as Sr. EHO, HQ
 - ii. CDR Celeste Davis retired (Portland Area DEHS POC is Rich Truitt)
 - iii. RADM Kelly Taylor, Acting Chief of Staff, IHS
 - iv. David McMahon, Acting Director, DEHS, IHS



2. Performance Measures Update (David McMahon)

- a. 2016-2020 Measures
 - i. *Environmental Surveillance and Injury Intervention Performance Measures* – FY17 implementing and reporting interventions

3. Operational Model (David McMahon)

- a. The Model was selected as a DEHS vision element in 2014 to identify core services all IHS EH programs should provide
- b. Core Group (current list): Kelly Taylor; David McMahon; Gordon Tsatoke; Celeste Davis; Bill Justice; David Hogner
- c. See draft emailed from David or attached to this Adobe Connect meeting (Docx file available at <https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/p50hiqch3fc/>)
- d. Thanks to those who submitted comments



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- e. February 28 – David to submit to OEHE leadership; contact him ASAP if you have input
- f. The Model will be Part 112 added to the TECHNICAL HANDBOOK FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ENGINEERING, VOLUME III – ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH and align with [Part 3 Chapter 11 of the Indian Health Manual](#)

4. Head Start References (David McMahon/Jeff Dickson)

- a. This item was discussed during December 01, 2016 DEHS Directors' call
 - i. Head Start Model Code does not align with 2016 Head Start Performance Standards
 - ii. DEHS Directors' requested a crosswalk of Head Start Model Code and the 2016 Head Start Performance Standards
 - iii. DEHS HQ submitted a scope of work to EHSC
- b. Albuquerque Area volunteered to develop crosswalk
 - i. Workgroup: Jeff Dickson, Angela Hodge, Donna Gilbert
 - ii. 2 conference calls conducted to date
 - iii. Caring for Our Children included in the crosswalk
 - iv. Training and orientation recommendations from workgroup to be included

5. DEHS National Directors' Meeting (David McMahon)

- a. When: **New date August 08-10, 2017** (voted during call)
- b. Where: IHS, HQ, Rockville, MD
- c. What: planning committee working on agenda; submit your agenda ideas to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017DEHS> ASAP; planning committee is considering the idea of inviting tribal EHS program managers
- d. Lodging TBD

6. NCEI Administration (Mike Reed)

- a. Mike is now the NCEI system administrator
 - i. DEHS POC for new accounts and change requests
 - ii. Participated in a meeting last week to look at current system capabilities and options for improvements moving forward

7. WebEHRS Update (Stephen Piontkowski/Mike Reed)

- a. Contract modification being pursued
 - i. Aligning the pool assessment eSurvey with the Model Aquatic Health Code
 - ii. Adding a new ES PM and IP PM canned reports that Darren created in Oracle to the WebEHRS Reports menu for easier access by WebEHRS users and DEHS managers
 - iii. Adding a new detailed ES PM canned report to the WebEHRS Reports menu that will allow the Areas assess exact survey violation risk



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factors to better manage their PM and interventions; this canned report is based off one Phoenix Area created in Oracle in December 2016

- b. Change control board: Mike will lead board
 - i. Sorting through backlog of feedback reports
 - ii. Standing up board and identifying participants who would be a good fit; Mike will be contact DEHS Directors for permission to reach out to identified staff
- c. When will Oracle be replaced? Summer 2017; Oracle will be available, but not *supported* by IT technical assistance

8. COSTEPs (Stephen Piontkowski)

- a. Thank you for working with Stephen to ensure you get your COSTEPs this summer; several hurdles have been overcome the past two months
- b. 20 COSTEPs and two civil service students are currently being placed in seven Areas
- c. Areas should be processing 1662s now
- d. CC HQ Timeline
 - i. March 1, 2017: 1662s due to DCCPR
- e. Proceed, be patient, and continue to communicate with Stephen if you run into snags

9. Reminders (Stephen Piontkowski/David McMahon)

- a. EHSOTY – nominations from Areas due to Stephen on February 03; submittals on February 06 will be accepted; Area DEHS Directors plan to score
- b. CY2016 Project Posters are due from Areas on February 10
- c. Staffing data received from most Areas; two Areas pending
- d. District/Area annual reports: if your program generates these types of reports please consider sharing with DEHS HQ because they are helpful to understand current work done in the field and use those examples when communicating with other programs/IHS leadership

10.20 Years of TIPCAP (Stephen Piontkowski)

- a. Purpose of project: provide an overview of projects, successes, and challenges from TIPCAP (1997-2016)
- b. Deliverable thru contract with public health communications company
 - i. Summary report to include a sheet of TIPCAP projects for each IHS Area
 - ii. Manuscript
 - iii. Info graph(s)
 - iv. Press release
 - v. Slide deck
- c. This will also be announced at IP Specialists call next week
- d. Let Stephen or Nancy know by February 10 if other deliverables would be useful to you



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11. Injury Prevention Program Update (Nancy Bill)

- a. IP Funding Announcement
 - i. Available at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-26/html/2017-01806.htm>
 - ii. Deadline February 26, 2017
 - iii. Up to 15 awards may be issued
 - iv. Individual award amounts are expected to range from \$10,000-\$25,000 for three years
 - v. Current TIPCAP grantees not eligible
- b. IP Specialists' call February 08, 2017, 3:00PM ET
- c. Area Specialists meeting
 - i. When: March 14-17, 2017
 - ii. Where: Atlanta, GA (CDC)
 - iii. Who: Hosted by Holly Billie
 - iv. Planning committee working on agenda
- d. TIPCAP
 - i. Project Officer training, April 25, 2017, CAIANH (Denver, CO)
 - ii. Annual Workshop, April 26-27, 2017, CAIANH (Denver, CO)

12. IEH Program Update (Charles Woodlee)

- a. Thanks for collaboration and support from the field on the several projects
 - i. Diagnostic Imaging chapter was released for comment by February 03
 - ii. Chapter 9 revisions about to begin with workgroup made of representatives from across IHS (e.g. safety officers, IEHOs, employee health, security, worker compensation)
 - iii. Annual report to HHS being developed; Charles will be contacting Area IEH staff for input
- b. IEH National meeting: June 08-09, 2017; Seattle; following the American Industrial Hygiene conference; agenda to include IEH program strategic planning/goal setting, as well as discussing options for IEH residency

13. Area Reports

- a. Alaska
 - i. No report
- b. Albuquerque
 - i. Staffing: three positions *in limbo* due to hiring freeze
 - ii. Zika: State of New Mexico is conducting surveillance along southern state border and Rio Grande River
- c. Bemidji
 - i. Staffing: Reviewing panel for selecting three pathway applicants
 - ii. COSTEP: One applicant from Illinois State University selected by Bemidji Area DEHS was concerned they may not be placed, thereby missing their graduation date; University suggested student seek another internship and the Area concurred



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- d. Billings
 - i. COSTEPs – will host two; one for EH/IP and one for IEH
 - ii. EHO, Wind River SU, retired December 31, 2016; vacancy announcement TBA
- e. California
 - i. Staffing: two positions affected by hiring freeze and currently on-hold
 - ii. Working on contract modifications for Area IP mini-grants
- f. Great Plains
 - i. Introduction to IP course: May 2017; Yankton Sioux Tribe
 - ii. Staffing: 3-4 vacancy announcements likely in next six months
- g. Nashville
 - i. CDC Public Health Law News interviewed Seminole Tribe of Florida available at <https://www.cdc.gov/phlp/news/2016/2016-11-16.html>
 - ii. Riley Grinnell presenting at Lifesavers Conference 2017
 - iii. Two accreditation mock surveys conducted
 - iv. FDA Food Training; July 2017; Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
 - v. 11 new Child Passenger Safety Technicians
 - vi. Submitted application to purchase new child safety restraints
 - vii. Direct all TRANSAM inquires to Riley Grinnell
- h. Navajo – *not on call*
- i. Oklahoma
 - i. Staffing: Area IP/EH Specialist selected, LCDR David Bales reports February 06; will host three COSTEPs
- j. Phoenix – *not on call*
- k. Portland
 - i. No report
 - ii. Matthew Ellis and Shawn Blackshear splitting duties during Area DEHS Director vacancy; specific inquires may be sent to Rich Truitt
- l. Tucson – *not on call*
- m. EHSC
 - i. FDA Food Course: February 06-07, 2017; Portland, OR
 - ii. Housekeeping Infection Prevention Fundamentals course: Albuquerque, NM
 - iii. Healthcare Safety Accreditation courses: Oklahoma and Albuquerque
 - iv. OEHE Orientation Course; April 24-28, 2017; Albuquerque, NM (100+ students expected)
 - v. Intermediate IP course: May 2017; Billings Area
 - vi. Intermediate IP course: May 02-04, 2017; Scottsdale, AZ
 - vii. Epi 102 course: May 23, 2017; Albuquerque, NM
 - viii. APIC Infection Control course: June 27, 2017; Spokane, WA



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14. Other

- a. OPM memo dated January 31, 2017 stated USPHS Commissioned Corps (CC) is exempt, but we have not received any guidance on the issue from CC or IHS
- b. IHS Loan Repayment Program (LRP): EHOs and ENGs removed in late CY2016 without OEHE knowledge; Gary Hartz has been working to ensure these two professional categories are still eligible; we think the categories were removed to somehow enhance the LRP opportunities for direct patient care providers; DEHS Director's should submit cares or concerns on this topic to their Area OEHE Director who may forward them to Gary Hartz

Next meeting April 06, 2017 1:00-2:30PM ET