
2022 National Combined Councils Agenda

Theme: Building a Foundation for the Future

- Virtual format topics (over 3 weeks/1.5 hour sessions) hosted from 1:00pm ET – 2:30pm ET:

The purpose of the 2022 National Combined Councils Virtual Meeting is to bring together subject matter experts from multiple clinical and administrative disciplines throughout Indian Health Service to discuss, collaborate, and build healthy working relationships to advance the mission of improving the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives. Best practices will be shared, common challenges will be discussed, and solutions will be developed.

Conference Outcome Measures:

- Engage in thought-provoking, innovative, cross-council discussions about current issues in Indian Health.
- Evaluate best practices for succession planning, team building, and evolving technology to address health care issues.
- Develop quality and safety initiatives through collaborative recommendations with senior leadership.
- Share insights and best practices that improve the organization and result in improved health outcomes.

Target Audience: NCC Council Members, Healthcare Administrators, Clinical Administrators, Nurse Administrators, Behavioral Health Administrators and other interested health care team members from the Indian Health Service, Tribal, Urban (I/T/U) Indian Health Care System.

- ***March 17: Introduction to Succession Planning and IHS Leadership Updates***
 - **Speakers:** Ms. Lisa Gyorda, Mr. Duane Phillips, and Ms. Elizabeth Fowler, Acting IHS Deputy Director

This presentation will focus on the importance of succession planning and updates, goals, and priorities for IHS. Consistent, skilled, and well-trained leadership is essential to recruiting and retaining well-qualified healthcare teams and administrative professionals.

After attending the presentation, the healthcare team will be able to:

1. Evaluate best practices for implementing a succession plan.
2. Determine effective strategies for succession planning and continuity of healthcare services in Indian country.
3. Examine the agency's current goals and priorities and the impact on American Indian/Alaska Native communities.

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- ***March 24: IHS Health Information Technology Modernization Update***
 - **Speakers:** Mr. Mitch Thornbrugh, Dr. Howard Hays, and Ms. Andrea Scott

This presentation will provide an update on Health Information Technology Modernization at IHS. Presenters will share how IHS intends to follow industry best practices throughout the modernization lifecycle and how the program will engage clinicians and other end-users to build shared best practices into the new system. The presentation will address many of the questions raised by IHS staff in a recent survey conducted by the planning committee.

After attending the presentation, the healthcare team will be able to:

1. Examine the evidence basis for how organizational change management improves the success of major Health IT implementations.
2. Recognize how consensus development around best practice clinical workflows can contribute to improvements in patient safety and quality of care.
3. Participate in the development of an organization-specific clinical HIT implementation model.

- ***April 7, 2022: Leadership Styles that Support Effective Communication and Workforce Development***
 - **Speakers:** Mr. Daniel Frye, Mr. Bryce Redgrave, and Dr. Marcy Ronyak

This presentation will focus on evidence-based leadership styles, utilization of effective communication, and the importance of supporting workforce development to retain institutional knowledge.

After attending the presentation, the healthcare team will be able to:

1. Examine leadership styles that support effective communication within the health care system.
2. Ensure appropriate workforce development to retain institutional knowledge and support quality health care.
3. Incorporate emergency response preparedness to mitigate the impacts of future public health crisis across the health care system.

- 1:1 Meetings with Senior Leadership will be held on April 21 and 22 (1pm – 5pm ET)