



OCT 14 2016

Indian Health Service  
Rockville MD 20857

Dear Urban Indian Organization Leaders:

I am writing to update you on an important leadership change at Indian Health Service (IHS) Headquarters in the Office of Urban Indian Health Programs (OUIHP).

I have temporarily assigned Mr. Raho Ortiz to serve as the Acting Director, OUIHP. Mr. Ortiz will provide oversight of functions and operations related to Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and health care services provided to American Indian and Alaska Native beneficiaries who reside in urban areas across the nation.

Mr. Ortiz joined IHS in 2007 as the Director of the Division of Regulatory Affairs. Most recently, he served as the Director of the Division of Business Office Enhancement in the Office of Resource Access & Partnerships. He brings over 20 years of work experience in the field of Federal Indian law and policy. His past employment includes serving as Environmental Director for the Tohono O'odham Nation, Tribal Attorney for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Tribal Liaison with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and as Development Director for the Friendship House Association of American Indians, an urban Indian substance abuse treatment facility. He is Navajo and Acoma Pueblo.

The IHS announced and posted a job vacancy announcement to the IHS and USAJobs websites to recruit for the permanent OUIHP Director. The announcement closes on October 24, 2016. We encourage and invite all qualified individuals to apply. We invite you to assist us in reaching out to all qualified individuals and to encourage them to apply.

Sincerely,

/Mary Smith/

Mary Smith  
Principal Deputy Director