



JULY 18 2022

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

As part of the ongoing Indian Health Service (IHS) Health Information Technology (IT) Modernization, I am writing to invite you to participate in a 1-hour discussion about Health IT modernization, conducted by The MITRE Corporation (MITRE) and Kaufmann & Associates, Inc. (KAI).

The purpose of this conversation is to better gauge your current level of engagement with this process, as well as to gain greater insight into efforts that are working, what can be done more effectively, and how best to support continued engagement with you as our partners in the Health IT Modernization effort going forward. In these conversations, we are seeking your insight on the following:

- Current level of awareness of the IHS Health IT Modernization Program;
- Effective methods of communication and collaboration with your Tribe or organization;
- Organizational outcomes and measures for future success;
- Constraints and barriers to Health IT Modernization that need to be mitigated; and
- Lessons learned from previous Electronic Health Record implementation or modernization efforts.

If you are interested in participating, please provide the following by e-mail to [modernization@ihs.gov](mailto:modernization@ihs.gov): Name; Tribe or UIO represented; role within the Tribe or UIO; and a contact e-mail address. Please use the SUBJECT LINE: **Health IT Modernization Discussion**.

Once your e-mail is received, a follow-up e-mail by MITRE will be generated, which will provide a link to a scheduling page with detailed scheduling instructions and a list of sample questions. In addition to yourself or your designee, I encourage you to invite colleagues who can speak on the topics listed above. For the purposes of facilitating a productive discussion, please limit group sizes to a maximum of five individuals.

Please note that vendors may not participate in these discussions. Facilitators from MITRE and KAI will not be able to answer acquisition-specific questions. I encourage you to share your thoughts as candidly as possible to help us better understand the opportunities and challenges we will face moving forward. MITRE and KAI will share what they learn from these discussions with IHS leadership in an aggregated report summarizing the input from those who participate.

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The IHS values your perspectives and looks forward to receiving your input as we continue to move this critical initiative forward.

Sincerely,

Phillip B. Smith  Digitally signed by Phillip B. Smith -S  
-S Date: 2022.07.18 18:13:51 -0400  
P. Benjamin Smith, M.B.A., M.A.  
Deputy Director