OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ENGINEERING TECHNICAL HANDBOOK INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

VOLUME VIII - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
PART 112 - DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

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112-1.3 SUPPORT SERVICES - SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

When needed, DEHS staff are encouraged to seek technical assistance and support from the two DEHS specialty programs: Injury Prevention and Institutional Environmental Health. If an Area does not have a specialist, DEHS staff are encouraged to seek support from other Area or HQ Specialists.

A. INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM

Lead by the DEHS Headquarters' Injury Prevention Program Manager, Area and District Injury Prevention Specialists support field environmental health staff and tribal efforts in community injury prevention.

The IHS Injury Prevention Program promotes building the capacity of Tribes and communities by increasing understanding about the injury problem, sharing effective solutions, and assisting communities in implementing programs.

DEHS staff are encouraged to attend IHS injury prevention training programs to develop competencies needed to do community injury prevention work.

Some field environmental health staff may be asked to provide project officer support for tribes receiving funding through the Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Program (TIPCAP).

B. INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Lead by the DEHS Headquarters' Institutional Environmental Health (IEH) Program Manager, Area IEH Specialists support field environmental health staff and IHS healthcare safety programs through a wide array of IEH services.

The IEH Program provides leadership in the development and implementation of effective environmental health and safety management systems to reduce risks of injury and/or illness to our employees, patients, and visitors. The IEH program provides

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services for built environments such as healthcare, childcare, educational, and correctional facilities. While these institutions have diverse clients, they share common problems.

Technical assistance provided by the IEH program includes developing appropriate policies and programs for protecting both clients and employees through compliance with regulatory, accreditation, or certification standards. The programmatic public health components of institutional environmental health include: general environmental health, safety management, industrial hygiene, ergonomics, emergency management, environmental infection control, radiation protection, and security management.