



2019 National Advisory Committee and Workgroup Report

Direct Services Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC)

PHOENIX AREA REPRESENTATIVES:

Mr. Jordon Joaquin
President
Quechan Indian Tribe

CHARGE or PURPOSE OF Direct Service Tribal Advisory Committee (DSTAC):

The Direct Services Tribes (DST) Advisory Committee was created in 2005 through the issuance of Indian Health Service Circular No. 2005-02. The DST Advisory Committee was established to provide leadership, advocacy and policy guidance by

- assisting and advising on the development of Indian health policy that impacts the delivery of health care for Indian Tribes, with an emphasis on policies that impact Direct Service Tribes;
- participating, to the greatest extent possible, in Indian Health Service decision-making that affects the delivery of health care; and
- providing verbal and written recommendations to the Director, Indian Health Service.

Direct Service Tribes elect, either in whole or in part, to receive primary health care directly from the Indian Health Service. The decision to receive primary health care directly is an expression of self-determination and is an acknowledgement that the Federal Government has a legal responsibility and obligation to provide health care to Indian Tribes as defined in treaties, statutes, and executive orders.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY, ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND/OR ACTIONS (Brief one page bulleted points):

- The Phoenix Area has been represented by President Joaquin at the last 4 Quarterly DSTAC meetings.
- During the May 29-30, 2019 DSTAC Quarterly meeting in Rapid City, SD, the Principal Deputy Director heard from the DSTAC membership our request to extend the comment period on the draft IHS policy to implement, outline, and define the National Community Health Aide Program (CHAP). On June 5, 2019, the DSTAC submitted a letter requesting an extension of the comment period for the draft CHAP policy. On July 7, 2019 the Consultation comment period was extended to July 8, 2019, which allowed more Tribal participation for comment.
- The DSTAC also outlined recommendations this year to preserve and protect Community Health Representatives and funding while implementing CHAP.
- At each Quarterly DSTAC meeting, each Area provides a quarterly report of achievements, objectives, and strategies accomplished by the Direct Service programs during the quarter report period aligned under the Agencies 3 Strategic Goals.