



## Partnership to Advance Tribal Health (PATH)

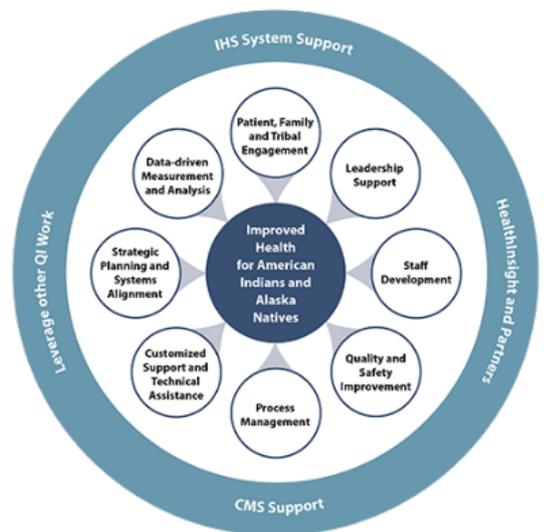
The mission of the Indian Health Service is to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level. IHS seeks to provide trusted, high quality health care to American Indians and Alaska Natives by promoting practices and policies that improve health outcomes.

To support quality efforts at IHS, the [Partnership to Advance Tribal Health \(PATH\)](#) supports best health care practices and other operational improvements for Indian Health Service federal government operated hospitals that participate in the Medicare program. PATH is led by HealthInsight, [a Quality Innovation Network – Quality Improvement Organization selected by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#). This initiative is funded by the Center for Standards and Quality at CMS.

The PATH partners work with IHS hospital leadership to identify areas of improvement and corresponding best practices across all IHS hospitals, improving Quality of Care by implementing best practices and identifying operational improvement needs.

Specifically, PATH supports IHS hospitals to:

- Develop leaders through training and networking
- Build strong hospital systems through team based care and clinical quality improvement
- Strengthen patient, family and tribal engagement
- Promote and spread best practices in hospitals
- Ensure that clinical, operational and safety standards are met or exceeded
- Assist with the development of hospital improvement plans
- Establish baseline data to ensure plans for improvement are successful and sustainable



Beginning an improvement project requires setting aims. Each aim should be time-specific and measurable. The aim should also be reasonable and attainable within a defined time period.

PATH has established three aims for IHS.

- Improve safety and reduce risk by 50% overall across IHS by creating a harm-free, high reliability care environment and learning culture through implementation of a comprehensive patient safety and risk management program by Dec 31, 2022
- Identified systems in place for sustained compliance with relevant federal regulations, accreditation & professional organization standards in all IHS hospitals by Dec 31, 2022
- Identified systems in place to assure hospital transitions across the care continuum by Dec 31, 2022