



# **Dixie Gaikowski**

## **Director**

### **Tucson Area**

### **Indian Health Service**

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Dixie Gaikowski, Director of the Indian Health Service (IHS) Tucson Area, is an enrolled member of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribe. The IHS, an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, is the principal federal health care advocate and provider for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

As the Director, Ms. Gaikowski is responsible for the Area's financial programs and management. The Tucson Area provides primary and community outreach programs for health services to the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona. The Area also provides urban health care services through the Tucson Indian Center, which provides community health outreach, education, prevention, and referral services, including case management, advocacy, and transportation.

In the Tucson Area, health services are provided to members of the Tohono O'odham Nation and other local federally recognized Tribes through the Sells Service Unit, which consists of the Sells Hospital in Sells and three satellite health centers in Santa Rosa, San Xavier, and San Simon, Arizona. Health care services for members of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe in the Tucson Area are provided through a commercial contract funded by Purchased/Referred Care appropriations.

Ms. Gaikowski began her career with the IHS in March 2001 as the Assistant Director of Nursing at the Woodrow Wilson Keeble Memorial Health Care Center in Sisseton, South Dakota, where she later served as the Director of Nursing and Deputy Chief Executive Officer. She subsequently moved to the Great Plains Area to serve as the Area Managed Care Nurse and Director of Resource Management. In November 2011, Ms. Gaikowski was named Acting Deputy Area Director Field Operations for the Great Plains Area. She has also served as Acting Chief Executive Officer for the Belcourt Service Unit, Rosebud Service Unit, and the Omaha/Winnebago Service Unit.

Ms. Gaikowski has received numerous local and national awards, including an IHS National Director's Award. Ms. Gaikowski received her Bachelor of Science degree from South Dakota State University in Brookings.