



Indian Health Council, Inc.



Self- Governance Journey and Pointers

Requirements to become a Self-Governance Entity

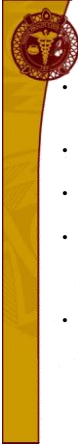
- Are you ready for Self-Governance? What are we getting in to?
- Know who you are and where your going?

3 Requirements:

- Successfully complete the planning phase (Turns into ongoing Strategic Planning)
- Requested participation by Resolution of Tribe/Tribes
- 3 fiscal years of Financial Stability and Financial Management

Know your Health Center Operations, Governance and Finances

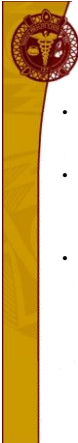
- Are you ready for Self-Governance?
- Review your Clinic/Health Services Operations and Infrastructure. What do you rely on IHS for to provide Programs/Services/Functions/Activities? Do you rely on IHS or any other entity to provide administration, fiscal, information technology decision making?
- Has Tribal Leadership been trained on Self- Governance? Go through a Strength and Weakness exercise on Self-Governance with Tribal Leadership/Board of Directors. Tribal Leadership and Clinic Executive teams need to both participate and work as a team.
- Does your Clinic have a Strategic Plan and Business Plan? Does your Clinic make and implement their own Health strategies/priorities? Understand your Clinic/Tribe's scope of services and level of independent infrastructure.



Strategic and Business Planning

- Strategic and Business Planning is your Road Map for being successful with Self-Governance. Many outside resources/facilitators to help facilitate the strategic planning process. Do it right...
- Tribal Leadership and Clinic Executive Teams need to work together to develop Strategic Initiatives or Strategic Pillars.
- Clinic Teams can now build an effective Business Plan to meet Strategic Goals.
- Stay Accountable and Transparent! Clinic Teams should present Semi-Annually to Tribal Leadership/Board of Directors on the progress and challenges of the Business Plan. You may need to add, change and delete business plan objectives. Things will change!
- Set a Strategic Plan Time Period that makes sense for your Organization. This should probably be somewhere in the 3-5 year range.

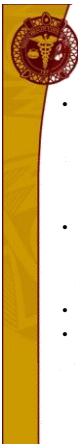
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Strategic and Business Planning Resources Outside Audits and Accreditation

- Review your Clinic/Health Services Finances and Audits. Has your Clinic had 3 years of "Clean" audits? Incorporate financial audit recommendations or findings corrective action into your Business Plan
- Review any outside regulatory audits or compliance audits. Outside professionals look at things from a different prospective. Review recommendations and findings. Incorporate applicable activities into your Business Plan.
- Accreditation - Find the Accreditation Organization that is right for your organization (JACHO, AAAHC, etc..) Make your Accreditation Standards part of your business plan. This will keep all areas of the organization on track.

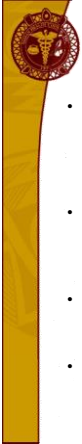
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Appropriate Resources and Appropriate Contacts

- Get a working copy of the Indian Self-Determination and Educational Assistance Act PL93-638, as amended Title V Regulations. I used the "Red Book" from Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker. This will be your guide and rule book. IHS will have the same "rule book" when you have Compact and Annual Funding Agreement negotiations and ongoing Self-Governance issues.
- Make and keep contact with your Self-Governance lead/staff at your Area Office and HQ. Ask for resources available to your clinic to become and remain a successful Self-Governance entity. (IHS Tribal Management Grants – Strategic Health Plan)
- Clarify with your Self-Governance lead as issues and challenges occur.
- Get an understanding of what Programs, Services, Functions and Activities are "Inherent Federal Functions" (These cannot be assumed by tribes/clinics)

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Make the appropriate Contacts on Self-Governance Issues

- Call other Self-Governance Clinics/Tribes in your Area...How did they go through the planning process? Is there anything they would have done differently in the process? What is their feedback on Self-Governance issues?
- Retain appropriate/experienced Legal Council... Identify the role and activities that legal council will cover and what activities executive staff will cover.
- Ask and Search for Template Compacts, Funding Agreements and other resources...Which one works best for you
- Do not be shy if you need help or do not understand...Ask questions of Legal and IHS Self-Governance Staff !

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Questions???

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